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Roots & Branches



**TUSCALOOSA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MORNING GROUP**

Volume: XXX XII I

SSN: 0893-4150

August 2017

Number 2

**Quarterly Newsletter
Of
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society
Morning Group**

Upcoming Programs

Upcoming Programs

April 6, 2017

Program: Fan Principle from "Evident explained, 3rd Edition overview"
by: Elizabeth Shown Mills
Presenter: Jennie Claybrook

May 4, 2017

Program: To be announced
Presenter: Kerry Barksdale

June 1, 2017

Program: Where they Immigrated From and Where They Ended Up in Texas and Oklahoma
Presenter: Kay Johnson

July 6, 2017

Program: Navigating Genealogy Brick Wall
Presenter: Samuel Robinson

August 3, 2017

Program: The Value of Using Wills
Presenter: Carolyn McGee

September 7, 2017

Program: Evident Explained, 3rd Edition Overview, by Elizabeth Shown Mills
Presenter: Chuck Gerdau

October 5, 2017

Program: Trip to Pine Ridge Cemetery. Gathering information to update Cemetery registry
Presenter: Leigh Bearden

November 2, 2017

Program: Ancestry
Presenter: Chuck Gerdau

December 7, 2017

Annual Christmas party and Installation of Officers?
Bring your favorite snacks or treats

January 4, 2018

Program: John Owens journal
Presenter: Linda Jacob

February 1, 2018

Program: The Famous and Infamous Lanier Family
Presenter: Beth Page

March 1, 2018

Program: George Reynolds (1805-1891) and other Pickens County Notables
Presenters: Gregg Patterson and Vickie House

April 5, 2018

Program: Battle of New Hope Church
Presenter: Walter Dockery

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President: Leigh Bearden
1st Vice-President: Betty Jean Weaver
2nd Vice-President: Beth Page
Secretary: Peggy Gay
Treasurer: Linda Jacob
Historian: Samuel Robinson
Parliamentarian: Jo Farley

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Find-A-Grave Web Site

For Members Only: We now have a membership to Find-A-Grave.com. For more information and to get your password/code information come to the meeting.

Welcome New Members

We have 4 new members to join since our last newsletter. We would like to thank you for joining us and to let you know how happy we are to have you as members.

Golden Egg Genealogist is a Facebook page and a blog site created by a member of the TGS night group, Dr. Donna Cox Baker. Dr. Baker has created an exciting blog to encourage and help all genealogists in their research. She has now started an additional project to her blog, "The Beyond Kin" A project to incorporate former slaves and slave owners. Dr. Baker spoke at the TGS night meeting on this subject. It has opened up a new research area for many people. Basically, if you know of slave and slave owner in your family tree, if you will add the slaves to your tree. Through RootsMagic and Ancestry you are able to add them in a non-bloodline, but puts the info out there for others to see and records are kept. Dr. Baker will be able to answer any question you have.

For Facebook—Golden Egg Genealogist and For Blog—gegbound.com

Change in Officers

Our Secretary, Kay Johnson, has resigned to pursue a college education as an Historian. Kay did a wonderful job and will continue to be a member. Our new Secretary will be Peggy Gay. We really appreciate Peggy

Vocabulary:

Dunghill Fowls—Plain ordinary chickens

Night Soil—another name for the contents of a potty

Quote Of the Month

"We are spiritual beings whether we want to admit it or not, and inherent in our DNA is a design to return us home ... home to our true essence, our greatest self, our limitless self." - Debbie Ford

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Keep Clear Records Tip

If your hand writing is like mine, no one but me can read it. Therefore, I print all my data on my family sheets. I realized my information would be passed down to my daughter and she cannot read my handwriting.

I find using a very fine point felt tip pen in black is the best pen to use. It shows up nicely and is still small enough to let you fit names in tiny spaces. I keep handwritten records on Family Sheets and Pedigree charts. They are filled out before I enter the info into my computer software.

Census forms are another form you must keep. It will save you time and put the information right at your finger tips within seconds. Saving you a lot of time

Something else I am starting to do is to keep a Research Log and a To Do List. I have several file drawers filled with family info, and I certainly don't want to take them with me to the library, so on your To Do List and Log, be sure to include notes on what you already have, and where you found it. Having these notes will help you in your search as well as letting you have a great record of your facts. These forms need to be clear as well.

Quoting from "Genealogy Tips Of The Day"

- noticing **clues** you did not notice before;
- finding **gaps** in your research;
- making it easier for you to **share** your research;
- **reducing** the number of times you locate some thing you already have;
- making it easier for you to **publish** your information (if that's your goal);
- making it easier for someone to **preserve** your information after your death;
- making it easier for someone looking at your information **to help** you; and **saving money** if you hire a professional—they will have to organize it for you before they can help."

Photograph Your Finds

How many times have you found a document or photograph you need a copy of? Well, a simple solution is to take a photograph of it. Once you have a photo, it can be edited to make it more readable, as well as a permanent record. I went to a family reunion and was amazed at the items and photos that had been put on display, was so glad I had a camera with me. Another time I took a quick trip to a county courthouse for just one marriage certificate. I discovered an entire room with old records. I didn't have time to hand copy information, but I had my camera. By photographing the records, I saved a lot of time and then had an actual image of the document, not just hand written notes. Proof of the document's originality. Photographing lets you record gravesite information and locations. This has proven to be valuable to locate graves where markers are destroyed or damaged.

Usually a phone camera is fine for a few pictures, but if you are needing to document your finds at a courthouse, you will need to have a camera with several memory cards. Remember, do not use the flash when photographing really old documents.

Book Review

"The Winthrop Woman"

By Anya Seton, 1958

You may have seen the movie, but, bet you the book is better. This is the life story of Elizabeth Fones, niece and daughter-in-law of Gov. John Winthrop of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and her journey through life. From her beginnings in London to her Death in Rhode Island, Elizabeth saw first hand the ways of the world. She saw how ambition and greed changed the course of this country and learned of the differences between people. It is a good read with romance and danger, but is a true depiction of the time period. A most informative Historical Fiction, based on papers and documents found on the property once owned by Elizabeth Fones Winthrop Feakes Hallett.

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Minutes, 6 April 2017

Officers: President, Elizabeth Leigh Bearden; 1st Vice President, Betty Weaver; 2nd Vice President, Beth Page; Secretary, Kay Johnson; Treasurer, Linda Jacob; Historian, Sam Robinson; Parliamentarian, Joe Farley.

Attendees: Linda Jacob, Beth Page, Imogene Melyett, Civile Brown, Sam Robinson, Grace Swartz, David Weir, Kay Johnson, E. Leigh Bearden.

Jenny Claybrook presented a very informative and interesting program on the "fan principle" for documenting and tracking family information.

The meeting was called to order by President Bearden.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice President: Ms. Weaver was unable to attend the meeting. No report was made.

2nd Vice President: Beth Page reported that the posters to be used in the Tuscaloosa Library were being worked on. These posters will be displayed on the bulletin boards in the Library. Ms. Page also asked for two volunteers who would be willing to provide written articles for the July Newsletter. Leigh Bearden and Sam Robinson agreed to furnish articles. Beth will also include new members' information in the next Newsletter. Courtesy copies of the Newsletter will be provided to the Huntsville and Tuscaloosa Libraries.

Secretary: February and March minutes were approved as recorded.

Treasurer: Linda Jacobs reported a balance of \$2,424.90. No change from last months' report.

New Business:

1. Leigh Bearden will furnish the information for the new TGSMG account for the Find a Grave site. TGSMG members will be able to post grave information on the site and will be able to assist people who request specific grave information found in our area.
2. A program will be presented by a grave restoration organization on 24 June at the Hopewell Baptist Cemetery. This will be open to the public.
3. The TGSMG will be working on the Pine Ridge Cemetery this year in an effort to plot and record graves in the cemetery. More information on work days will be provided.

Old Business:

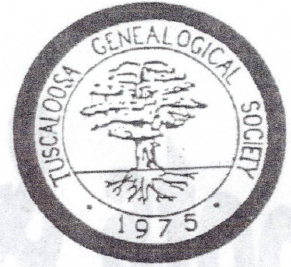
1. Webinars and Facebook pages are up and working. There are a few problems but are being corrected.
2. The grade school program is still in the works. Concentration is on the bicentennial celebration.
3. Sam Robinson is the new Genealogy Speaking Committee Chairman. Kay Johnson and Beth Page are committee members.
4. The show-and-tell event at the January meeting will be recorded and will be available to view on the TGSMG Facebook page and/or on YouTube.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next meeting will be held 4 May 2017 at 10:00 a.m., Tuscaloosa Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Johnson

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Attendees: Kay Johnson, Civille Brown, Imogene Midyett, Beth Page, Al Page, Linda Jacob, Sam Robinson, Henry Y. Miles, Sr., E. Leigh Bearden, Betty Jean Weaver, Peggy Gay.

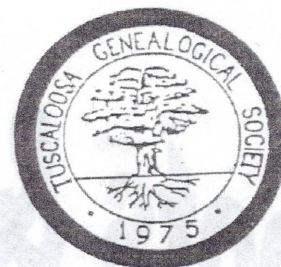
Betty Jean Weaver introduced our speaker, but due to technical difficulties, program was late starting. The program was a very informative video on Revolutionary War Soldiers presented by Mr. Kerry Barksdale.

Membership discussed several topics immediately following the program.

Reports will be given at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Johnson

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Minutes, 1 June 2017

Officers: President, Elizabeth Leigh Bearden; 1st Vice President, Betty Weaver; 2nd Vice President, Beth Page; Secretary, Kay Johnson; Treasurer, Linda Jacob; Historian, Sam Robinson; Parliamentarian, Joe Farley.

Attendees: Kay Johnson, Becky Davenport, Suzy Clement, Beth Page, Linda Jacob, Imogene Midyett, Civile Brown, Charles Sewell, Sam Robinson, Leigh Bearden, Peggy Gay.

Meeting was called to order by President Bearden.

A brief program on major migration routes within the U.S. was presented by Kay Johnson.

Mr. Charles Sewell was welcomed back by President Bearden and members. Charles was recognized for his many years of activity with the group.

Announcements by President Bearden included the need for a new secretary as Kay Johnson will be stepping down this month. Peggy Gay agreed to accept the position.

The Hopewell Cemetery learning opportunity is scheduled for 24 June 2017. A national group of cemetery preservationists will conduct this demonstration. They will also be giving a week-long seminar through the University of Alabama. Ms. Bearden will provide more information on this week-long event.

Beth Page has the new sign up on the Tuscaloosa Public Library bulletin board. The sign offers help from our membership with ancestry questions and research tips.

Meeting concluded after a brief discussion on "Pioneer Certificates" for people with ancestors who arrived in the state in the early days.

Next meeting will be held 6 July 2017 at 10:00 am, Tuscaloosa Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Johnson

Wilson Genealogy

By Leigh Bearden

On the 1830 census of Tuscaloosa County there were seven different Wilson households. Please remember that in 1830 Tuscaloosa County spread into present day Fayette, Walker, Jefferson, Bibb, Hale, Greene and Pickens counties and the census was only 57 pages of families listing only the name of the head of household. The eldest of these Wilson men was David aged 50-59; the youngest was Silas or Eilas aged 15-19 living with one woman of the same age. There are also Wilson families living on the outskirts of Tuscaloosa county. Two of these households are John Wilson who lived on the border of Tuscaloosa and Bibb County. He probably did not move but shows up on the Bibb and Tuscaloosa census in different years as the county line would wiggle back and forth. The second household of Mr. Wilson is known only through his offspring William Wilson. (First name unknown and therefore will be named as Mr. Wilson henceforth.) He likely died before 1826 since there is not an obvious match on the census for his age or family and also because it is mentioned in a publication from 1856 that Mr. Wilson had died more than 30 years before. The family moved from Tuscaloosa to Pickens county around 1820. It is these two Wilson men I wish to cover in this article. Both were Revolutionary Soldiers and both brought families to Alabama about 1820. Please check the next issue for more Wilson families.

Mr. Wilson

Mr. Wilson served in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Wilson was at the Guilford Courthouse Battle (15Mar1781 NC). He is said to be of Scotch-Irish descent but we know not where or when he was born. We do know that his son William was born in North Carolina in 1795 and served in the war of 1812. Perhaps William led his father back to Tuscaloosa from Tennessee after the war because he had been there during the war. As said above, Mr. Wilson reportedly died in Tuscaloosa before 1826. Whether other children came to settle in Tuscaloosa with Mr. Wilson and his son William or not we do not have reports. We only have record of William as being in Tuscaloosa as the son of Mr. Wilson. The very confusing genealogy is approached when you consider the number of William Wilson's in early west Alabama. This son William Wilson married Martha Clements. This Martha Clements married James Gunter after the death of William. We find this Wilson family in the Pickens' county census records of 1830 with 4 children under 10. There is also a total of fifteen slaves with the family in 1830. In later records, we find the names of the children as follows; however, the mother, Martha, is remarried with more children by 1840. Pickens county folklore states William Wilson was murdered by another white man in the community over a slave girl. The story is that William Wilson did not sell his slaves and kept them together in their families. Another man in the community wanted to add the young girl to his household, but William refused the offer. Fact is that William was shot on his own porch in the summer of 1835 and died within 24 hours. During that time, he declared the shooter to be the same as the agitated would be buyer. *in Alabama*

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William and Martha's children:

1. Female possibly Mary Ann. (1826-1846) buried in Carrolton City cemetery.
2. Benjamin F(ranklin) born in 1822 and married Bostick sister Elizabeth
 - a. William born 1844
 - b. Ellen born 1849
 - c. Julia born in 1850
 - d. Benjamin "Benny" F Jr. born 1854
 - e. Elizabeth born 1856

Abb1859 (may not be William's child in census years are correct)

2nd wife Jenny in on 1870 census with children:

- g. Patti born 1863
- h. Amanda born 1865
- i. Mary born 1869

Jason born in 1825 and married Bostick sister Mary A.

- Ellen/Kitture born 1847
- a. Charlie born 1851
 - b. Jason Jr. born 1855
 - c. Frederick born 1857
 - d. Alex born 1860
 - e. Frank born 1864
 - f. Willie born 1865
 - g. Archy born about 1866

Jack born 1869

William C born in 1830 and married Bostick sister Frances "Fannie"

- a. Dolly born 1858
 - b. Mattie born 1859
- Willie born 1862

John Wilson

John Wilson also served in the Revolutionary War. He was born in Mecklenburg (now Charlotte, NC) on December 20, 1760. He entered the service at the age of 20 as a private for the period of 3 months. He then returned to service in June 1781 for a period of 10 months. Although the war ended with the formal British surrender of October 19, 1781, the last of the Crown's troops did not leave until November 1783. This may have been the reason for John's extended service. During his time in the service, the private served under General Sumter, General Green, Colonel Hill, and Colonel Lee, Major Davis (who enlisted him), and Captain Morton and Giles. He was involved in the battle of Gates Defeat, Hanging Rock, and Eutaw Springs. He was taken prisoner at Eutaw Springs where he met General Washington, General Sumter and Colonel Lee.

After his service ended John moved to Georgia where a son, William H. Wilson, was born. By 1813 he had moved back to Mecklenburg evidenced by the marriage of daughter Martha to Enock M. Brown on March 18, 1813. In the next ten years John and his children (wife's name, birth and death unknown) made their way to Tuscaloosa and Bibb Counties, Alabama. In October 1821 daughter Mary Wilson married John Latham in Bibb County, Alabama. Other children of John were sons John Jr. and Robert as well as daughters Rutha and Margaret.

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1. Martha married in 1813 in Mecklenburg to Enock M. Brown. Three infant children were put into John's care before 1830.

- a. Harriet Brown married Baily Latham February 22, 1834 in Bibb county
- b. John Brown married Susa Latham
- c. Enock Brown Jr
- d. Rutha or Ruthy married on November 5, 1822 in Bibb to Andrew Smitherman
- e. Pherby Elizabeth
- f. Martha Adaline (never married)
- g. Margaret Louisa
- h. Robert Duke Allen (b1830-1884)
- i. Mary Jane
- j. Harriett A

Andrew Jr

All children were married in Bibb county

Margaret married Andrew Smitherman in January 1836 in Bibb county and raised her sister's seven children.

4. Mary married on October 18, 1821 in Bibb Co to John Latham. She and husband John were asked to take custody of sister Martha's three orphaned children when patriarch John Wilson neared the end of life. Mary and John Latham had six children.

1. Lucretia Avaline
2. Margaret
3. James Wesley
4. Cythia
5. Harriett

Hugh W

William H Wilson is the most known of John Wilson's sons because of *My Heritage...My History...My Life*, by J.C. Foshee. William Harrison Wilson married *Luann/Louanza Goodwin in August 1824 in Bibb county

*Margarett Parolee was born in 1825 and married in 1846 in Bibb to Samuel Cox

1. *William Lafayette born in 1828 and married in Bibb in 1851 to Rebecca Cox
2. *Temperance Louanza born 1832 and married in Bibb in 1857 to Wiley Foshee
3. John Quincy born in 1834 and married in Bibb in 1855 to Margaret Tucker
4. David Goodwin born 1836
5. Louanza Jane born 1838 and married in Bibb in 1855 to John W Williams
6. Robert born 1841 died in the Civil War, Co D 29th Alabama

Mary Molly Latham was born in 1842

*In Texas in 1870 census page 82

John Wilson Jr

Robert Wilson.

Land records for John put him on the border between Tuscaloosa and Bibb County and an earlier name for Shoal's Creek was Wilson's Creek. His pension and later court documents are found in Bibb County. On the 1830 federal census, John is head of household (HoH) aged 50-59 by our accounts he is 59/60 in 1830. He has 4 slaves and 3 orphaned grandchildren living with him. According to his pension application (S17205 on file with National Archives) in 1832 he said he was 72 years old, living in Bibb county, and giving a contact through the Centreville Post. His application was approved.

Roots and Branches

Mr. Wilson

Sources: 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860 and 1870 Federal Censuses for Pickens County in Alabama; Letter dated July 17, 1930 from Gertrude Gilbash to Miss Houston; History of Pickens County, Ala, From Its First Settlement in 1817-1856 by Nelson Smith and published in Carrollton, AL 1856 (Tuscaloosa Local History - LH929.376185); Find-a-grave.com

John Wilson

Sources: 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860 and 1870 Federal Censuses for Bibb and Tuscaloosa Counties in Alabama; Pension application and payment records on file with National Archives; Family Maps of Bibb County; Alabama Marriages Early to 1825 (Tuscaloosa Local History - LH 929.3761); Early Bibb Co Marriages 1820-1862 (Tuscaloosa LH 929.376182); Bibb County Commissioner's Court and Roads & Revenues, transcribed by Martin Everse, Cahaba Trace Commission 2004 (Brent-Centreville Library); My Heritage...History... and My Life, by J.C. Foshee (Brent-Centreville Library) DAR Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers and Patriots

Membership/Renewal Application

\$8.00 Single Membership: ()	New Member: ()	For the Year 20
\$14.00 Two Member Household: ()	Renewal: ()	

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () - - Email: _____

Surnames you are researching (up to eight): _____

Make checks payable to: **"Morning Group, T.G.S."** and mail to P.O. Box 20565, Tuscaloosa, AL 35402
 Please invite friends and family. Growth is essential.
dues are due before 1 February

THE MORNING GROUP
 TUSCALOOSA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY