



THE BIRMINGHAM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

**P.O. Box 2432
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www.birminghamgenealogy.org

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

NEWSLETTER No. 499

June 18, 2014

General Meeting for June: The Birmingham Genealogical Society will meet at 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, June 28th** 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 June: Please join us as Jim Anderson, BGS member and current webmaster/ 2nd Vice-President of the Alabama Genealogical Society, presents "Geo-Tagging." Geotagging is defined as the process of adding geographical information to various media in the form of metadata. The data usually consists of coordinates like latitude and longitude, but may even include bearing, altitude, distance and place names. Geotagging is most commonly used for photographs and can help people get a lot of specific information about where the picture was taken or the exact location of a friend who logged on to a service. Jim will discuss how to remember where you were with your smart phone using the power of geo-tagging to pinpoint the location of geographical coordinates such as that newly discovered family burial plot in the boondocks. Your GPS equipped camera gives you an easy way to share with others the exact spot of your discovery. **Please join us!**

Research & Genealogical Tips: Charting Acquaintances

When reviewing affidavits and other material from a pension file, create a time line (when possible) of when each individual met the pension applicant. Individuals providing testimony will often indicate how long they knew the claimant. Creating a chronology of when your ancestor met whom may help in tracking migration chains, possible areas of residence, etc.

Using Pre-1850 Census Tick Marks

Are you trying to get the most from those pre-1850 US census records that only list heads of household and enumerate the rest of the household using only tick marks? Remember that the head of household does not have to be the oldest male and there may be more than one couple living in the household (or perhaps an older family member such as Grandma or Grandpa). And the 1840 census lists all Revolutionary War veterans--either as the head of household or on the right hand side of the census page.

Get Advice From A Local

Sometimes what you need to help you in your research is not someone who will have to travel fifty miles to do your research, but someone who is actually from the area itself. Sometimes what you need is someone who has researched records in that courthouse for several years, is familiar with the staff, and knows how to find records in that repository that are not inventoried and are not organized. A researcher from a distance may not have that advantage. Even if that person doesn't do any research for you, they may be able to give you the best guidance there is for those local records.

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

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

Scott A. Martin, BGS Newsletter Editor



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Grand Forks Daily Herald, Grand Forks, ND 24 Feb 1900

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 23.-An explosion of a gasoline stove in the basement of the Metropolitan hotel this afternoon was followed by a fire which burned that building and the Hewett block adjoining, causing a loss of about \$160,000. The insurance amounts to about three-fourths of the loss. After two hours' hard work by the firemen the flames were beyond control and fearing the entire block, including the Potter buildings and the Morris hotel, would be swept away, a telegram was sent to Montgomery asking for aid. An hour later, however, the fire was under control and the request for help from Montgomery was countermanded. Everything on Twentieth street from Girst to Morris avenue, is a wreck, but a strong fire wall back of the Hewett building and the Metropolitan hotel prevented the fire from extending any further in that direction (sic). The Borney bank removed from its building and a company of militia was called to guard and keep back the crowd. A number of guests on the top floors of the hotel narrowly escaped, some having to be lowered from their rooms by means of ropes.

The Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, AL 17 Nov 1901

Gadsden, Nov. 16.---(Special)---Details of a peculiar accident which happened at Spring Garden, about eighteen miles northeast of Gadsden, had just reached here. James Goings, a well-known farmer, and a friend drove to the Centre. While there they both got drunk. When they left Centre, to return home, they were almost stupefied with drink. When the horses drew up at the home of Goings the family found Goings in the foot of the buggy dead. The other man was sound asleep on the seat, and was altogether unconscious of the death of his friend. Goings lay with his feet protruding from the buggy, one arm hung over the front axle on the other side, and his head was against the wheel. By the incessant rubbing his head was raw and bloody, and his neck was broken. No one knows just how the accident occurred.

The Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, OK 5 Jul 1911

Birmingham, Ala., July 4.---H. W. Collins and J. C. Derby, prominent citizens, have probably lost their eyesight from the explosion of a box containing 1,000 torpedoes. They tried to open the box with a hammer to get Fourth of July noise makers. Derby's house was set on fire. Both men are terribly bruised and burned. Frank Dedorino lost a hand in a firecracker explosion Tuesday morning.