

NEW JERSEY BRANCH
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Vol. Number 1

November 1989

Meeting Announcement
The second meeting of the N.J.
Branch AAHGS will be held:

12:00 Noon
Saturday, November 11, 1989
at the office of the
JERSEY CITY BRANCH NAACP
Martin Luther King Drive
and Forrest Street
Jersey City, N. J.
(296 Forrest Street)

Agenda
BUSINESS SESSION

PROGRAM

Lloyd E. Washington,
"Genealogical Research
Facilities in the New
Jersey/New York area
which are useful in re-
searching ancestors in
any State."

Glenn Cunningham will
have a sampling of gene-
alogical research tools
on display.

Meeting open to all - bring
interested family and friends.

Call Theodore Brunson for direc-
tions to meeting place (201)
547-5262.

INTERIM OFFICERS
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS-
NEW JERSEY BRANCH AAHGS

The following persons consented
to serve as interim officers and
committee chairpersons until our
Chapter By-Laws are presented
and approved by the local Branch
and AAHGS:

Elizabeth Peale Johnson, Pres.
Theodore Brunson, V. Pres.
Odell Washington, Treas.
Theresa L. Thomas, Secy.

PROGRAM:

Glenn D. Cunningham, Chr.
Lloyd E. Washington

BY-LAWS

Arnold E. Brown, Chr.
Pamela Cole

LIAISON WITH N.Y. METROPOLITAN
BRANCH AAHGS

Lloyd E. Washington

PLEASE SEND NEWS for future news-
letters to:

Elizabeth P. Johnson
R.D.1, Box 638
Sussex, N.J. 07461
(201) 875-4802

DID YOU KNOW?

Compiled by Lloyd E. Washington

Dr. John S. Rock, a native of Salem, NJ was admitted to the American Medical College in the late 1850's. Upon completing his studies, he practiced both Dentistry and Medicine. In, 1861, he studied Law. He passed the Bar in Massachusetts and later was appointed Justice of the Peace in Boston and Suffolk. He could read and speak both French and German. He developed into so accomplished a lawyer that in 1865, he was the first African American to argue a case before the Supreme Court.

(Continued -Reverse Side)

Did You Know? (Continued) - Compiled by Lloyd E. Washington

There were 178,975 Colored (African-American) Troops in the Union Service of which 36,847 died in the Civil War.

There were 1,185 African American Troops from New Jersey in the Civil War. The last African American Civil War Veteran was George Ashby born in Burlington, NJ January 1, 1845, died at Attentown NJ in 1946 at age 101. He was First Sergeant of Co. H 45th U. S. Infantry Regiment.

In the 1860 Census, New Jersey had 18 slaves and 25,318 Free Negroes.

The following persons attended the first meeting of the New Jersey Branch AAHGS and affixed their names to the application for chapter establishment:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Pamela Cole | Jersey City, N.J. |
| Lloyd E. Washington | Maplewood, N.J. |
| Odell Washington | Maplewood, N.J. |
| Glenn D. Cunningham | Jersey City, N.J. |
| Theodore Brunson | Rutherford, N.J. |
| Arnold E. Brown | Englewood, N.J. |
| Carlos R. Edwards | Edison, N.J. |
| Raphael L. Cole | Jersey City, N.J. |
| Antoinette Neals | Jersey City, N.J. |
| Theresa L. Thomas | Englewood, N.J. |
| Elizabeth Peale Johnson | Sussex, N.J. |

Mr. Theodore Brunson, Director of the African-American Historical Museum, gave a tour at the conclusion of the meeting. The Museum is a repository of Black memorabilia and genealogical books and resources and welcomes donations of artifacts. Contact Mr. Brunson for further information (201) 547-5262.

Thanks to the Museum Board and Mr. Brunson for their cooperation in providing a meeting place and headquarters for the New Jersey Branch AAHGS. It is expected that a relationship of mutual support will grow to further our combined efforts in the areas of Black history and Black genealogy.

ELLEN PROSSER THORNE MORRIS,
Local Historian and Genealogist

In response to our letter to determine interest in organizing a New Jersey Branch AAHGS, member Ellen Prosser Thorne Morris mentioned a book by Jane Clayton, Monmouth County Clerk, Hall of Records, P.O. Box 1251, Freehold, N.J. 07728-1251, entitled Black Birth Book. Names of 700 children born free to slave mothers from 1804-1848 in Monmouth County are included, as well as the names of the mothers, some fathers, and the owners. A copy is being requested for the Afro-American Historical Museum. Mrs. Morris, who hopes to collect information from 1664-1900 about Afro-American families, has microfilms of 18th century tax lists and 19th century census records, federal and state.

(More about Mrs. Morris, Monmouth County historian and genealogist, nexttime).