
AAHGS

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER
AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC

Volume 5, Number 4

NEWSLETTER

April, 1993

Announcing

NJ-AAHGS will meet Saturday, April 10, 1993, at 12 Noon at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum, 1841 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, N.J. (2nd fl.)

The program originally planned for the March 1993 meeting, which was cancelled due to severe weather, will be held.

Program Chairman Lloyd E. Washington will conduct a Fun Quiz on Black history and genealogy. A prize will be awarded to the winner.

Bring your genealogy problems to this meeting for a "Can We Help?" session following the quiz. Complete and bring the form on page 4 of this newsletter regarding your family research. This will help with any questions you wish to raise.

Bring bag lunches. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

NOTE: The Greenville Library, in which NJ-AAHGS meets, closes at 1 pm due to fiscal cutbacks. If the door is locked, please call the Museum at 547-5262 from the telephone in front of the Library. Someone will come down and admit you.

ANNUAL DUES FOR 1993 ARE PAYABLE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 through DECEMBER 1993. Members who have renewed for 1993 will be eligible to vote

for election of officers and proposals for amendments to the By-Laws.

SPECIAL EVENT

The New Jersey Chapter AAHGS Executive Committee will host a meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council of African-American Genealogy Groups Saturday, April 24, 1993, at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum, 1841 Kennedy Boulevard, Jersey City, N.J. for sessions on fund-raising and grant-writing. Carolyn Williams, Past President of the Philadelphia African-American Genealogy Group, will lead the discussion. Executive Committee members have been invited to attend from the Jean Sampson Scott Greater New York Chapter AAHGS, the Western Pennsylvania Chapter AAHGS and the Philadelphia African-American Genealogy Group.

The initial meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council of African-American Genealogy Group was hosted by the Philadelphia Group on August 22, 1992. Carolyn Williams accepted responsibility of coordinating meetings and activities. Plans were made to meet at alternating sites twice a year-the fourth Saturday in October, and the fourth Saturday in April.

The main purposes of the Council will be to promote networking, sharing and cooperation.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Elizabeth Peale Johnson

Despite the stormy weather and predictions which led to the cancellation of three of our regular meetings in 1992-1993, the business of the New Jersey Chapter proceeded through the work of the Executive Committee which met on January 30 and April 3 in between the storms.

Proposals were made for amendments to By-Laws to be announced in the May 1993 Newsletter, and a Nominating Committee was appointed to prepare a slate of officers for the 1993-1995 term.

Glenn D. Cunningham wrote to all of the volunteers on the 1880 U.S. Census project to determine their progress in identifying African-Americans residing in New Jersey counties. Please contact Glenn immediately to advise whether or not you will have time to complete the work in the county you selected. We have an opportunity of getting outside help. Your cooperation in advising Glenn will be welcome- (201) 433-3487, 230 Bergen Avenue, Jersey City, N.J. 07305.

The March 27, 1993, beginners' workshop at the Newark Public Library was coordinated by Lloyd E. Washington;-Lloyd, Carolyn Whitley, Glenn Cunningham, Lucius Bowser and Betty Johnson displayed books and family history boards.

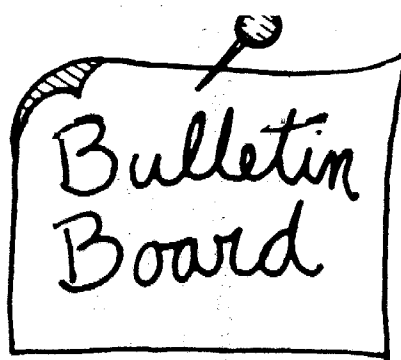
Betty Johnson, Lucius Bowser and Glenn Cunningham spoke on various aspects of genealogical research and participated in a stimulating discussion led by Lloyd Washington.

We were extremely pleased at the contribution made by Supervising Librarian, Dr. George Hawley, who described the genealogical resources available at the Newark Public Library and had a sampling of books on hand from this collection. A copy of a listing that he distributed entitled "Selected List of Genealogical Sources at Newark Public Library" is included herein on page 6.

Thanks also to the NJ-AAHGS members who attended and supported this workshop.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of an elderly aunt of Lloyd Washington and the mother of member Nathaniel Coleman.

A number of our members have expressed interest in taking a trip to the National Archives Branch in New York City. Several months ago I visited the Archives on a week-day and arrived at 9:30 a.m. I was delighted to find a microfilm reader of which I took possession for the entire day. I understand that the Archives is very crowded on the week-ends, and access to microfilm readers is limited. In view of the foregoing, please let me know whether you can take a trip to the Archives on a week-day. See me at the April 10th meeting or call me at (201) 875-4802.



April 8, 1993 - 3:30 p.m.,
Engelhard Court, The Newark
Museum, 49 Washington St.,
Newark, N.J. 07101-0540.
The Culture of Community:
a Dialogue. Robert Siegel,
co-host of National Public
Radio's "All Things Con-
sidered," will moderate a
panel of distinguished
scholars. Reception for
participants follows in
Billy Johnson Auditorium.
FREE. (From Newark Museum
Exhibitions & Events, March
-April 1993). Call (201)
596-6550 for information.

April 17, 1993 - 11:00 a.m.
Walking Tour of Lower
Manhattan with Dr. Sherrill
Wilson, including "Negroes'
Burial Ground," City Hall,
the World Trade Center,
St. Peters' Church, and
lunch at the end of the
tour at the South Street
Seaport. \$15/\$10 Limited
Income. RSVP by April 1,
1993 (212) 799-0322.
Join group: City Hall
Park at the southwest corner
of Center and Chambers Sts.
at 10:30 a.m. The tour
begins promptly at 11:00 a.m.

April 17, 1993 - 10 a.m.
Genealogy Club, New Jersey
Historical Society, meeting,
230 Broadway, Newark, N.J.
Speaker: Thomas McNamara -
"Locating the Living: Part
II." Parking in the rear.
Call (201) 483-3939 for
further information.

April 24, 1993, - 10 a.m.
Mid-Atlantic Regional

Council of African-American
Genealogy Groups will meet at
the Afro-American Historical
Society Museum, 1841 Kennedy
Blvd., Jersey City, N.J. The
New Jersey Chapter AAHGS will
host representatives of the
Jean Sampson Scott Greater
New York Chapter AAHGS, the
Western Pennsylvania Chapter
AAHGS and the Philadelphia
African-American Genealogy
Group.

April 29 - May 1, 1993 - 16th
Annual Conference, Afro-
American Historical and
Genealogical Society, Inc.,
Carbondale, Illinois.
Host - Little Egypt Chapter
AAHGS. Contact Betty Johnson
as soon as possible for
information concerning con-
ference registration, hotel
accommodations, and travel
arrangements (201) 875-4802.
A good program is planned.
Interesting sessions include:
"Writing Effective Grant
Proposals in a Recovering
Economy," "African American
Research before 1865: a Panel
Discussion," by the Baltimore
Chapter AAHGS. and "Back to
Africa, Back to my Heritage:
Anatomy of Research Method-
ology that Led an African
American to her Legacy," by
Margaret Durham, St. Louis
Chapter AAHGS President.

NOTE YOUR CALENDER - NJ-AAHGS
CHAPTER MEETINGS

May 8, 1993 - Second Session
of "Can We Help?"

June 12, 1993 - Family
Reunions and Vacation Visits-
Gathering Information.

CAN WE HELP YOU? Complete and bring this information with you to the April 8th Chapter meeting.

Your Name, Address and Telephone No.(include area code)

Indicate whether you are (please check):

1. A beginner _____
2. An intermediate researcher _____
3. Advanced researcher _____

List the counties and States in which you are researching:

List the surnames you are researching, the time period, and relationship to you:

In what areas are you experiencing problems? (Please check)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Birth records _____ | Marriage Records _____ |
| Death Records _____ | U.S. Census Records _____ |
| State Census _____ | Estate Records _____ |
| Cemetery records _____ | Oral Research _____ |

Other Problems (Please Explain) _____

FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS IN NEW
JERSEY

(Mormon Records)

Call for days and hours the
Centers are open, also
directions. Be prepared with
pencils and paper and informa-
tion pertinent to your research
before you visit a family
history center. Volunteers
will be available to assist
you.

CALDWELL, 209 Mountain Ave.,
North Caldwell (201)226-8975.

VINELAND, 110 Highland Ave.,
(609) 696-5002.

CHERRY HILL, 260 Evesham Road,
(609) 795-8841.

EAST BRUNSWICK, 303 Dunham's
Corner Road, (908)254-1480.

EMERSON, 840 Soldier Hill Road.

MORRISTOWN, 283 James St.,
(201) 539-5362.

PRINCETON, Alexander Road,
(609) 737-7675.

SHORT HILLS, 140 White Oak
Ridge Rd., (908)647-3608.

TOMS RIVER, Corner Old Freehold
Rd. & Intermediate West Way,
(609) 597-8965.

NOTE: When you visit a center,
it is helpful to take your
pedigree chart, family group
records, and copies of other
family records and documents.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES-NORTHEAST
REGION

The move to New York City has

made the trip to the Northeast
Region-National Archives more
difficult for New Jerseyans
than when it was located in
Bayonne. Another problem is
parking. However, public
transportation is handy to the
Archives at 201 Varick Street,
which is located five short
blocks from the Christopher
Street PATH stop. The Houston
Street IRT stop is also
near. Researchers should use
the Houston Street exit.
Public hours are Monday-Friday,
8:00 am to 4:30 pm and the
third Saturday of every month,
8:30-4:00. For further
information call
(212) 337-1300.

WEATHER TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

If in doubt as to whether a
meeting will be held, call your
County representative listed
below by 8 a.m. the day of the
scheduled meeting:

Lloyd Washington (Essex Co.)
(201) 763-4949.

Glenn Cunningham (Hudson Co.)
(201) 433-3487.

Bernice Jackson (Bergen Co.)
(201) 837-0642.

Amanda Edwards (Monmouth Co.)
(908) 671-1216.

Lisa Crawley, (Union Co.)
(908) 352-8015.

Lucius Bowser (Mercer Co.)
(201) 763-5892.

Lillian Page (Passaic Co.)
(201) 916-0114.

Elizabeth Peale Johnson,
(Middlesex Co.)
(201) 875-4802.

RECOMMENDED BY

LISA CRAWLEY

How to Collect and Write Local
History by Marcia M. Miller
(1975, Sunstone Press, Santa
Fe, N.M., sources, marketing,
copyright law and trips on
conducting oral history sessions.

SELECTED LIST OF GENEALOGICAL SOURCES AT NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEW JERSEY DIVISION

CENSUS: All available New Jersey Federal and State personal name census microfilm including U.S. Census 1830-1920; U.S. Soundex indexes 1880, 1900 and 1920; and New Jersey State 1855-1915. Also hardbound indexes for heads of households 1830-1860. Useful Handbooks: **The Soundex Reference Guide** and **A Practical Guide to the "Mistakes" Made in Census Indexes.**

CITY DIRECTORIES: Newark city directories 1836-1964, plus a growing microfilm collection of Atlantic City, Jersey City, New Brunswick, Paterson, Trenton and others. Hardbound collection for various New Jersey locations is at the Business Information Center at 34 Commerce St.

TELEPHONE BOOKS: Statewide collection on microfilm dates back to 1905.

NEWSPAPERS: Microfilm of Newark newspapers (including **Italian Tribune, Jewish Chronicle, Jewish News, Luso Americano, Vailsburg Leader**), plus **Jersey Journal** starting 1959, **The Record** (Hackensack) starting 1962, the **New Jersey Afro-American** 1941-1988, and the **Newark Herald/New Jersey Herald News** (an African-American paper) 1938-1946. Handwritten indexes to **Newark News** 1892-1972 include some deaths, and there is a clipping file of **Star-Ledger** death notices starting August 1983.

ESSEX COUNTY RECORDS: Microfilm covering lunacy papers, dockets, certificates of incorporation, name changes, marriages, miscellaneous, 1795-1981.

GARDNER COLLECTION: 63 microfilm reels of alphabetically arranged files of northeastern New Jersey families.

PERIODICAL SOURCE INDEX: Place, subject and surname index to genealogy and local history periodicals starting 1847 and covering United States, Canada, foreign, methodology and families.

VOLUNTEER UNION SOLDIERS: 26 rolls of film reproducing an alphabetical card index to the service records of Union soldiers from New Jersey.

HUMANITIES DIVISION

BLACKS IN SELECTED NEWSPAPERS, CENSUSES AND OTHER SOURCES: A multivolume index to personal names and activities, published in 1977.

APPLICATION - NATIONAL SOCIETY

APPLICATION - NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Name _____

Name _____

Full name of Spouse _____

Full name of Spouse _____

Mailing Address _____

Mailing Address _____

(St., Ave., La., Ct., Apt. #, PO Box #)

(St., Ave., La., Ct., Apt. #, PO Box #)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone No. _____

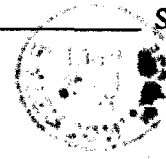
County _____ Telephone No. _____

Fees: Youth \$15, Indiv. \$25, Family \$30, Company \$35
(Circle one)

Fees: Indiv. \$12, Family \$20, Company \$35, Patron \$250
(Circle one)

Date _____ Signature: _____

Date _____ Signature: _____



(NOTE: THIS FORM MAY ALSO BE USED FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS)

MAKE SEPARATE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AAHGS and NJ-AAHGS

MAIL BOTH TO: Mrs. Odell Washington
Treasurer - NJ-AAHGS
18 Lindsley Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040

NJ-AAHGS Directory (all 201 Area Code, except where otherwise noted)

- Elizabeth Peale Johnson, Pres. 875-4802
- Theodore Brunson, V. Pres. 547-5262
- Janice Jenkins, Secy. 451-4940
- Odell Washington, Treas. & Finance Chr. 763-4949
- Lisa Crawley, Archivist (908) 352-8015
- Lloyd E. Washington, Program Chr. & Liaison NY-NJ 763-4949
- Glenn D. Cunningham, Research Proj. Chr. & Prog. Asst. 433-3487
- Lucius A. Bowser, Membership Chr. 763-5892
567-4628

PLEASE FORWARD ALL ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER BY THE 15th OF THE MONTH TO:
ELIZABETH PEALE JOHNSON, 124 Mt. Salem Road, Wantage, New Jersey 07461-3725,
(201) 875-4802. THE NJ-AAHGS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY, EXCEPT FOR
THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST.