

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

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3, Number 1

January 1991

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

NOTE YOUR CALENDARS

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER AAHGS

will meet

Saturday, January 12, 1991

AT THE

Afro-American Historical Society Museum  
1841 Kennedy Boulevard  
Jersey City, N.J.

(3rd fl., Greenville Library)

10:30 am Executive Board Meeting

12:00 pm Regular Meeting Agenda

\*VIDEO OF INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS -  
(APRIL 1990) - Courtesy of  
Carlos R. Edwards

\*BY-LAWS REVIEW - Arnold E. Brown, Chr.  
(Bring your copy of By-Laws - Extras  
will be available if you do not have copy)

\*OFFICIAL START OF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE -  
Lucius A. Bowser, Chr.

\*FINAL PLANS FOR BLACK HISTORY PROGRAMS -  
Lloyd E. Washington, Chr.

Everyone bring Brown Bag Lunch -- Beverage  
will be Provided.

(BE PREPARED FOR AN EARLY MORNING TELEPHONE  
CALL IF THE WEATHER REQUIRES A DECISION TO  
CANCEL THE MEETING.)

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NOTE: A list of members, addresses and tel.  
nos. provided by Membership Chr.  
Lucius A. Bowser, is enclosed for your  
convenience in communicating with  
NJ-AAHGS membership. An addendum with  
added names will be included with  
February 1991 Newsletter.  
(For your info., the tel. no. of  
the Afro-American Historical Society  
Museum in which we meet is (201)547-5262).

\*Sunday, January 27, 1991 - 2:00 p.m.-  
NJ-AAHGS will participate in the  
1991 African-American History Cele-  
bration sponsored by The Monmouth  
County Park System. Plan to attend -  
By Train to Middletown Sta, or  
travel by auto via Garden State Park-  
way to Middletown-Holmdel Exit; pro-  
ceed East on Red Hill Road about a  
mile - Look to left for sign "Tatum  
Park Activity Center." The program  
will be held in the Heath Wing. (Pro-  
perty for the Heath Wing was donated  
by NJAAHGS member Bertha C. Heath).

Advise Ellen Morris if you plan to  
travel by train - so arrangements can  
be made to pick you up at the train  
station (Ellen-(908) 531-0672).

Also, NJ-AAHGS Family History Posters  
will be on display. Please bring  
your poster with you.

\*Saturday & Sunday, February 2 & 3, 1991 -  
NJ-AAHGS will have an African-American  
HIstory Display at the Newport Centre  
Mall in Jersey City, N.J. Saturday hrs.  
will be 10:00 am - 9:30 pm; Sunday hrs.  
11:00 am - 7:00 p.m. NJ-AAHGS VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED TO BE PRESENT AT THE MALL COM-  
MUNITY BOOTH DURING THESE HOURS. PLEASE  
LET US KNOW AT THE JANUARY 1991 MEETING  
IF YOU CAN HELP! ALL HANDS NEEDED!

Program Chairman Lloyd E. Washington  
is coordinating this effort. Please  
advise the specific hours you can repre-  
sent NJ-AAHGS at the booth on either  
one of the above days (201)763-4949.

THANKS to Glenn D. Cunningham for his  
assistance in making the initial contact  
with the Mall.

NOTE YOUR CALENDARS (Continued next page).

NOTE YOUR CALENDARS (Continued):

\*Saturday, February 9, 1991 -  
Regular NJ-AAHGS meeting -  
Will feature member & Secy.  
Janice Jenkins (who is also  
an actress) in an African-  
American History tribute-  
portraying and discussing the  
life of Ida B. Wells. Plan  
to attend - Meeting begins at  
12:00 p.m. Noon at the  
Afro-American Historical  
Society Museum, 2nd fl.,  
1841 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey  
City. (For directions con-  
tact the Museum (201 547-5262).

\*Saturday, February 16, 1991,  
10:00 a.m., three officers of  
NJ-AAHGS will speak at a meeting  
of the Genealogy Club of the  
New Jersey Historical Society:

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

Glenn D. Cunningham - The Black Pre-  
sence in Hudson County - Results of  
extensive historical and genealogical  
research in Hudson County and New Jer-  
sey records.

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

NJ-AAHGS is also assisting the NJHS  
staff in preparing a display of photos  
and memorabilia of Anna Monroe, a leader  
in church work, civic and community  
affairs in the 1940's and 1950's.

Plan to attend this program and view  
this display!

(The New Jersey Historical Society  
is located at 230 Broadway,  
Newark, N.J. - Parking and entrance  
at rear of building).

\*THE 1991 AAHGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
ANNOUNCEMENT was received 1/11/91  
recently advising that the Con-  
ference will be held May 2- 4,  
1991, at the Holiday Inn-Capitol,  
550 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.  
If you did not receive this announce-  
ment and the Call for Papers that  
accompanied the announcement, please  
call Betty Johnson at 875-4802 for  
copies.

In 1990 seven officers and members  
of NJ-AAHGS attended the annual  
conference. This is a "must"  
experience for everyone. Plan to  
attend in 1991.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sharon M. Hazel  
132 Rhode Island Ave., B7  
East Orange, N.J. 07018

Courtney Matlock  
227 Edpas Road  
New Brunswick, N.J. 08901

THANK YOU FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

1991

Theodore Brunson-  
Glenn D. Cunningham  
Anna Durham  
Amanda Edwards  
Bertha C. Heath  
Janice Jenkins  
Elizabeth P. Johnson  
Ellen Thorne Morris  
Pruitt Family Reunion Inc.  
Lloyd and Odell Washington

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\*Thursday, January 31, 1991,  
7:00 p.m., at the Afro-American  
Historical Society Museum,  
1841 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City,  
Lecture IV will be presented  
by Dr. Yosef ben-Jochannan of  
Malcolm King College, who will  
speak on "African Origins of  
Major Western Religions."  
This is part of a lecture series  
sponsored by the Jersey City  
State College African Afro-  
American Studies Program and The  
Afro-American Historical Society  
Museum. Free Admission.

GLENN D. CUNNINGHAM and  
LLOYD E. WASHINGTON APPROVED FOR  
EXCHANGE OF NJ-AAHGS RESPONSIBILITIES

The Executive Board of NJ-AAHGS considered and approved the following changes in officer responsibilities for 1991:

Lloyd E. Washington will serve as Program Chairman.

Glenn D. Cunningham will serve as Assistant Program Chairman, and assume the new responsibility of Chapter Research Projects Chairman. This will go beyond individual genealogical research and focus on local history, church history and other broader areas of research.

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THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the Holiday Celebration meeting held Saturday, December 8th, by NJ-AAHGS at the Afro-American Historical Society Museum. The finger food was bountiful and delicious, the auction items were great and helped to raise needed funds. All of your donations were appreciated. We are grateful to Lloyd Washington for contributing the gifts for the Black History Quiz which he conducted, also to Odell Washington for her work in organizing the silent auction. It was then a pleasure to view Mae Edwards' video of her family reunion held this past summer. We concluded by expressing gratitude to Theodore Brunson, Museum Director and NJ-AAHGS Vice-President, for his cooperation in donating space for our Chapter meetings.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

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Since our December 1990 newsletter, we received holiday greetings from Coy D. Robbins and Nathaniel Coleman, both of whom are recovering from their respective disabilities and are in fine spirits. Keep that good news coming!

JOTTINGS

JANICE JENKINS accepted the challenge of forming a committee to explore a dramatic presentation around an African-American historical theme for a fund raiser.....LUCIUS D. BOWSER suggested that those who are working on research papers and projects set goals for completing them and perhaps publish a Chapter journal.....GLENN D. CUNNINGHAM'S brother who was visiting from Atlanta, was a guest at our December Holiday meeting.....KAY AMORY-MOSHIER of Peekskill, N.Y. and COURTNEY MATLOCK of New Brunswick, N.J. attended our December 1990 meeting for the first time.....AMANDA EDWARDS made an appeal to African-Americans to consider Organ Donation before our demise. As an R.N. she sees firsthand the patients who are awaiting these contributions.....CHARLES MATLOCK showed samples of bookmarks produced from African-inspired designs as a possible fund-raiser. See Charles for details.....

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DID YOU KNOW?

(Compiled by Lloyd E. Washington)

\*In 1790 New York's Black Slave Population of 21,324 was the largest of the slave holding Northern States? (From 1790 Census Returns).

\*New Jersey had 11,423 Slaves in the First Census of 1790? (From Population of the U.S. Returned at the First Census by States: 1790.)

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PLANNING TO TRAVEL FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH?

Please contact any of the officers of NJ-AAHGS if you are planning to travel North, South, East or West for your research. You may be helpful to other members who are researching in the same area. (Each NJ-AAHGS Newsletter carries the telephone numbers of our officers)

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FINAL PERFORMANCE OF THE PIANO LESSON on Broadway is January 27th -DON'T MISS IT!

The following letter may be of interest:

Nov. 23, 1990

Dear Afro-Amer. Hist. Society

I saw your address in the Genealogical Helper. I do not know if it will help anyone but I was copying the 1910 Census records in Caddo Co., Okla, and noticed several Mulatto families from New Jersey. I copied their names for you,-they are as follows:

RACHEL PORTER, age 36, wife of John B. (He's from Mo.).

ISAAK WILLIAMS, Age 40 (He drew his land in the 1910 land lottery). His wife, ELLA, was from Mo.)

GEORGIANNA, Age 37, wife of George Conrad (He's from Ky.)

ELLEN WILLIAMS, age 62 (She drew land in 1901) No family listed, but I believe she's connected with a George B. McClelan; he drew the land but died and she got it.

This is one township only. There was also a black cemetery but the stones are gone except for George McClelan. If anyone has relatives buried in this area I would be interested, the closest town (very small) is Cogar, Okla.

Sincerely

Nancy Charlton  
RR 2 Box 189A  
Minco, OK 73059

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WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE ON THE MAILING LISTS OF THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS TO RECEIVE THEIR NEWSLETTERS: Cleveland Chapter AAHGS, Baltimore City Chapter AAHGS, Ebony Lines -Indiana AAHGS Quarterly Newsletter, and the Jean Sampson Scott Greater New York AAHGS Chapter. Copies of these Newsletters will be posted for the convenience of NJ-AAHGS Chapter members in keeping up with Chapter news!

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DIRECTORY NJ-AAHGS OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

(All 201 Area Code)

Elizabeth Peale Johnson, Pres.	875-4802	Glenn D. Cunningham, Research	
Theodore Brunson, V. Pres.	547-5262	Projects Chr. & Prog. Asst.	433-3487
Janice Jenkins, Secy.	451-4940	Lloyd E. Washington, Program,	
Odell Washington, Treas. &		Chr. & Liaison, NY & NJ	
Finance Chr.	763-4949	Chapters, AAHGS	763-4949
Theresa L. Thomas, Coord.		Lucius A. Bowser, Membership &	
Assist. to New Genealogists	460-4355	Publicity Chr.	763-5892
		Arnold E. Brown, By-Laws Chr.	567-4628

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PLEASE FORWARD ALL ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER BY THE 15th OF THE MONTH TO:  
Elizabeth Peale Johnson, 124 Mount Salem Road, Wantage, New Jersey 07461,  
(201) 875-4802. (Please note address change - Same house - merely a P.O. change).