

# New Jersey Chapter AFRO—AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, Number 9

December 1990

### GREETINGS!

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO JOIN TOGETHER WITH THE

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER AAHGS

IN A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION ON

Saturday, December 8, 1990

at 12:00 Noon

at the

Afro-American Historical

Society Museum,

1841 Kennedy Boulevard

Jersey City, N.J.

(3rd fl., Greenville Library)

(10:30 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting will be held  
Prior to Celebration)

\*AMANDA EDWARDS FAMILY REUNION VIDEO WILL BE SHOWN\*

TO Add to the Festivities Bring:

Finger Food (Your favorite dips, chips, crackers, cheese,  
cookies, cake, etc.);

Silent Auction Fund Raiser Items - Books, artifacts, jewelry, etc.

(Indicate on a slip of paper for each item the starting  
bid for auction).

Please call the Museum if you have any questions - (201) 547-5262.

NOTE: Review your Black History as first and second prizes will be awarded  
for a quiz which will take place! Come - join in the fun! There will  
be genealogy networking galore!

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### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

R. Boulton Dickenson, 140 Tysen St.,  
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301

Lisa Crawley, 1090 Mary St.,  
Elizabeth, N.J. 07201

Adrien L. Merlette, 820 Valley St.,  
Vaux Hall, N.J. 07088

### DID YOU KNOW?

(Compiled by Lloyd E. Washington)

As early as 1664 there was a Black pre-  
sence on Burlington Island in the middle  
of the Delaware River, (Burlington  
County, N.J.).

Timbuctoo, Westhampton Township,  
was a small settlement located about  
two miles south of Mount Holly on  
the road from Rancocas (See page 2 -  
Continued).

DID YOU KNOW?  
(Continued from Page 1)

to Mount Holly. It has always been a Black community from its inception about 1820. The name Timbuctoo is African in origin. Perhaps the name was chosen because the settlement was a haven for freed slaves and from time to time fugitive slaves. Contemporary maps have shortened the name to "Bucto" as it is commonly referred to by local residents. (Above from Path to Freedom, The Black Presence in New Jersey - Burlington County from 1659-1900, by Ernest Lyght (1978).

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NOTE YOUR CALENDARS

On Saturday, February 16, 1991, three NJ-AAHGS officers will speak on the following topics at a meeting of the Genealogy Club of the New Jersey Historical Society, 230 Broadway, Newark, N.J.:

Lucius A. Bowser - "The Bowser Family of Essex County." Arrival of William Henry Bowser and Annie Woodson Bowser in New Jersey in 1885 who initially settled in Orange, N.J. William Bowser was the great-grandson of James Bernard Bowser, a free Black who fought in the Revolutionary War in the Virginia Line Army.

Glenn D. Cunningham - "The Black Presence in Hudson County" from extensive historical and genealogical research in Hudson County and New Jersey records.

Lloyd E. Washington - "New Jersey Blacks in the Civil War." Participation of Blacks in the Union Army of the Civil War, 1861-1865, with special emphasis on two soldiers from New Jersey.

Our New Jersey Chapter members are also assisting the Historical Society staff in displaying photos and memorabilia of Anna Monroe, who was very active and a leader in Essex County civic and community affairs in the 1940's and 1950's.

The meeting will begin at 10:00 am.

LET'S KEEP IN MIND:

Coy D. Robbins, President of the Indiana Branch, AAHGS, who is recovering from a recent stroke. His wife, Jean, wrote to us, saying that Coy is making progress and has a positive attitude. Here is Coy's home address for those who may wish to send cards:

502 Clover Terrace  
Bloomington, IN 47404-1809

Glenn D. Cunningham, whose brother is very ill on the West Coast.

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1991 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS - THANK YOU!

Carlos R. Edwards  
105 Hof Road  
Edison, N.J. 08817

Charles B. Matlock, Jr.  
Courtney Matlock (Daughter)  
229 Passaic Street, Trenton, NJ 08618  
(Family Membership)

Lamarr Robinson  
150 Van Nostrand Avenue  
Jersey City, N.J. 07305

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The Afro-American Historical Society will be the setting for an Art Show and Sale through December 14th. The show opened on Sunday, December 2, 1990, at a reception held at the Museum. Plan to stop by the Museum by December 14th. Call for details - 547-5262, (201 Area).

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The following Ad was carried in the Sussex Register published in Newton, Sussex County, N.J. 19 June 1815:

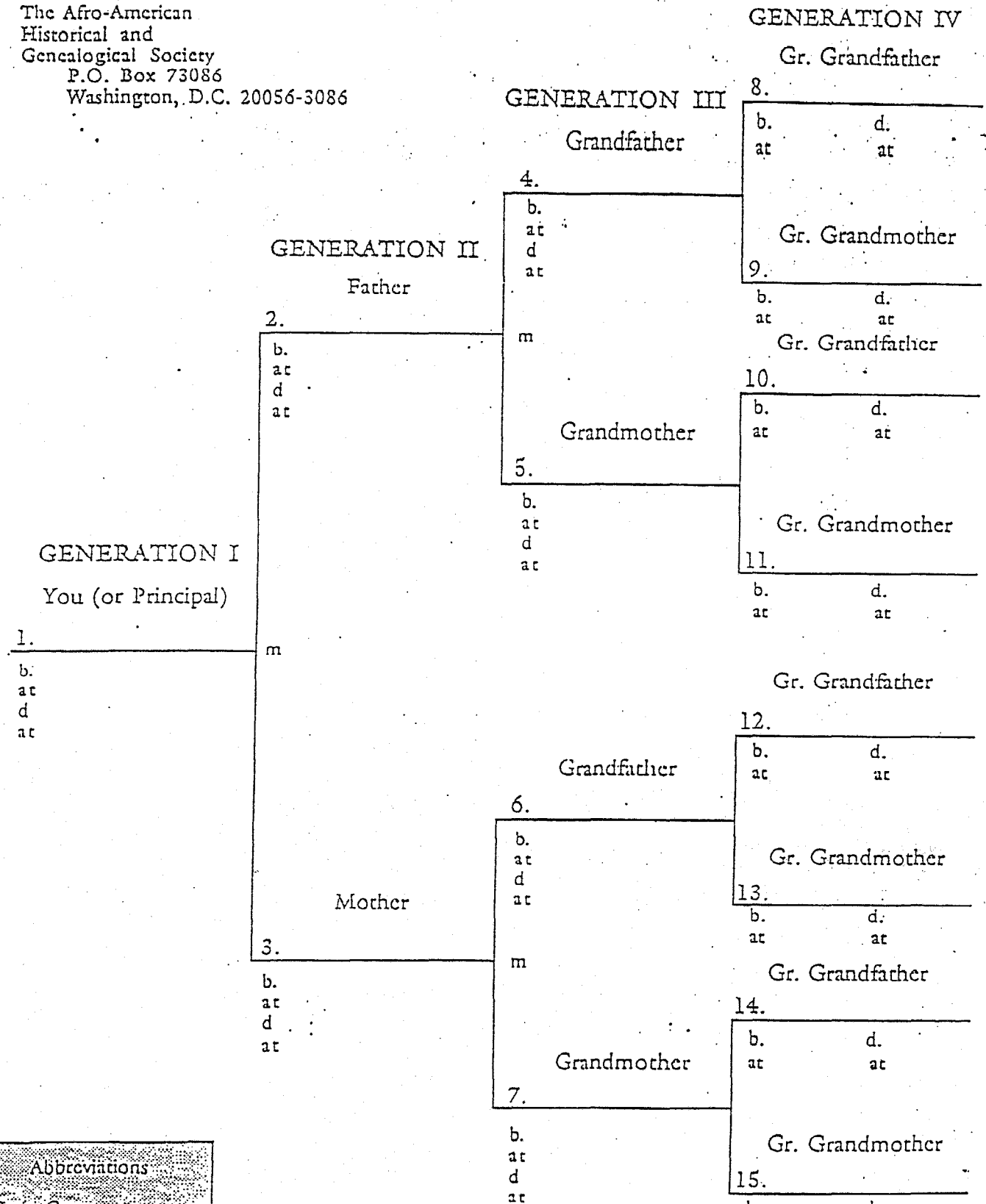
FOR SALE

A likely young Black girl, aged 14 years. She is sober, honest and industrious and has no bad habits. She is to be sold for no other reason than the present inconvenience of my family to keep her.

ELIAS CARTER

# Chart Your Family Ancestry

The Afro-American  
Historical and  
Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 73086  
Washington, D.C. 20056-3086



**Abbreviations**  
Gr. - Great  
b. - Date of Birth  
d. - Date of Death  
at - Place  
m. - Date of Marriage

Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ Date of \_\_\_\_\_