



**THE BIRMINGHAM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

**P.O. Box 2432  
Birmingham, AL 35201**

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**[www.birminghamgenealogy.org](http://www.birminghamgenealogy.org)**

**<http://birminghamgenealogy.wordpress.com/>**

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**NEWSLETTER No. 494**

**January 17, 2014**

**General Meeting for January:** The Birmingham Genealogical Society will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 25th on the fourth floor of the Birmingham Public Library (in the Arrington Auditorium). The Board of Directors will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the same room.

**The program for January:** Please join us as **Scott Martin**, former BGS President and current director, presents a program on **Union Hill Cemetery** (located in Homewood AL). Union Hill Cemetery is the burial ground of many pioneers and early settlers of the Shades Valley area. Descendants of these settlers helped mold the cities of Mountain Brook and Homewood. Union Hill Cemetery was established in the 1870s but includes gravestones dating back to the early 1850s due to the relocation of two earlier, smaller cemeteries to Union Hill – the Daniel Watkins Cemetery in 1946 and the Enoch Watkins Cemetery in 2004. Scott is also a former President and current director of the Families & Friends of Union Hill Cemetery, a non-profit corporation organized in 1988 for the purpose of the care and maintenance of Union Hill Cemetery. Please join us!

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#### **Upcoming Genealogical & Historical Events**

On March 15, 2014, 10–5, at the LDS Church, 2780 Altadena Rd, Birmingham AL 35243, will be the **Semi-Annual Family History Fair**. The theme is “Putting Family in Family History.” There will be live presentations by local experts and sessions broadcast from the Roots Tech Conference in Salt Lake City. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced researcher, youth or adult, a tech expert or not, there will be something for everyone in the selection of classes and workshops. There is no cost for anything, but please register so that we will have seating and lunch for everyone. Register online at <http://bafhf2014.wix.com/fair>. Classes will be listed on the site, but more will be added. Over 200 attended the last fair in 2012. The Centers provide personal assistance, online databases, microfilm, computer and printer services. The Birmingham Center is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9 until 3 or 4 at the above address. It is closed the first Saturday and holidays.

The **Shelby County Historical Society** will meet on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m! The Historical Society will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary along with the 196<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of Shelby County. The featured speaker is David Tyrone Crowley (who will be portraying President Jefferson Davis of the Confederate States of America) and special guest, Kenneth R. Penhale (first President of the Shelby County Historical Society). More information may be found at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alshelby/shelby1.html>

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#### **Research & Genealogical Tips: Get Beyond the Big Wars**

The United States has been in wars besides the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War and the two World Wars. Is it possible that your ancestor served in one of the Indian wars, the Spanish-American War, or the Philippine-American War? Involvement in any of those actions would have generated service and possibly pension records.

© Michael John Neill, “Genealogy Tip of the Day,”

<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com>, TIPDATE.



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**The past is not dead. It isn't even past. --William Faulkner**

*Scott A. Martin, BGS Newsletter Editor*

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### ***The Birmingham News, 17 January 2014***

MIA plaques honoring Alabama soldiers missing in action from the Vietnam War are rediscovered and uncovered in Linn Park. The plaques, 14 in all, were accidentally buried under mulch and leaves. Jane Carlton Price of Gardendale visited Linn Park regularly since the plaques installation in 1972 to pay her respects to her brother, then Captain, now Major James E. Carlton Jr. Carlton was shot down while flying an A-6 Intruder in the Vietnam War. He is missing in action to this day. Price went to visit the circle of MIA plaques under an Alabama Holly tree on the south side of Linn Park late in 2013 and discovered the plaques were "missing". "I was distraught and saddened, Price explained." I went home and called the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board. I was afraid the plaques had been removed or vandalized. For me, it's the only place I can go to pay my respects to Jimmy." Price got with Stanley Robinson with the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board. They met at Linn Park two days later and dug down through the mulch and leaves and found one of the plaques. Robinson called a crew to the park and they were able to uncover all 14 plaques and clean them up. "I don't ever remember seeing the plaques under that holly tree and I've been here for over 20 years." Robinson said. "I'm glad Mrs. Price called and we were able to uncover the plaques of these 14 MIA's. It wasn't intentional. Now people can come and visit this memorial to fallen heroes." Here are the names of those 14 MIA's honored in Linn Park: Capt. James E. Carlton Jr., Capt. Edwin A. Hawley Jr., Lt. Scott D. Ketcher, Lt. Richard H. McDow, Major Paul Bannon, Major Alton C Rockett Jr., Spec. 5 James Leslie Moreland, CDR. Dale Doss, Sgt. Olen Hargrove, M/Sgt. Charlie E. White, Capt. C. Scott Harris, Sgt. Raymond Bobe, Capt. Lionel Parra Jr., Sgt. Marvin McCain

