



**THE BIRMINGHAM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

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

**Founded March 15, 1959**

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

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

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**NEWSLETTER No. 480**

**September 15, 2012**

**General Meeting for September:** The Birmingham Genealogical Society will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 22nd on the fourth floor of the Birmingham Public Library (in the auditorium). The Board of Directors will meet at 1:15 p.m. in the same room. **DON'T FORGET FELLOWSHIP BEGINS AT 1:30!**

**The program for September:** Please join us as **Tim Hollis** will be speaking on shopping in yesteryear Birmingham – the stores and bargains that used to be. Mr. Hollis is an historian and curator of all things Birmingham. He is the curator of the Birmingham Rewound website and has written several books about the Magic City's past, from its old movie theaters to its vintage advertising signs. His latest Birmingham history book is entitled "Lovemans: Meet Me Under The Clock."

**Research & Genealogical Tips: No Kids, No Siblings & Died With Some Cash**

Is there a relative who never had any children of their own, had no siblings and died owning enough property to require a probate or an estate settlement? If so, the records of that settlement may be particularly interesting. The deceased person's heirs-at-law typically would have been their first cousins or their first cousin's descendants. Even if there was a will, these heirs-at-law typically would have had to have been notified of the probate. Those records could help determine relationships and indicate where people were living at the time the relative died. These estate or probate records would typically be filed at the local court level.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Don't forget the BGS October Fair on Saturday, October 27th!** It's time to plan for your exhibit – some ideas to consider for an exhibit are old family photos, clothing worn by an ancestor, family histories, articles owned by or made by an ancestor. Ribbons to be awarded to the first, second and third place winners and of course the silver bowl is awarded to the first place winner! We need your participation!

Remember the Alabama Genealogical Society, Inc. Fall Seminar will be Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Alabama Department of Archives & History in Montgomery! The speaker is Robert Scott Davis, JR and the title of the program is **Three Anniversaries: War of 1812 Research, The Basis of Researching a Civil War Ancestor & WWI Research and Other Military Records after the St. Louis Fire**. Check out <http://www.algensoc.org/main/seminars.html> for more information!

**Please note** that I will have the June 2012 *Pioneer Trails* to distribute at the meeting. If you are unable to attend your copy will be mailed the week of September 24<sup>th</sup>. Sorry for the delay!

**The past is not dead. It isn't even past. --William Faulkner**  
*Scott A. Martin, BGS Newsletter Editor*



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## THE DEADSPACE COLUMN

### *Tips & Suggestions for researching the Dead: Where Did The Event Occur?*

Vital records are usually recorded where the event took place. A child might not have been born where the couple "lived," they might have been born somewhere a slight distance away, perhaps while the mother was staying with relatives in a neighboring town. A couple might have traveled fifty miles to elope and marry in a different state. A person may die in a hospital in a neighboring town or while a thousand miles away on a trip. That death will be recorded where the death took place, not the person's residence. Where were they when it happened?

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