

CHILTONIAN

Volume 39, Number 1

January 2019

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its winter meeting on **Sunday, January 13th, at 2:00 PM** at the **Chilton-Clanton Public Library**.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGED LOCATION!

Our speaker will be **Courtney Pinkard** of the **Alabama Department of Archives and History**. She will present a fascinating look at the history of the **old Salem community in Chilton County** as well as other historical facts about our county.

The meeting is free and open to the public.

~~~~~

Our article in this issue is by Mr. Wayne Turnbow. He is currently serving as a Missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He will also make a short announcement at our meeting regarding the familysearch.org website, local facilities that are available, and some planned training sessions.

~~~~~

CREDITS: *Chiltonian* is a quarterly publication of the **Chilton County Historical Society & Archives, Inc.**

P. O. Box 644

Clanton, Alabama 35046-0644

OFFICERS:

President	-	Derric Scott
Vice President	-	Colyn Moatts
Secretary	-	Scarlett Teel
Treasurer	-	Alvin Teel
Reporter	-	VACANT

MEMBERSHIP RATES:

Annual:	Individual \$10
	Family \$15
	Student \$5
(Dues payable in January)	
Lifetime:	\$250

NOTE: On your address label, the two-digits after your name is the year through which you are paid. "L" = lifetime

Looking Backwards Prepares Us To Move Forward

By Wayne Turnbow

In the last verse of the Old Testament, Malachi states "that he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to the fathers..." Throughout time we have always had an inborn desire to know about our ancestors and their stories. Most civilizations give honor and respect to the ones who came before them. There is a great deal we can learn from acquiring knowledge about those individuals who came before us in order to allow us to have our lives. Movies, books and handed down stories have long had wise people who had gone before intervening and teaching. It is simply a God given desire that we have within us.

We have a natural born curiosity about our progenitors. Sometimes there is a hope that we discover some long lost connection to a famous or wealthy individual. Other times, we just want to have a sense of belonging to a particular group of people. In times gone by your pedigree chart determined most of your life's opportunities. If you were not born into royalty or a certain class, you were basically cast into a working class job with limited opportunity for change or growth. As we look at our past we can honor and show respect for those who helped create our place in life. Likewise, we hope our children will look at us and learn from what we went through. If we don't develop an attitude of searching backwards, we never teach from the depth of experience.

God has allowed technology to be developed to allow us to not only have an expedited ability to look backwards, but to also establish a written, visual and audio record that can be passed forward. Not everyone can find a lot of details and stories about their past, so we must be even more vigilant to ensure that future generations have easy access to all the records we have and produce today. We should take advantage of what technology we have to record our own history, complete with photos and stories. The old adage of "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it" is true in our personal lives as well as in our civilization as a whole.

(continued on back)

(continued from front)

An entire industry has developed over the past few years catering and pandering to all who feel this stirring that Elijah clearly prophesied.

So - how do we do it? There are many ways to start and develop your family history and pedigree chart. There are numerous sites and companies that will help you set up your history. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has one of the largest, if not the largest database in the world. They have opened it up to anyone who wants to use it and do their research. They also allow you to record your own memories and photos, or add to what one's other family members or relatives may have posted. There is a Family History Center in the Church in Clanton, on Temple road, that is free to the public. It is staffed strictly by volunteers and has limited hours. A number of events will be taking place over the next couple of months at various locations introducing people to the process to start taking advantage of the website and program. I will be doing an introduction to the Family Search program on February 13th at 9:30 AM at Senior Connection. We will be having additional expanded hours at the Family History Library. There is no charge or obligation to belong to the Church. It is open to all.

Value Plus

Original *Chilton Cemetery Census*

Now on CD

\$24.95 + \$3 S&H

~

A History of Chilton County

By Clanton Study Club

\$10.00 + \$3 S&H

~

Chilton County and Her People

Fourth Edition, 1985

\$10.00 + \$3 S&H

~

Yours, Mine and Theirs

By Ben Roberts and others

\$20.00 + \$3 S&H

~

Thorsby: Writings & Memoirs

Of Mrs. Grover Bice

\$20.00 + \$3 S&H

~

Mail Check or Money Order To
Chilton-Clanton Public Library

100 1st Ave, South

Clanton, AL 35045

205-755-1768

Chilton County Historical Society

P. O. Box 644

Clanton, AL 35046-0644

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

«Status»

«AddressBlock»