

# ALBEMARLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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

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VOLUME XXXIV Number 3

July 2015

Summer Quarter

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## JULY MEETING

The July meeting was held Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Currituck Library in Barco. It a business meeting in which members went over and agreed on the new revised by-laws for the Albemarle Genealogical Society. When the final draft is complete it will be sent out to the members for review and voted on at the October meeting.

## CURRITUCK COUNTY LIBRARY OFFERS THEIR APPRECIATION

Thanks to the generosity of the Currituck County Library Foundation and the Albemarle Genealogical Society, we are pleased to announce the acquisition of a new state of the art microfilm reader at the Barco library. After faithful service of many years, our old reader finally gave out. The new reader allows patrons to view both microfilm and microfiche, with cutting edge image enhancement. Users may save viewed images to a portable drive, print them out (standard copy fee charges apply for scanning and printing), or email the images. We offer our heartfelt appreciation to the Library Foundation and the Albemarle Genealogical Society for their continued support in allowing us to offer our patrons the very best services that we can provide.

## CCPL IS A FAMILYSEARCH AFFILIATE LIBRARY

The Currituck Library in Barco is the newest FamilySearch affiliate library. The new designation means that library patrons will have greater and more convenient access to the wealth of genealogical resources available through FamilySearch.

FamilySearch is the world's largest repository of free genealogical records and manages the famous Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land and court records of genealogical significance from over 130 countries. You can order a microfilm/microfiche and have it sent to CCPL for viewing. There is a small fee to order a microfilm. Membership is free and you will need an account. <https://familysearch.org/>

**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 April 2015 newsletter**

March to Pennsylvania

June 14-30, 1863 61<sup>st</sup> VA marched through Culpeper Court House, Front Royal, Berryville. Crossed Potomac near Shepherdstown, ND and arrived Chambersburg PA. Men gorged on ripe cherries while they marched. Weather very hot. Many men fall out with sunstroke. Countryside is beautiful and we have gathered many supplies. Many folks are friendly to us in Maryland. I stopped gorging on cherries cause they gave me dia-ree. Lots of the fellers have stopped gorging cause of same. We’re on the move to hit the Yankees in the north.

June 25, 1863 Pvt W. Halstead Co B died diarrhea. Pvt J. Shirley Co C shot through the right hand while driving cattle. Fellers passed farmhouse in Maryland. Woman came a runnin with shotgun. She made sure we left her place alone. She took aim and fired. She was disarmed. She called us every name in the book. We left her area in a hurry. We hear Hooker is crossing the Potomac. Our III Corps under Gen Hill is marching toward Chambersburg followed by Longstreet I Corps. Gen Ewell II Corps near Carlisle, Pa. Rained hard tonight.

June 28, 1863 Informed 7 Yankee Corps moving toward us. III Corps are at Frederick, Nd. II Corps near South Mountain. VI Corps south Frederic and XII Corps near Harpers Ferry.

June 30, 1863 Longstreet I Corps at Chambersburg Pa. Ewell’s II Corps at Heidlersburg. Hill’s III Corps at Greenwood and Cashtown. 61<sup>st</sup> VA at Fayetteville. Enemy Positions: I Corps at Marsh Run, II Corps at Uniontown, III Corps at Bridgeport, V Corps at Union Mills, VI Corps at Manchester, IX Corps at Emmitsburg, XII Corps at Littleton, Kilpatricks cavalry at Hanover, Gregg’s cavalry at Manchester Buford’s cavalry at Gettysburg.

We get our information from scouts. We don’t know where Gen Stuart’s cavalry is. The fellers are excited. We know a bug dust up is coming. We beat the Yanks here and march on Washington. Lincoln will have to surrender. This battle means the end of the war and we can go home. We hear Gen Meade is new Yankee commander. Some feller called him “an old googled-eyed snapping turtle.”

July 1, 1863 Battle of Gettysburg Gen Hill authorizes our III Corps to go to Gettysburg and get shoes there. 61<sup>st</sup> Va. ordered to march from Chambersburg to Cashtown. Heth’s Division at 9:00 am has engaged Gen Buford’s cavalry at Gettysburg. Gen Buford’s men are dismounted using Sharps carbines (single shot breech loading) and Spencer repeating carbines (7 shots). Buford is set up across Chambersburg Pike near Lutheran Seminary. Gen Heth followed by Gen Pender’s division is set up across Chambersburg Pike near Willoughby Run.

Shortly after 10:00 am Gen Reynolds I Corps arrives to support Buford. Our Gen Ewells’s II corps moves in north of Gettysburg. Yankee Gen Howard’s XI Corps arrives to support Buford and Reynolds. The fightin is heavy. We’re marching as quickly as possible from Cashtown. Gen Reynolds is killed. Gen Lee orders our division (Anderson) to Gettysburg.

Gen Lee arrives after 2:00 pm. We arrive late afternoon after letting Gen Johnson's division pass us at Cashtown. We file along Seminary Ridge to rest cause we're exhausted. The heat has drained us. We need food and water.

By 4:30 pm Yankee Gen Hancock's II Corps arrives and sets up on Cemetery Ridge. Our BGen James Archer, commander of Third Brigade, Heth's division is captured.

By 4:30 pm Gen Ewell is driving the Yankees through streets of Gettysburg. Howard's men rally on Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill. Gen Ewell fails to capture either hill. Our MGen Henry Heth suffers a head wound during the day. No word from Gen Stuart's cavalry. How many more Yankees are comin'?

### First Day's Fighting Around Gettysburg, Pa

After 6:00 pm Gen Lee orders Gen Anderson to put one brigade on the right as picket guard. We were disappointed Wilcox's brigade was chosen to set up near Black Horse Tavern. Boys were from 8<sup>th</sup> Ala, 9<sup>th</sup> Ala, 10<sup>th</sup> Ala, 11<sup>th</sup> Ala, 14<sup>th</sup> Ala.

After a hearty supper of flapjacks, ham, apple butter, molasses, and coffee the fellers feel much better. We drink lots of water cause of the heat. We set up camp near Pitzer's Run in Spangler's Woods behind Gen Lee's command post. Rumor is Gen Hill is sick. Gen Sickles' III Corps and Gen Slocum's XII Corps arrive around 7:00 pm.

July 2, 1863 During the night 2 more of our divisions arrived, Gen Hood's and Gen McLaw's from Longstreet's I Corps. All our boys are here except Pickett's division who should get here late today. Scouts report more Yankees corps are in Gettysburg. Gen Slocum's XII Corps is near Culp's Hill. Gen Sykes' V Corps near Cemetery Ridge. Gen Sedgwick's VI Corps is coming up the Baltimore Pike. We fought these fellers at Chancellorsville. We are anxious to get to fightin them Yankees. We eat well, fill our canteens, and ready our equipment.

Gen Lee's headquarters is busy with messengers going and coming. Officers are talking. This is the first time most of the fellers from 61<sup>st</sup> Va. have actually seen Gen Lee close. There's something magic about him. I'm a lookin around this place and I'm afraid the Yanks have the high ground. Just take a little longer to run 'em off.

At 3:00 pm our artillery opens fire just about the same time Gen Pickett's division arrives. Gen Hood's and Gen McLaw's divisions will attack on right in front 2 rocky hills. Gen Anderson's and Gen Pender's divisions will attack Cemetery Ridge in center. Gen Ewell's Corps will attack on left Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill. Our Gen Anderson though Sickles III Corps was on the ridge, but several regiments are in a peach orchard and pile of rocks called Devil's Den.

61<sup>st</sup> Va. formed line of battle in support of Capt Robert Johnson's Battery near oak grove by Pitzer's Run. We were Gen Anderson's reserve brigade. If things get hot we'll go in. Capt Baxter pointed out 2 rocky hills on our right and said Gen Hood and Gen McLaws were going to take those 2 hills, set up artillery on the small one, then we will blast them Yankees off Cemetery Ridge.

At 4:00 pm Gen Hood's attack begins. Gen McLaws attacks at 5:00 pm and Gen Anderson attacks at 6:00 pm. I envy our sister brigades marching towards Emmitsburg Rd. McLaws' division is made up of boys from South Carolina, Mississippi, and Georgia. Hood's division is made up of boys from Alabama, Texas, and Georgia. Gen Hood is surprised to find Yankees on the little hill. 2 brigades and a battery of 6 guns. Our 3 sister brigades

## AGS JULY 2015

Wilcox's Alabama (yellow hammers) boys, Wright's Georgia (goober grabbers) boys, and Perry's Florida boys reach Emmitsburg Rd and are attacking Gen Humphrey's division II Corps.

We can see battle flags 11<sup>th</sup> Mass, 16<sup>th</sup> Mass, 5<sup>th</sup> NJ, 7<sup>th</sup> NJ, 26<sup>th</sup> Penn, 70<sup>th</sup> NY, 71<sup>st</sup> NY, 72<sup>nd</sup> NY. The fightin is fierce. The 2 armies are like 2 mad dogs ripping each other apart. Hundreds are falling dead or wounded. Humphreys is pushed back and our boys run into Gen Caldwell's division II Corps. We can see battle flags of 5<sup>th</sup> NH, 81<sup>st</sup> Penn, 88<sup>th</sup> NY, 66<sup>th</sup> NY, 28<sup>th</sup> Mass, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Del. We move up the slope and run into Gen Ayres' division and Gen Barnes' division V Corps. We break Caldwell's men and push them back. We ain't strong enough to push Ayres and Barnes' divisions from the field. Yankees keep sending in more troops. Let us into the brawl!

### *61<sup>st</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment*

## VIRGINIA VITAL RECORDS

Finally!!

More than 16 million Virginia vital records are now available online. The Virginia Governor announced the completion of a two year project to digitize the images of original public documents that include birth, death, and marriage and divorce data. Scanned images are available online through Ancestry.com and access to indexed information on the records is available free of charge through the state's Division of Vital Records and the Library of Virginia's websites. Anyone researching in northeastern North Carolina will find these records very useful. If you could not find the birth, marriage or death record of your ancestor in northeast North Carolina, the chances are they were in Virginia and they were not always easy to locate.

Records made available:

Virginia, Birth Records 1864-2014

Virginia, Death Records 1912-2014

Virginia, Marriage Records 1936-2014

Virginia, Divorce Records 1918-2014

## Query

Trying to find the parents of John Slade b. 1697- d. 1743. Wife and executrix of will, Abigail. Will listed in Hyde County. Would also like to know the full name of wife Abigail and name of son Benjamin's wife.

Also would like to know where Richard Silvester d. 1728, came from. He owned land in VA that became Currituck County. His grandson was Henry Slade. Would like to know who Henry Slade's parents were.

Thanks, Deborah Slade [joeymistilis@gmail.com](mailto:joeymistilis@gmail.com)

**NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE THROUGH EAST ALBEMARLE REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques by George G. Morgan and Drew Smith  
McGraw-Hill, c2014

A professional genealogist reveals how to get past brick walls in research and unearth hard-to-find ancestors.

*Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques* uses up-to-date and highly organized methods and techniques to show you how to find the elusive details to round out your genealogy research. You'll get past the brick walls that have stumped you and see how to move beyond basic types of genealogy resources. The book covers a variety of software programs and specialized genealogy tools and shows you how to create an online genealogical research log to preserve data found and organize it in ways to help you understand what you've uncovered. Nearly every form of modern social networking is addressed as is using DNA records. This practical, in-depth guide provides the next level of detail for anyone who wants to expand beyond the beginner tactics and techniques.

- Uses proven research methods to go deeper and uncover elusive details
- Helps you to understand the details you uncover and keep track of data
- Covers a variety of software programs and specialized genealogy tools
- Offers multiple scenarios and examples to drive home the research methods explained

Genealogy Online by Elizabeth Powell Crowe  
Revised 10<sup>th</sup> edition  
McGraw-Hill, c2015

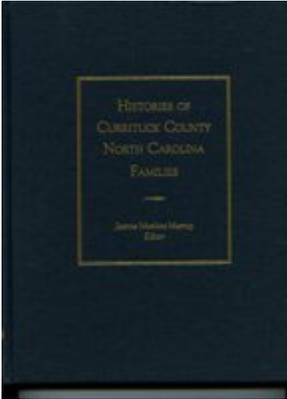
Pursue your family history using the latest online resources and the most efficient methods.

Fully updated throughout, this guided tour of online resources and communities will help you begin or continue a family history project. "Genealogy Online, Tenth Edition" shows how to use the latest proven research methods and tools. Featuring new and expanded coverage of DNA genealogy, social networking, video, blogs, podcasts, software, and more, the new edition covers the wide array of ancestry-related networks, websites, and other online services, and explains how they all work. Case studies and real-life examples are included in this practical, up-to-date guide. Features a new chapter on DNA genealogy, and websites to learn about and pursue this resource. Reviews newly redesigned sites such as FamilySearch (the Mormon genealogy site), Ancestry.com, and WikiTree. Expanded coverage of library card indexes, PRSI, online databases, and library resources. Compares genealogy software that syncs with websites.

Mastering Genealogical Proof by Thomas W. Jones  
National Genealogical Society  
Special Topics Series 2013

*Mastering Genealogical Proof* aims to help researchers, students, and new family historians reconstruct relationships and lives of people they cannot see. It presents content in digestible chunks. Each chapter concludes with problems providing practice for proficiently applying the chapter's concepts. Those problems, like examples throughout the book, use real records, real research, and real issues. Answers are at the back of the book along with a glossary of technical terms and an extensive resource list.

## Publications for Sale by AGS

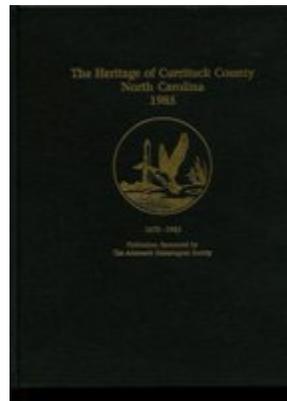


*Histories of Currituck County, NC Families--\$20.00 + tax*

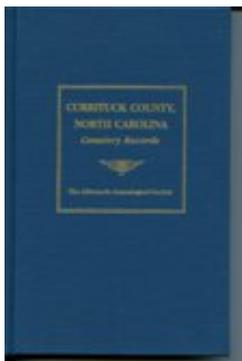
This is an 8 1/2 x 11 hardback book with the cover and spine stamped in gold. The book has over 350 pages, published in 2005. It contains over 125 stories of Currituck-connected families, many with pictures. It has a full name index.

*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.*