

# ALBEMARLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Serving Currituck and Dare Counties

[www.library.earlibrary.org/ags/](http://www.library.earlibrary.org/ags/)

Albemarle Genealogical Society, 142 Waterlily Road, Coinjock, NC 27923

---

VOLUME XXXIV Number 1

January 2015

Winter Quarter

---

President: Jeanne Murray, 122 Waterlily Rd., Coinjock, NC 27923, [jeannemurray@gmail.com](mailto:jeannemurray@gmail.com)

Vice President: Naomi Rhodes, 400 Mustian St., Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948, [nrhodes@earlibrary.org](mailto:nrhodes@earlibrary.org)

Secretary: Newell Cannon, 200 Beech Tree Dr., Shiloh, NC 27974

Treasurer: Lois Johnson Meekins, 142 Waterlily Road, Coinjock, NC 27923,  
[lmeekins@embarqmail.com](mailto:lmeekins@embarqmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Dorothy Hocutt, P.O. Box 57, Coinjock, NC 27923, [1309waterlily@mchsi.com](mailto:1309waterlily@mchsi.com)

---

## NEXT MEETING & PROGRAM

The next meeting will be Saturday, January 10, 10:30am, at the Currituck County Public Library in Barco. A brief business meeting of the Albemarle Genealogical Society will be held 10:00 a.m. before the presentation. All Albemarle Genealogical Society meetings are free and open to anyone interested in the topic presented or genealogy in general.

Topic: Historic Houses of Currituck

Our guest speaker will be Mrs. Barbara Snowden. Mrs. Snowden has a BA and MA-ED. She is a University Supervisor at ECU, District Coordinator of *We The People and Project Citizen*, a retired high school teacher, and County Historian for Currituck County. Other professional activities past and present include; NC Maritime History Council Executive Board, Friend of the Museum of Albemarle, Currituck Library Foundation, NC Federation of Historical Societies, Outer Banks History Center Advisory Board, NC Council of Social Studies Board of Directors, NC Close-up Executive Board, Currituck County Historical Society, Whalehead Preservation Trust, Currituck County Board of Elections, North Carolina Historical Commission, and Member of the NC National Register Board.

Order of Long Leaf Pine is one of the many honors bestowed upon Mrs. Snowden. Underneath all of this is a funny and wonderful person who is very humble. You won't want to miss her presentation!

## MAILBAG

Below is a list of newsletters that were mailed to AGS this quarter. All newsletters are deposited in the Currituck County Public Library in Barco.

Norfolk County Historical Society of Chesapeake

Gates County Historical Society

North Carolina Genealogical Society Newsletter

Carolina Trees and Branches- Family Research Society of Northeastern North Carolina

MCGS Tree Climber – Martin County Genealogical Society Newsletter

The Darlington Flag – Old Darlington District Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society

**A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF AGS**

Jeanne Murray

Happy New Year! I hope that your new year has started off with family, friends, and pleasant memories. I'm looking forward to a great year with AGS, examining our past and planning for our future. We have had several folks volunteer to get more involved, so as we look forward to our future, we can look to new folks to carry on with education and guidance in genealogy. Our essential mission remains the same; the ways we get there are very different than they were in the early 1980s. So with an eye toward more electronic communication, development of better electronic resources, and interesting projects, we can keep AGS vital and relevant.

**e-resources FOR GENEALOGISTS**

Contributed by Naomi Rhodes

***Our State* magazine now digitized**

<http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/home/ourstate>

Explore past issues of *Our State*, one of North Carolina's longest running and most popular magazines. First published in 1933, *The State* (as it was known until 1996) features stories about North Carolina's people, places, and history. Search the magazine's full text, browse by decade, explore popular subjects, or go directly to a specific issue.

**GENEALOGY RESEARCH BOOKS AVAILABLE TO BORROW**

As a member of the East Albemarle Regional Library (EARL) system, these books are available to borrow using your valid county library card. You may request that the book be sent to the library closest to you and you will be notified when it is available for you to check out. If you live outside of the four counties within the EARL library consortium, see whether your public library has the book or can get it for you. Look for these and other genealogy books available using the Online Catalog at [www.earlibrary.org](http://www.earlibrary.org) Please note that not all genealogy books can be checked out or sent to another library if they are designated reference. Ask library staff for assistance.

Genealogy books by W. Daniel Quillen:

**Mastering census & military records by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2014.**

**Mastering family, library & church records by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2014.**

**Mastering online genealogy by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2014.**

**Secrets of Tracing Your Ancestors by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2013.**

**Tracing your European roots by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2013.**

**The troubleshooter's guide to do-it-yourself genealogy by W. Daniel Quillen.**

**Cold Springs Harbor, NY: Cold Spring Press, c2014.**

**A Common Confederate Soldier's Diary  
Company "B"  
61st Virginia Infantry Regiment**

“A Common Confederate Soldier’s Diary for the Period 1861-1865” by author Faye Marsha Benjamin. The diary was written by an ordinary common confederate soldier, using the talking style of that era, to explain to those that were not there what it actually was like. The events and dates are correct but some of the narrative is the author’s creative style in providing a better insight into what was happening during this period. This diary dates from Jan 1862 till April 1865.

**Continued from October 2014 newsletter**

Mar 1, 1863 Comm. Sgt **Camillus** Nash Co a reduced private for being AWOL. 4Cpl **J.Gallup** Co C reduced to ranks AWOL.

Mar-Apr 1863 61<sup>st</sup> Va set up camp near Zoan Church.

Mar 8, 1863 41<sup>st</sup> Va put on all male burlesque show for the brigade. Enjoyed show. Fine spirits.

Mar 17, 1863 During snowstorm skirmished with Yankee cavalry trying to cross US Ford. Gen Fitzhugh **Lee**’s cavalry skirmished with Yankee cavalry crossing Kelly’s Ford. Gen **Stuart**’s chief of artillery, Maj John **Pelham** was killed.

Following court martial found guilty AWOL by board Musician James **Charles** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt James **Hankins** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt William **Johnson** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt John **Roberts** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt John **Scroggins** 12<sup>th</sup> Va

Mar 24, 1863 Pvt **Creekmore** Co A killed at US Ford while on picket duty.

Mar 29, 1863 4 men from Co A were wounded or killed when artillery shell landed near them. Capt John **West** suffered hip wound. Pvt James **Fulford** fell in campfire and received burns to his face and hands. He died in field hospital due to loss of blood.

Apr 4-5, 1863 Cold and miserable days with heavy snowstorm. The Yanks seem awfully busy on their side of the river. We keep a close watch for an attack. President Lincoln was visiting the Army of the Potomac and Gen **Hooker**.

Apr 8, 1863 Shad started running in the river. Fellers made nets and we went fishing. Yanks don’t know what’s happening. Had a fine fish fry for dinner.

Apr 9, 1863 following were court martial found guilty AWOL by board. Pvt James **Dance** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt Henry **Baine** 41<sup>st</sup> Va, Pvt Robert **Gill** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt Charles **Coleman** 41<sup>st</sup> Va.

Apr 12, 1863 Finished duties for day. I can relax. One group is playing draw poker, another craps, some fellers are playing checkers or chess, t’airs aways a singing around a banjo and fiddle. I’ve heard Arkansas Traveler, Goose Hangs High, and Home Sweet Home. One of them fellers has an awful voice. It must be cross between Bray of a jackass and the notes of a turkey buzzard.

## AGS JANUARY 2015

Apr 14, 1863 Pvt **Aydelott** Co B told me, "I came very near shooting a loose horse while on picket duty tonight cause he wouldn't halt and give the countersign."

Apr 18, 1863 Pvt Sylvester **Johnson** Co F court martialled for desertion. Forfeited 6 months pay hard labor on forts.

Apr 21, 1863 Several fellers from Co B played two base townball. Our ball was a walnut wrapped in yarn. Our bat was a board. Boys had great fun and in high spirits.

Apr 26, 1863 Following were court martialled found guilty AWOL. Pvt Joseph **Adams** 12th Va, Pvt Joseph **Spence** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt John **White** 12<sup>th</sup> Va, Pvt Nathaniel **Wilkins** 6<sup>th</sup> Va.

Apr 27, 1863 Our brigade (Mahone) and Posey's brigade with Capt **Grandy** and Capt **Lewis**' batteries are guarding US Ford or Bark Mill Ford.

Apr 28, 1863 Gen **Hooker**'s army on the move crossing fords of upper Rappahannock River. We can see the observation balloons.

Apr 29-30, 1863 61<sup>st</sup> Va set up few miles of Chancellorsville at intersection of Mine and Orange Plank Rds near Zoan Church. Anderson's Division extended from unfinished railroads on left to Orange Turnpike on right. Yanks in front of us commanded by Gen **Slocum** XII Corps, Gen **Sickles** III Corps, and Gen **Sykes** V Corps. We see Slocum's troops of 123<sup>rd</sup> NY, 145<sup>th</sup> NY, 150<sup>th</sup> NY, 5<sup>th</sup> Ohio. We see Sykes' troops of 18<sup>th</sup> Mass, 22<sup>nd</sup> Mass, 4<sup>th</sup> Mich, and 16<sup>th</sup> Mich. Sickles' troops of 68<sup>th</sup> Penn, 105<sup>th</sup> Penn, 141<sup>st</sup> Penn. Everybody is issued 60 rounds of ammunition. Co A and Co B take the flanks. Co C-K take the middle.

Apr 30, 1863 After a heavy rain the night before, Anderson's Division set up intersection Mine and Plank Rds near Tabernacle Church. Our brigade (Mahone) was astride Orange Turnpike. Col **Alexander**'s artillery reached Tabernacle Church. Capt Jordan's battery went in position behind our lines.

May 1, 1863 8:00am Gen Jackson reached Tabernacle Church to reinforce McLaws and Anderson's divisions. Our lines ran from an unfinished railroad on the left to Duerson's Mill on the right. A staff officer said Gen **Jackson** had a bad chest cold.

May 1, 1863 11:00am **Anderson** ordered to advance along turnpike. Our brigade (Mahone) was leading with Capt **Jordan** and Capt **Grandy**'s artillery as support. We engaged Gen **Sykes** Division. That night our army's lines held from Mine Rd on the right to Catherine's Furnace on the left.

The Yanks held from the Rappahannock river on the left to the Wilderness Church on their right.

May 1-3, 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville – 61<sup>st</sup> Va stopped attacks by Yankees at Mott's Run east of Chancellorsville near Plank Rd 800 yards south McCarty's Farm. We were ordered to keep the Yankees busy so Gen Jackson could sweep around and hit their right flank. Regiment suffered 24 casualties. Co B no casualties just minor wounds. Capt Virginius **Cassell** Jr Co D suffered leg wound requiring amputation.

Maj Stewart said that bits of tissue from a private's arm flew in his face, blinding him for a moment, and when he wiped it off with his hand he was sure it was his flesh. When he washed his face at a spring down the hill, he realized he wasn't wounded. Capt Claudius **Murdaugh** Co I lay sprawled between the lines with crippling hip wound when Capt Charles **McAlpine** Co I and Lt John **Hobday** Co I ran through storm of lead and dragged him to safety.

I was scared watching them blue bellies coming towards us through the woods. Gunsmoke made it look foggy. I was hot, my mouth was dry, my throat dry, sweat was running down my face into my eyes. My hair is wet. I look down at my hands and they are shaking. I wonder if the other fellers feel like me. All the fellers are quiet. Somebody coughs and I jump. Damn! I start to pray for the first time in my life. Order to fire! I aim and fire. My musket is so heavy. How can I reload when my hands are shaking? I take a deep breath. I drop the ramrod. Take your time. Aim and fire. Do it again. I drop the charge. Easy. Aim and fire. I feel a hand on my shoulder. Sergeant says, "easy take your time, make every shot count." I feel better. Reload, aim and fire. Sweat keeps running in my eyes. I hear order to cease fire.

The Yanks are falling back. The feller next to me takes his hat off to wipe sweat. It has 2 holes in it. Another feller has his canteen shot to pieces. I check myself no holes no blood. All fellers in Co B are still here. Several times our line is attacked and we hold. The feller to my left has 2 holes in his clothes no wounds. One of the sergeants is knocked down. He gets up holding his chest. I look and his breast plate is bent. There's a calm. I can't eat and my stomach is sick. All I want is water!

41st Va -7 killed, 6<sup>th</sup> Va -5 killed, 61<sup>st</sup> Va – 7 killed, 16<sup>th</sup> Va – 1 killed, 12<sup>th</sup> Va – 4 killed

## **ALBEMARLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP 2015**

**Albemarle Genealogical Society, 142 Waterlily Road, Coinjock, NC 27923**

Membership fees are \$10. Please make check payable to Albemarle Genealogical Society.

NAME

ADDRESS

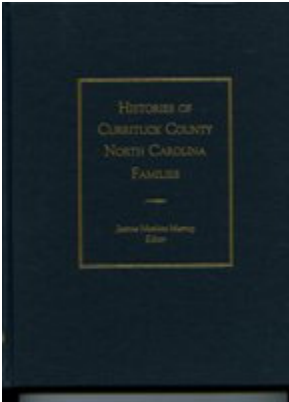
CITY/STATE

EMAIL ADDRESS

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING

January is the time for your membership dues. We encourage you to invite friends and family to join the Albemarle Genealogical Society. It is through your membership that keeps AGS an important genealogical source in Currituck and Dare counties.

## Publications for Sale by AGS

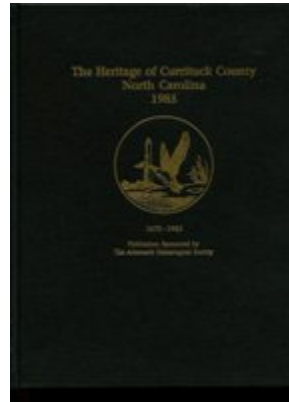


*Histories of Currituck County, NC Families--\$20.00 + tax*

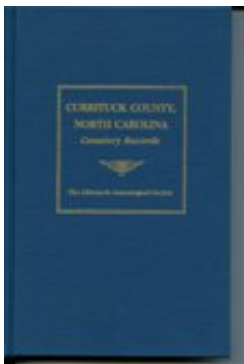
This is an 8 1/2 x 11 hardback book with the cover and spine stamped in gold. The book has over 350 pages, published in 2005. It contains over 125 stories of Currituck-connected families, many with pictures. It has a full name index.

*Currituck County Heritage, NC--\$25.00 + tax*

This is a reprint of the 9 x 12 1985 edition. It is an 8 1/2 x 11 seal of Currituck County stamped in gold on the front cover. 500 pages includes the history of Currituck County, NC. It stories and has over 700 pictures of Currituck-connected name index.



hardback book with the This book with over contains over 500 families. It has a last



*Currituck County, NC Cemetery Records--\$10.00 + tax*

*A compilation of data from tombstones and unmarked grave sites from cemeteries (predominantly white) in Currituck County, NC. Published by Gateway Press, Inc. 1995, the hardcover 6 x 9 book has 328 pages and is printed on acid free paper, Smythe sewn, and bound in cloth with spine and cover stamped in gold. The fullname index includes indexing of possible maiden names, former married names and nicknames.*

*Histories of Currituck County, NC Families; Currituck County Heritage, NC; and Currituck County, NC Cemetery Records can also be purchased at the Currituck County Public Library, 4261 Caratoke Hwy, Barco, NC 27917, 252-453-8345; and Kill Devil Hills Library, 400 Mustain Street, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948, 252-441-4331.*