

Pea River Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter

Identifying, collecting, preserving, archiving, researching, and promoting interest in historic and genealogical materials and records of Coffee County and the Pea River Region of South Alabama

March-April 2014

Yard Sale Fund-Raiser April 26

Starts at 7:00 am!

Enterprise Welcome Center



The Pea River Historical & Genealogical Society will hold a Yard Sale to raise funds on April 26 at the Enterprise Welcome Center, 749 Boll Weevil Circle. We need the support of our members and the public to make this event a success!

Funds are needed for maintenance of our facilities, and to improve the experience of researchers in our library and visitors to our museum. Many collections and artifacts need archival storage, and the library needs more shelving to accommodate recently donated books.

We can use anything in sellable condition you want to donate.

Drop-off points are:

- ◆ The PRHGS Gift Shop/Library at 108 S. Main Street, Enterprise
- ◆ The Depot Museum on Railroad Street, Enterprise
- ◆ Fleming Multimedia at 122 S. Main Street, Enterprise

If you have items you want to donate and are not able to transport them to one of the drop-off points, let us know and we will arrange to have them picked up.

If you can volunteer a few hours of your time to help set up and run the yard sale, call us at 393-2901.

And don't forget – come find some great bargains on furniture, toys and games, clothing, small appliances, household items, books and magazines, and much more! Help us get the word out by passing along an invitation to your friends and family.

**Don't Forget - Library Work Day - May 17, 9 am - "until"
Lunch will be provided.**

Mark Your Calendars!

□ **April 5 & 6 - Piney Woods Arts Festival** on the Enterprise State Community College Campus. 9:00 - 5:00 Saturday, 12:00 - 4:00 Sunday. There will be living history exhibits.

□ **April 7 - Troy Civil War Forum, 6:30 pm** at the Troy Public Library, 500 E. Walnut St., Troy. The program, "Conversations With Jim," will be presented by Susan Brolund, professional storyteller. The public is invited. There is no charge.

□ **April 15 - PRHGS Board Meeting, 3:00 pm** at the Gift Shop/Library.

□ **April 19 - 1st Annual Black Powder/Shotgun "Turkey Shoot", 9:00 am "until,"** at Elba Lodge 179 on Larkin Road, across from the airport.

□ **April 26 - PRHGS Yard Sale, 7:00 am - "until,"** at the Enterprise Welcome Center on the By-Pass.

□ **April 25-27 - Geneva Festival on the Rivers - Gates open at 8:00 am,** many living history exhibits; directions to venue and ticket information available at

www.genevariverfestival.com.



Queries & Requests

If you have a question, request, or something else to share with your fellow members, this is the place for it. E-mail Georgia at hyacinth@ala.net if you can answer questions or fulfill requests, and I will put you in contact.

- ★ Wanted: a map showing the location of Simmons Mill.
- ★ A few scans from a 1977 Enterprise High School Encoala (yearbook) – recipient will pay for them.
- ★ Wanted to buy: Pea River Reflections.
- ★ Wanted: a photograph of "The Houseboat", a teen hangout in the 1960s and early 1970s on Highway 84 near New Brockton.
- ★ Wanted: our Gift Shop/Library is in need of an answering machine. If you have one you are no longer using, please consider donating it to the Society. Email hyacinth@ala.net.
- ★ Wanted: a photograph (digital) of Travis Bedsole (1832-1899), whose wife was Rosa P. Ward.
- ★ History and other information on the house at 205 Daleville Ave., Enterprise (the old Sherling House).
- ★ Wanted: a copy of The Heritage of Geneva County.

Do you have two hours each week that you could spend volunteering at one of our facilities? Give us a call at 393-2901. You can make a big difference in allowing us to have our Gift Shop/Library open Monday-Friday 10-4, and expanding open hours for the Depot Museum.

**BECOME A
VOLUNTEER
TODAY!**

Remembering . . . 1820

- Among those born in 1820 were: Suffragist Susan B. Anthony, Union general William T. Sherman, nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, and political theorist Friedrich Engels.
- Notable 1820 deaths: Daniel Boone, explorer and frontiersman; George III, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, after a reign of almost 60 years; and Commodore Stephen Decatur, American Naval officer, killed in a duel at the age of 41.
- James Monroe of Virginia (Democratic-Republican) was reelected without serious opposition. A small number of votes were cast for the Federalist Party in New England, even though they had nominated no candidate for President. This was the last election in which the Federalist Party participated.
- The Missouri Compromise was passed, adding two new states to the Union – Maine entered as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. The act also prohibited slavery in the Louisiana Territory north of the 36°30' line of latitude. In 1854, it was repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska Act.
- The 1820 Federal Census shows the population of the U. S. to be about 9.6 million, of which about 1.5 million were slaves. The center of population was located in Hardy County, Virginia (now in West Virginia).
- Botanist Edwin James became the first recorded person to reach the summit of Pikes Peak.
- GDP per capita (Measured in 1990 international dollars) was \$12.57 in 1820.
- Active classical composers included Ludwig van Beethoven and Franz Schubert.
- A dozen eggs cost 36¢.
- The new (1819) State of Alabama had two governors in 1820. Not long after taking office, William Wyatt Bibb, who had been governor of the Alabama Territory, was injured by a fall from his horse and unable to serve; the Constitution dictated that in such cases, the president of the State Senate would become governor. Thus the office passed to William Wyatt Bibb's younger brother, Thomas Bibb.
- Among books published in 1820 were: the 6th edition of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe*; well-known poems include Keats' "The Eve of St. Agnes" and Shelley's "To a Skylark."
- The Alabama Supreme Court convened for the first time. The court was composed of Alabama's circuit judges.
- Life expectancy in the United States was about 39 years (it is now 78 for males and 81 for females).
- River trade between Mobile and Montgomery was opened when the steamboat *Harriet* made the trip on the Alabama River in ten days.
- Thomas de Colmar patented his "arithmometer," which became the first commercially successful mechanical calculator.
- Anthony Philip Heinrich, an immigrant from what is now the Czech Republic, published *The Dawning of Music in Kentucky*. Heinrich is sometimes called America's first "full-time composer."
- Danish physicist Hans Christian Oersted observed movement of a compass needle in the presence of electric current, the first direct evidence of a link between electricity and magnetism.

How to Keep Digital Documents Safe Forever

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

A newsletter reader commented recently that we must always keep original documents (I assume that means on paper) because digital copies can be destroyed by viruses, hackers, shut downs and the like. Really?

First of all, paper is one of the most fragile storage methods available today. Every few weeks, I publish articles in this newsletter about some archive or other facility where records are stored that has suffered a major loss caused by fire, flood, tornado, hurricane, earthquake, or burst water pipes. See this past week's article at <http://goo.gl/EOO2cC> about a noted history researcher who lost all his notes and other research (on paper) in a fire in his home. Millions of paper records of interest to genealogists have been lost over the years because of these disasters.

In contrast, preserving digital records forever is rather easy to do.

In a way, the newsletter reader is right. Indeed, no ONE method of storing digital files or paper should ever be trusted to remain available forever. Information stored on a computer's hard drive is always vulnerable. So is the external drive you use for backups in your home or office. Any one method of storing files is subject to all sorts of problems.

The usual method of keeping files safely is to use BOTH on-site and off-site backups. These days, "off-site" usually means the use of cloud-based backup services, such as Mozy, Carbonite, Backblaze, Google Drive, Amazon S3, or any of several similar services. Even cloud-based backup services theoretically could have a disaster.

There is an easy and effective solution, however: L.O.C.K.S.S.

L.O.C.K.S.S. is an acronym for "Lots Of Copies Keep Stuff Safe." I know of no requirement that says we must preserve information on only one copy. In fact, with today's ridiculously cheap prices for hard drives, it doesn't make sense to me that anyone should ever trust one copy. Or two copies. Or even three copies.

We are free to make all sorts of copies, something that is easy and cheap today. Even better, we can store those copies in all sorts of locations: in the closet, in the basement, at a cousin's house, or in data centers in Rio de Janeiro, Capetown, and Mumbai. In fact, we can store any file in seven or more different data centers in seven or more different locations around the globe. What are the odds that ALL the copies will be destroyed? The price for all this? Peanuts.

I don't hesitate to store my backups in the cloud. However, I will never store my only copy on one cloud service. All my important files are encrypted and backed up on at least two different cloud services (and three or four would be better) as well as additional copies on my computer's hard drive, an external hard drive, various flash drives, and whatever storage media is available, both at home and in the cloud. I also keep another copy on a laptop computer that usually travels with me. If I had a separate workplace, I would also store a copy of my personal files in my office there, probably on a CD or DVD disk kept in a desk drawer or something similar. But I would never depend upon any one copy surviving forever. That's true for both digital files and for paper.

Who cares if one storage service is destroyed by an earthquake or flood or hurricane or other disaster? Who cares if my local copy is destroyed by a defective hard drive or by a burst water pipe in the upstairs bathroom? Any of these disasters should only be a minor

inconvenience as far as retrieving the data. Simply use one of the other backup copies that was stored someplace else.

All well-managed data centers have been doing this for years with both on-site and off-site backups. Private individuals should do the same.

To be sure, any of the cloud-based storage services could disappear at any time. But will they ALL disappear? If all the cloud-based backup services should disappear at the same time, the obvious cause would be a nuclear disaster or inter-galactic warfare or something similar. If that ever happens, I doubt if any of us will be concerned about preserving old records. Instead, we will be focused on keeping our families alive, sheltered, and fed. I work hard to prevent all preventable problems but do not concern myself with problems I cannot prevent or avoid.

In theory, we could use the same L.O.C.K.S.S. methods with paper: we could make many photocopies of each document and store each of those photocopies in widely-dispersed locations. That's a theory, but impractical for paper. The expenses of storing large amounts of paper means that most people cannot afford to do so. In contrast, storing lots of copies of digital files is cheap and also very easy to do.

L.O.C.K.S.S. is a well-known and popular preservation method. For instance, the L.O.C.K.S.S. Program, based at Stanford University Libraries, provides libraries and publishers with award-winning, low-cost, open source digital preservation tools to preserve and provide access to persistent and authoritative digital content. See <http://www.lockss.org/> for details.

Where are your important files? Where are your old family photos? Where are last year's income tax files?

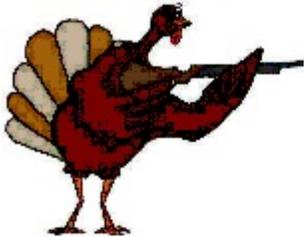
L.O.C.K.S.S. will always preserve your data in any situation. "Lots Of Copies Keep Stuff Safe."



**To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source,
a tree without a root."
Chinese proverb**

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1ST ANNUAL BLACK POWDER/SHOTGUN "TURKEY SHOOT"



April 19, 2014 - 9:00 am - "until"

Elba Lodge 170 - Larkin Rd., Elba - (Across from the airport)

Sponsored by Camp 911, Coffee County Rangers, SCV

\$4/shot muzzle loaders, you supply shot and powder

\$5/shot shotgun, 12 gauge only, we supply shells

Shooting for ribs, bacon and ham

Living History Exhibits

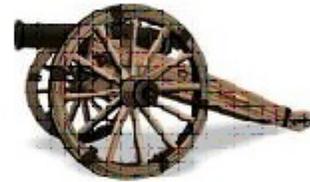
Pioneers - Indians - Confederates

Games for Adults & Children

Lunch Plates Will Be Sold at the Event

For more information, contact

Ray Kyle at 464-1944



BBQ Rib Sale

Tickets on Sale from any SCV member or from Fleming Multimedia,

122 S. Main St., Enterprise through April 12

Ribs will be available at the Turkey Shoot

\$15/slab

Pick up at Elba Lodge, Elba, and the Welcome Center, Enterprise

11:30 am - 1 pm

For more information, contact

Stuart Mock at 347-1057 or Mack Lott at 464-0851

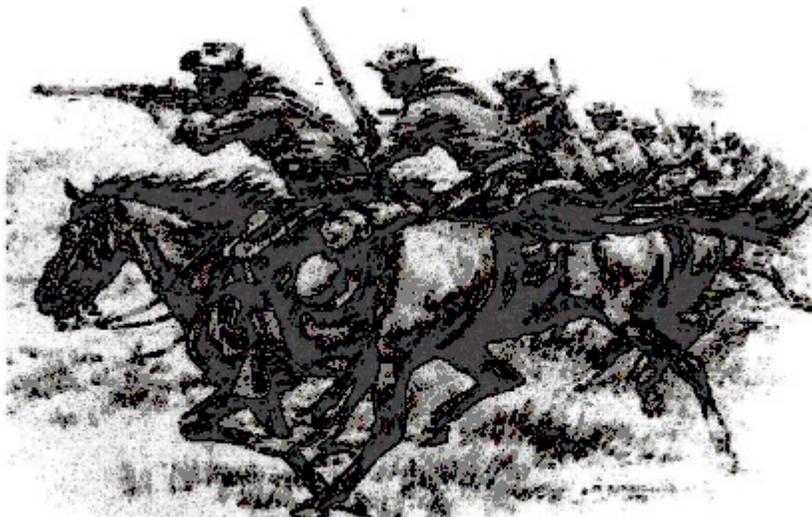
**Proceeds to benefit the Coffee County
Confederate Veterans Monument Fund**

The Civil War Skirmish at Woodall Bridge

HISTORIC MARKER

Dedication Ceremony

2232 Highway 36 West, Hartselle, Alabama



Saturday, April 5th, 2014 at 1:00PM

PROGRAM

**INVOCATION: REV. WALTER BLACKMAN, PASTOR
EAST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**

WELCOME: MAYOR DON HALL, CITY OF HARTSELLE

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SKIRMISHES: LEE Y. GREENE, JR.,
HARTSELLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

REMARKS: LEE SENTELL, ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

**REMARKS: SEN. ARTHUR ORR
STATE SENATOR, ALABAMA DISTRICT 3**

**REMARKS: REP. ED HENRY
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, ALABAMA DISTRICT 9**

CLOSING AND DEDICATION: LEE Y. GREENE, JR.