

Genealogical News

The President's Column

Hello Everyone! Hope you and your loved ones are well. Even though we have not been able to have the monthly membership meetings, the MGC board members have continued to meet via Zoom. We are looking forward to the day we resume the monthly meetings in person.

We continue to maintain the MGC building; having to install a new thermostat for good climate control in the building and security cameras for the outside of the building have been purchased.

Some reunions did take place during the spring/summer seasons; although some are still being cancelled due to the COVID 19. A Mayle Reunion (homecoming) was held

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Cutler Historical Sign

The Cutler Historical Sign was erected on Saturday, October 9, 2021, at the intersection of Ohio 555 and Two Mile Run Road in Cutler, established in 1857. The two-sided sign was sponsored by the Cutler Heritage and Legacy Society and some two dozen residents attended its unveiling. The sign was purchased some time ago, but because of COVID-19 its placement was postponed.

The inscription reads: The village of Cutler was first named Harshaville in honor of Dr. John M. Harsha, an early resident. It was later named Cutler for William P. Cutler, a founder of the Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad. By 1857 the railroad went through Cutler.

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Multicultural
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Escape Room Project
- Cutler Marker
- Volunteers Needed

A Pictorial History of Tablertown Makes History at Kilvert Church

A benevolent sun shone on Kilvert Church on Saturday, September 11, 2021, as over 180 people came to listen and learn about the history of Tablertown and the surrounding communities. David Butcher, a direct descendant of Michael Tabler and his wife Hannah, a former slave, was a co-organizer of the event “From Old Savannah to Tablertown”; an all-day community gathering that celebrated the vibrant culture and history of this region, with special focus on the contributions and legacy of people of color.

On the walls of the historical Kilvert Church were enlarged photographs of early Tablertown, former inhabitants, as well as ancestors of the Tablers. Original tintype photos exhibited at the church were preserved by 92-year-old Geraldine Tabler. Many of these images had not been shown to the public before. Inside the church, a slideshow of over 350 photographs, prepared by Bob Stewart and Caleb Butcher, was continuously shown during speakers’ presentations.

“The story we focused on was the oral history passed down for over 150 years,” Butcher said. “This was based on my 8th grandmother Hannah, born a slave on the Tabler plantation in Virginia, now West Virginia. After Michael Tabler moved his family to Athens County, he founded this community which became known as Tablertown.”

This oral history tells of a father who disapproved of his son’s relationship with Hannah and how Michael Tabler freed six of Hannah’s slave children in 1830 because of the affection he had for them. In fact, this was documented in a Manumission Document, which was discovered by Butcher’s uncle Alvin Clay Adams. This declaration of Michael Tabler’s affection is on a plaque at Kilvert Church’s entrance.

Butcher sees this event as a look into pictorial history as well. He believes that photographs are a way of telling and preserving stories. “Why does a person buy a tombstone?” he said. “To not be forgotten”. In addition to passing down the Tabler family and community history through oral and written means, these photographs have added a different dimension in that the stories come to life more vividly.

The event began with an opening prayer by Reverend Philip Tabler and the ringing of the church bell by his son, Dean Tabler. A poem by Brenda Butcher Moorehead was read. Speakers then presented on a variety of topics: Kenton Butcher, who discussed the history of Tablertown; anthropologist Dr. Amelia Adams, who discussed the genetic politics of place, family, and community; school teacher Carlotta Workman, who shared her grandfather’s (Rev. G. W. Morse) connection to the Tablers; and Dr. Amanda Flowers, who talked about the medical and mental health history on plantations.

Of course, history does not end. In fact, it is quite the opposite. “Every time a family member comes to an event, I learn something new,” Butcher said. As the history of Tablertown continues to unfold, more opportunities for connection blossom as well. Butcher has received many emails since the event and some of them include new, relevant information about the history of Tablertown.

The most memorable part of the event was the number of youth who came and participated. Butcher was proud to see this. "Our job is to pass the story on to the next generation," he said. "I feel more confident that we have a good start to hand down. These young folks are gaining knowledge and the history of Tablertown will live on."

During the event, copies of some of the photos and genealogical charts were handed out. A petition was also passed around to change the name of Kilvert back to Tablertown. They currently have 130 names to support this change. The hope is to put the name of Tablertown back on the map -- because history is alive and well in this community.

Shei Sanchez and David Butcher

Cutler Historical Sign (con't from Page 1)

Cutler was a busy center of commerce during the railroad years.. Businesses included hotels, general, drug and hardware stores, livery stables, a wagon maker and a flour mill.

The railroad provided a means for farmers and businesses to ship agricultural goods, lumber, coal and stone to markets. The railroad remained an important part of life until it ceased operations in 1916. Tracks in the Cutler vicinity were removed the following year.

The underground Railroad played an important role in the Cutler area. At Station #1, James and Margaret Smith gave aid and comfort to more than 150 escaped slaves. Many men of the Cutler area served the Union cause during the Civil War. A Grand Army of the Republic Lodge was active for many years.

Cutler has a long history of multiracial residents, Esau Harris, born in 1874 was a schoolteacher at Big Run and other schools for 42 years and served also as a mail carrier. In 1913, Harris wrote in regards to the relationship between white and multiracial residents of Cutler: "It is to the everlasting credit of both, as two different races they have never had any trouble. While both races have had trouble among themselves, the two races have always had peace between themselves."

Kay Harris

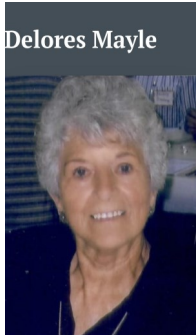
Resources at MGC

For over 20 years, Connie and Michel Perdreau sought out and collected information on African-Americans in Southeast Ohio. The material they gathered ranges from census records, biographies, excerpts from books, personal interviews, and more, including their own articles and publications resulting from their dedicated research. The Perdreau Research Collection now housed at MGC comprises approximately 15 linear feet of files arranged alphabetically by broad subject areas and personal names.

Obituaries



Rita Ann Goins, 68, of Canton, formerly of Chesterhill, Ohio, passed away on Saturday, October 9, 2021 at the McKinley Centre of Nursing and Rehabilitation in Canton, Ohio. She was born on March 6, 1953 in Cutler to the late Ralph "Todd" Mayle and Anna Mae Ramsey Mayle. She was a member of the Bethel Wesleyan Church and the Olive Chapel near Amesville, Ohio. Rita is survived by a daughter, Misty Goins Alexander (Mario) of Canton, Ohio, two brothers, Robert "Bobby Todd" Mayle (Shelly) of Chesterhill and Keith Mayle (Tina) of Canton, Three grandsons, Jeremiah Goins, Josiah Goins, and Demetri Alexander of Canton, Ohio...as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Malcolm Goins, a son Jeremy Goins, brothers Jerry, Garry and Ronald and sisters Roberta and Connie.



Delores Mayle

Delores Jean Welch Mayle, 83, of Cutler, passed away on Friday, Aug. 27, 2021 at her residence. She was born on Sept. 12, 1937 in Cutler, Ohio to the late Ivan R. and Reva M. Stover Welch. She was the co-owner of Tom Mayle and Sons Construction in Cutler. She was a member of the Bartlett Bible Baptist Church. She is survived by a son Gregory Mayle of Cutler, a brother, Dallas (Wanda) Welch of Coolville, 2 sisters, Sharon Matlack of Stewart and Diann (Ralph) Dunfee of Venice, Fl, 3 grandchildren Amy, Chris and Clay, 8 great grandchildren, Terrance, T'Lo, Isabella, Zhara, Zavien, Cassius, Eric and Hailey and 2 great great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, Clayton "Tommy" Mayle, a son, Michael Mayle and 2 brothers, Dick and Curt Welch.



Paul A. Tabler, 55, of Cutler, passed away on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021 at his residence. He was born on July 2, 1966 in Chesterhill to the late Gary Norris and Louise Tabler. He worked for many years for Bern Township. He is survived by his significant other Donna Heeter of the home, one step-daughter, Barbara Buck of Cutler, 2 brothers, David (Stacia) Tabler of Cutler and George (Sharon) Norris of Cutler, 3 sisters, Carol (Richard) Harvey of Cutler, Freda (Marvin) Mayle of Cutler and Margaret (Frank) Mayle of Cutler and 4 grandchildren.



Richard Leroy Mayle, 78, of Cutler, Ohio, passed away on September 8, 2021. Richard was born January 2, 1943 in Cutler, Ohio and lived with his life long time companion, Sharon L. Smith until her passing November 27, 1997. Richard is survived by his children Richard L. Smith (Teri) of Cutler, Charlene S. Parsons (Steve Curtis) of Chesterhill, Angela M. Scott (Gary) of Cutler, Monica L. Spencer (James) of Columbus and Richard Hill Mayle; brother Jethro Mayle (Nina) of Cutler; sister Julie Mayle (Leon) of Cutler; 11 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren; many loved nieces and nephews and friends. He had a special racing friend Elvis Mayle and one surviving hunting buddy Keith Pemberton of Dayton. Richard was preceded in death by his loving companion Sharon L. Smith, father and mother Alonzo and Esta Mayle, grandson Tyler Qualls, brothers Howard and Johnny Mayle and sisters Irma Hill, Elaine Mayle, Sharon Lucas and Patty Smith.



Lonnie Edward Flowers of Stewart, Ohio, born July 13, 1963, died on July 16, 2021, at Riverside Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. He was born in Kilvert, Ohio to Charles and Irene (Goins) Flowers. He was one of six children. Lonnie was proceeded in death by his parents Charles and Irene Flowers, and brother James "Jimmy" Flowers; brothers-in-law: Jeff Norman and Raymond Walker. He is survived by his wife of 37 years Terri (Walker) Flowers and children Brittany Flowers and Lonnie Joe (LJ) Flowers; siblings: Judy (Gail) Tabler, Betty Walker, Shirley (Henry) Stewart, and Rosemary (Joe) Butcher. In-law family LeRoy and Margaret Walker, Cynthia (Thomas) Engram, Lori Norman, Marcia (Harry) Campbell, LeRoy Jr. (Suzette) Walker and many nieces and nephews.

The President's Column (continued from Page 1)

in Pennsville in July with large attendance, good food, and live music. People truly enjoyed fellowshipping; many not having seen one another since the virus hit. There was also good turn out at the Mayle/Holbert Reunion in Elizabeth, West Virginia, the Williams Reunion in New Philadelphia, Ohio and the Dalton Reunion in Columbus, Ohio; just to name a few.

We had a very successful "soft opening" of the Compass to Freedom Escape Room project at MGC. You may recall in the March newsletter we informed you MGC was awarded a matching funds grant from the Morgan County Community Fund Fortuna Grant Program and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO). These monies were used for this project. The Escape Room advertisements are now complete, including a very nice brochure designed with the assistance of Hilferty & Associates (copy of brochure is attached). The Escape Room official opening for public participation is on November 26. Scheduling for that date and dates thereafter can be made by contacting via email to rhondat42@gmail.com or kstevenswalker@yahoo.com. All proceeds go the MGC.

Thanks you for your continued support of MGC through donations, membership renewals and volunteering. It is because of you that MGC shall continue.

Rhonda Tabler

Books Available for Purchase

Profits from the sale of these books go to MGC. Send your order and payment listed below.



The Multicultural Genealogical Center Heritage Cookbook: A Celebration of our History and Diversity, Vol. 1 (2003) is a collection of recipes handed down through the families whose stories are included plus recipes from old cookbooks, etc. Stories and genealogies complement the recipes. 110 pp., spiral bound, soft cover, illustrations, index. \$15.00

The Multicultural Genealogical Center Heritage Cookbook, Vol. 2 (2004)

is a further collection of historical recipes. 109 pp., spiral bound, soft cover, illustrations, index. ISBN 0-9755300-2-X \$15.00

A Significant Presence: A Pictorial Glimpse of the Black Experience in Athens County, Ohio by Ada Woodson Adams & Nancy E. Aiken (2004) offers a glimpse into the history of Blacks in Athens County, Ohio and at Ohio University. 60 pgs., 185 photographs, soft bound, index. ISBN 0-9755300-1-1 \$25.00

As Long As Hearts Remember: Tributes to Our Late Loved Ones

edited by Alvin C. Adams consists of tributes, original poetry and stories, photographs, and obituaries of deceased loved ones. 175 pgs., soft bound. ISBN 0-9755300-0-3 \$25.00

Hold Tight to the Hames. Stories about growing up black in rural southern Ohio by Alvin C. Adams who grew up to be the first black graduate of Ohio University's School of Journalism, covered the Civil Rights protests in the south, interviewed Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, helped found the Multicultural Genealogical Center, and had a dormitory at Ohio University named after him. 164 pgs., soft bound. \$35.00

The Sandusky Muskingum Indian Trail in Southeastern Ohio 1786-1807. A historical collection of information by Richard Walker, Ph.D. Maps and photographs add to the tracing of this ancient historical trail used by the first Native Americans and many of this country's pioneers. Approx. 140 pgs. spiral bound, soft cover. \$15.00

Send orders for books to: MGC, P.O. Box 125 Chesterhill, OH 4372

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EPILOGUE: The Life of POPPA George

December 20, 1990

Continue from the March 2021 issue of MGC's Newsletter

SECOND PART OF POPPA GEORGE

MY HERITAGE

I was born to Carrie Bailey and Robert Morse. Carrie, my Mother, was born in 1881, in Daphne, Alabama, while my father, Robert, was born in Montrose, Alabama, in 1870.

I am quite proud of my heritage. It is varied and rich one. My maternal grandparents were Indians. Cornelia Bailey, maternal grandmother, was a Creek Indian and William Bailey, my maternal grandfather, was a Red Indian. The Baileys were from Daphne, Alabama, which is where my mother was born. The Morse's, my paternal grandparents, were slaves. Grandpa Jake was a slave in Alabama as was Grandma Lavina. Grandma and Grandpa Morse were slaves until they were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation which was enacted in January 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln at the close of the Civil war. This law made all the slaves free and no longer property of their slaveholders.

Grandma Morse, who was a slave for the Goodman family in Alabama, would tell how the slaves were so attached to their masters and mistresses that they cried when they were freed by the Proclamation. It was like taking a child away from his or her home, she would say. Grandma was a girl when slavery ended and really didn't understand what it was all about. The end of slavery was really a sad time for the slaves because all they knew were their slaveholder families. Fortunately, they had done work while slaves that prepared them for living on the 'outside'. As a result, they were not totally unprepared for the free life which was ahead of them.

Grandpa Jake took the name 'Morse' from the family for whom he worked. He and Lavina settled in Montrose, Alabama, which was the beginning of the MORSE family tree.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DAYS

My parents and Grandma Morse lived in houses side by side on a small plots of farmland in Montrose. Most of the colored people at this time lived on small pieces of land so that they could raise crops which were in great demand by rich white folks who lived in the resort mansions along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay. Most of these wealthy people were from the North and came to Mobile during the winter months of the year. They enjoyed the fresh fruits and vegetables which we grew.

In addition to the vegetables and other foods from the farms, there was a great market for sea foods such as fish, shrimp and crabs. The crabs were in special demand when they were shedding their outer shell because they were completely soft and all parts edible. Flounder was in demand and we youngsters would catch them, too. We would go to the beach very early in the morning to make our catch!

I also did a lot of fresh water fishing in the many streams called creeks. In some of those big creeks there were large alligators laying out on parts of old foundations where feed mills stood at one time. These mills were later torn down. I would see those alligators come out of the water after our dogs when the dogs would bark at them.

In his pastime, my father was a great fisherman. He made his own nets for either seining or casting. He would fill a large barrel with salt fish each year for winter. He would also have large quantity of dried fish which my mother would soak out when preparing them to eat.

Personally, I thought my childhood days were more than great. Quite often on holidays I was taken with my brothers and sisters for a long stroll out in what was called the "country". We would go to where there had been Indian mounds at one time and look for arrowheads. Sometimes we would find other old relics which we treasured very much.

While still young, I learned to finish the metal jackets that go on charcoal furnaces. This I could do at the age of 8. My father was employed in a large pottery in Daphne, Alabama. He was a finisher of the metal jackets on the charcoal furnaces, which went for 2c apiece for the small ones and 3c apiece for the large ones. He took me along with him and taught me how to finish the jackets! He was able to make up to 225 in a 12 hour day and at that time laboring men were paid \$.50 for a 12 hour day.

Back in those days when I was growing, little boys wore dresses until a very young age. I can well remember when at that age I was playing in the weeds and trying to kill butterflies. One Sunday my father was bringing the minister home for dinner and the minister questioned me as to what I was going to do with the butterflies. I told him, "Mom eats them!" That was a most embarrassing moment for my mother!

Also at that young age, my Grandmother would send me to the spring for water. I would turn the bucket upside down and get on my knees like Grandma and ask God to save Bully for Grandma. Those were the good old days!

My father was a member of the A.M.E. Church at Montrose and was a member of the Board of Trustees. That is why we went there to Sunday School. We youngsters usually played church on Sunday for that was about the only thing we were allowed to do on that day.

Usually I was chosen to be the preacher. This particular Sunday, my Uncle Jim Freeman and Aunt Daisy from Mobile were spending the weekend with Grandma Morse. Uncle Jim was sitting on the porch with the rest of the grown-ups watching us play church. We were making a lot of noise that day as I was storming and stomping my feet on an old octagon box while some of the members of my 'congregation' (my brothers and sisters) were shouting and crying. Somehow, above all that noise we were making I heard my Uncle Jim say, "That boy is going to be a preacher! I immediately stopped preaching and stepped down off that octagon box! To this day, I don't know how it was possible I heard my Uncle Jim say those words above all the noise we were making.

"GRANDMA MORSE"

I loved my Grandma Morse dearly. As I said before, she lived beside my parents in Montrose. She raised me until I was near my 9th birthday. She was a very religious woman and always said her prayers audibly. Many times she could be heard praying at night. I would hear her call out the name of my Grandfather Jake whom I never saw because he died before my time.

Grandma was also a mid-wife and was called out of the home at any time of the day or night to deliver babies. Most of the time there were two of my cousins, Georgia and Lovenia, who stayed at my Grandmother's. I shall never forget the experience I had with my Grandma Morse. She was and is most special to me.

As I said before, My Grandmother was a very religious woman. She was a member of the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Daphne, Alabama. Sunday was the Sabbath Day and she didn't allow us to even make noise on Sunday. We all went around in our bare feet.

Once for Sunday School, my father had bought me a new pair of shoes and a new pair of pants that were to be worn on Sunday only when we went to Sunday School. After Sunday School was out, on our way home, we had to take our shoes off and walk in our bare feet. This one particular Sunday Grandma was sitting out on the front porch. I thought I was out of her sight so I climbed up a red oak tree which was some distance out in front of the house. I had on my good shoes at the time; yet, I was not allowed to climb the tree!

I was like a monkey and was used to climbing trees, but in my bare feet, at which times my toes would hang around a limb like the feet of a monkey. A short distance up that tree when I climb out on a limb, I slipped and fell out of the tree. My new pants caught onto a pointed limb and let me down easy, but my pants were torn from end to end. When I lit down, Grandma saw me and called me to her. When I arrived she had one of her old lady comforters in her hand. She really did whip me to a finish after which she said to me, "When your father finds out that you were climbing on the Sabbath Day and fell out of that tree and tore your pants, he's going to half kill you." And of course I well knew what was going to happen, and it certainly did.

Yes, there are several incidents that happened while I lived with my Grandma Morse and I shall never forget them. My father worked at a pottery and I was given one of those little miniature jugs that I loved dearly. One day when Grandma did one of her many good things to me I decided to give her that jug. Shortly thereafter I decided to take the jug back. I removed the jug from her mantelpiece and carried it over to my parent's house and put it on their mantelpiece. One day, Grandma missed that jug and called to me, "Bully, did you take that jug off the mantelpiece?" My response was, "Yes, I took it over home." She again took off one of those old lady comforters and I don't know how she could run so fast but she surely did. Every time I jumped she hit me, and she hit me all the way to my parent's house and back to hers. "Now, she said, "that's what you get for stealing." She took her jug back, too.

Grandma loved me like her life. Always when she was praying I could hear her asking the Lord to save and help her Bully to be a good boy.

Not too long before I reached the age of 9, my father decided to move to Mobile, Alabama, which was about 15 miles from Montrose.

Parting from my Grandma was the saddest time of my life. I loved Grandma and after I left Montrose, I was never to see her again. I will never forget her as long as I live.

CONTINUE IN NEXT ISSUE WITH "MOBILE AT 9"

“Slavery Prohibited, Religion Necessary, & Education Forever Encouraged”

On July 15, 2021, at Muskingum Park, Marietta, Ohio, Ada Woodson Adams (former President of Multicultural Genealogical Center of Southern Ohio, Inc.) was honored for her continuing community organizing and collaborative efforts on the 234th Anniversary Celebration of The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 “Slavery Prohibited, Religion Necessary, and Education Forever Encouraged”. This anniversary committee is co-chaired by Josh Schlicher, Marietta Mayor; The Honorable Nancy Hollister; Ada Woodson Adams, Former President of MGC; Lila Hill, Marietta Daughters of the American Revolution; Jean Yost, Friends of the Museums, Campus Martius and Ohio River Museums and Marietta SAR.

Speaker Dr. John Fleming discussed “America’s Founding Documents and the Struggle for Equality”. Dr. Fleming leads the nation in telling the African American story. He currently serves as Director Emeritus of Cincinnati Museum Center. In total, Dr. Fleming has developed six museums which included the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center; the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum; the International African American Museum in Charleston, South Carolina and the National Museum of African American Music in Nashville.

Several MGC members attend the celebration and we all extend our congratulations to Ada.

All information taken from 234th Anniversary
Celebration Committee handouts

Sharon Barnett, Reporting

Volunteers Needed

Do you have hidden talents, time on your hands or an interest in the mission of the Multicultural Genealogical Center?

MGC needs assistance with setting up a new website, fundraising, installation of security cameras, janitorial services and many other tasks. If you would like to assist our efforts, please let us know what you would like to offer and when you are available.

The above tasks are simply examples. Let us know if you can write proposals, if you are artistic and good at graphics or other activities you would be willing to assist.

Contact: rhonda42@gmail.com or kstevenswalker@yahoo.com.

MGC Interns 2021

MGC received voluntary assistance from Ohio University Interns, Emma Blatt and Katie Hall. While the duration of their internships was only three weeks, Katie was able to make significant progress in digitizing MGC’s archives. When the job is completed it will enable members and other interested parties direct access to the MGC’s archives through our updated website.

Emma worked on prototypes for welcoming letters for new members and acknowledgment of donations and volunteer services.

Intern selections were facilitated by Mary Nally, Director of Center for Campus and Community Engagement at Ohio University and MGC’s President, Rhonda Cook Tabler. We hope to continue this relationship in the future and to identify the needs of MGC which can then be matched with the interests and skills of potential interns.

Many thanks to the interns, Mary Nelly, Ohio University and our President for pulling this all together.

MULTICULTURAL GENEALOGICAL CENTER

MGC

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