

# YORE LORE

Baldwin County Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 108, Foley, Alabama 36536

Volume 30 No 8

August 2022



BALDWIN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS GUEST SPEAKER

**Olivia McCarter**

**“Update on Solving Cold Cases Using  
Investigative Genealogy”**

**Saturday August 13, 2022  
10:00 AM Foley Public Library Meeting Room  
Seating in Limited to 42**

**RSVP Dates: July 13 – August 10, 2022** Email:  
[BaldwinGenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:BaldwinGenealogy@gmail.com)

The Baldwin County Genealogical Society welcomes back our guest speaker Olivia McCarter who will update her career and accomplishments this past year. She will explain her quote “ I have been super busy with bones and bodies, they are coming out of my ears.”

Olivia is in her last year at University of South Alabama and is still working for Mobile County on “cold cases.” While still in the lab process, Olivia has her first case with Baldwin County Sheriff’s Office and she is hoping to have a genealogy profile soon. Olivia will explain more how GEDMatch is used in Investigative Genealogy.

All meetings are open to all interested public.

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** for each meeting you wish to attend, *deadline dates given for each meeting.*

**Email:** [BaldwinGenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:BaldwinGenealogy@gmail.com) with your name or call Barbara Thompson 251-424-4681. *Confirmation email will be sent. Maximum seating: 50.* Website: <http://baldwingenealogy.org> or Baldwin County Genealogical Society – Home/ Facebook

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## **Do you have questions about Family Search or need help regarding Family Search?**

The (Church of Latter Day Saints) LDS Elders are at Foley Library in Computer Lab every Wednesday 4 to 5 pm to answer your questions and assist you with Family Search.

**Obit Committee** meets every Wednesday, 1 p.m. in Genealogy Collections Room

**BCGS Board Meetings** will continue to meet at 9 a.m. Board Room.

### **Upcoming programs:**

**Sept. 10, 2022:** **Mike Bunn**, Author and Historian, Daphne, AL. Book “The Assault on Fort Blakeley: The Thunder and Lightning of Battle”  
(Aug 17 – Sep 7)

**Oct. 8, 2022:** **Mary S. Palmer & Paula L. Webb**, Co-Authors and Historians, Mobile, AL. Book: “Mississippi Mojo... And Murder” (Tale of the Blues) (Sep 14 – Oct 5)

**Nov. 12, 2022:** **Tracy D. Neely**, President of Mobile Creole Cultural and Historical Preservation Society, Presentation about the MCCHPS Genealogy and Society. (Oct 12 – Nov 9)

**Dec. 10, 2022:** **BCGS Committee** – Members Christmas Social (Nov 16 – Dec 7)

**Jan. 14, 2023:** **Dr Jack Dwyer, LtCol, USAF (Ret)** Fairhope, AL. Sons of the American Revolution, Presentation “Mayflower Pilgrim Genealogy” (Dec 14 2022 – Jan 11, 2023)

**BALDWIN COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING, July 9, 2022**

MEMBERS/GUEST 31 present

The General meeting of BCGS was called to order by President Pat Brummet at 10 am on July 9, 2022, who welcomed the membership and visitors. Vice-President Becky Younce introduced Librarian, Historian, Author, & BCGS member Paula Webb who spoke on her book " Mobile Under Siege" with Q & A afterwards. After a short break the meeting resumed at 10:44.

The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as printed in the "Yore Lore".

Tina Graham reported that the beginning bank balance on 01 June 2022 was \$2,172.35; Deposits 105.00; Expenses 53.63 (with) Ending Balance 30 June 2022: \$2,223.72.

There was one new member in June, Gale Colbert.

Maureen Lee reported she sent 3 Get Well cards & 2 Thank You cards.

President announced there were blank pedigree charts on the back table for those who have not filled out one for the Surname File.

**UP COMING EVENTS:** **August 13:** Olivia McCarter Update on Solving Cold Cases Using Investigative Genealogy

**September 10** Mike Bunn Book "The Assault on Fort Blakely: The Thunder and Lightning of Battle"

Nine (9) door prizes awarded.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 to meet again on 13 August 2022.

Respectfully Submitted: Billie Nardell, Recording Secretary



## **Congratulations to BCGS Member Auriette Hahn Lindsay, Awarded SLIG Intermediate Foundations Scholarship**

The SLIG Intermediate Foundations Scholarship is awarded to an individual who has a strong working knowledge of basic genealogy principles, has had several years of experience applying those principles using a variety of record sources to identify ancestors and confirm relationships, has utilized a variety of formal and informal educational opportunities to obtain and strengthen knowledge, and is ready for an in-depth, curriculum-based learning experience. It provides a guaranteed seat and full tuition to the Intermediate Foundations course offered at SLIG Fall Virtual 2022.

Auriette Hahn Lindsay Auriette always liked to hear family stories but did not get seriously into genealogy research until 2015. Her most exciting discoveries include evidence that she is a seventh-generation Floridian: a college and a city park are named after different branches of her family. The brick walls she would most like to break relate to her 2nd great grandfather William F. Hahn from Germany and her "illegitimate" 2nd great grandfather John Cook of Marion County, Georgia. When she is not working on the family tree, Auriette is a TV news producer and amateur theatre aficionado. She is married with cats.

Source: *Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy newsletter, July 2, 2022, Utah Genealogical Association*

## **Everyday Collections and Projects You Can Pass Down**

*excerpts from article by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack from FamilyTree Magazine*

As genealogists know, heirlooms are meaningful objects passed down within a family from generation to generation.

**Scrapbooks:** Creating a heritage album — a scrapbook that documents your ancestors' stories — is the most obvious way to record your family history and pass on a valuable heirloom.

**Dishes:** My most treasured family heirlooms are the dishes my grandmother got in boxes of detergent or at the dime store. They're not bone china — they're the ones the family used day in and day out.

**Souvenirs:** Your souvenirs of family vacations, college days, special events or trips to ancestral homelands. Tell or better yet write your memories down about the item to one of your descendants.

**Letters:** Even if you haven't kept old correspondence with family and friends, you can start now. Letter writing is becoming a thing of the past, and that's all the more reason to correspond the old-fashioned way to preserve a form of communication, as well as family history.

**Recipe books:** Using recipe books as potential heirlooms, go through the recipes making notes in the margins. Your annotations will make the cookbook more valuable to your descendants. Plus, they'll have samples of your handwriting.

**Dolls and toys, diaries or journals, needlework, Favorite magazines, books and comic books** can all be part of your heirlooms.

You can choose any item that illustrates your family's history, reflects your personality or evokes fond memories. The key is to make sure your family knows the object is a keepsake that you want to be handed down.

# Riviera Hotel

*from first class farmhouse to first class hotel ... Foley, Alabama*

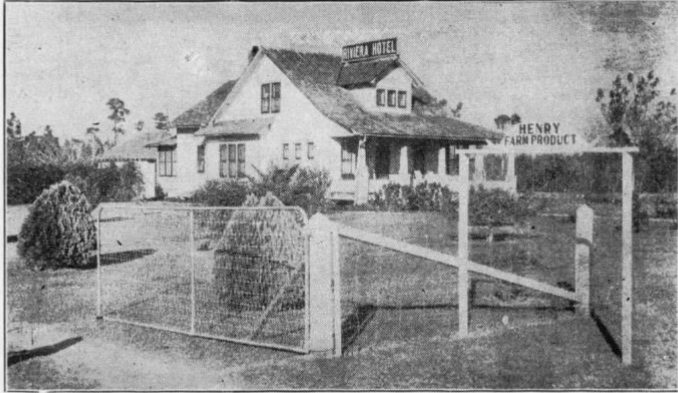
## RIVIERA HOTEL

MRS. C. A. HENRY, Mgr.  
NEW — MODERN — HOMELIKE  
ON THE STATE HIGHWAY, ONE-FOURTH MILE FROM FOLEY L. & N. DEPOT

BATHS AND SHOWERS

COMMODIOUS SUN PARLOR

HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER IN ALL ROOMS



CREAM BUTTER POULTRY EGGS VEGETABLES ETC. FRESH FROM THE HENRY FARM

LARGE LAWN BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS

**Auxiliary Accommodations**  
6 DOUBLE-FAMILY FURNISHED APARTMENTS  
"RIVIERA GARDENS"  
COMPLETE AND MODERN—IN A PECAN GROVE

**FOLEY, ALABAMA**

*Year 1928, facing south on what is today Highway 98 East to Elberta, and Pensacola, Fl, east line adjoining the Foley Cemetery.*

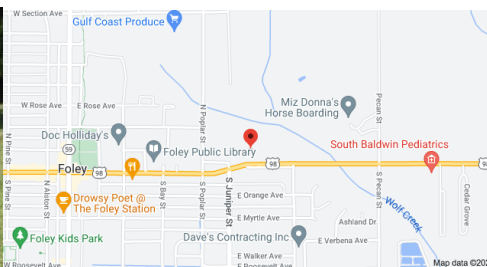
The *Riviera Hotel* opened in November, 1927, to the public by **Charles A Henry** and his wife **Marguerita**, who had remodeled and enlarged the spacious home on "Elberta road just outside the city limits of **Foley**" and converted it into a hotel. Rooms were neatly decorated, having every modern convenience and all new furnishings. A large electric sign had been placed in front, to be seen by tourists. It added "greatly to the appearance of approach of the city" and was *the* place to go, to be seen, to eat, to celebrate any and all occasions.



But before it became the first class hotel, it was the first class farmhouse of **William Jacob Goetz** (1862-1950) and **Christine E (Apel) Goetz** (1864-1947) who purchased the land in 1917 from **F. A. Blair** and **W. S. Turner**, agents for **Magnolia Springs Land Co.**

It contained 40 acres, more or less, *except* 4 acres described and withheld for a cemetery. That would be the **Foley Cemetery** which holds such early gravesites of **Gustav Boksleitner Lodz** and **Charles A. Davis** both dying in 1912. The cemetery still receives burials today.

**William Goetz** and his wife, both born in Michigan, began clearing several acres just east of the Foley Cemetery on which he would start a first class poultry farm.



*Foley Cemetery 1/2 mile east of L& N Railroad on Laurel Ave aka Highway 98, farmhouse aka Riviera Hotel, still stands, adjoins just east.*

Goetz was active in the **Michigan State Poultry Association** serving as officer of the group. The *Poultry Fancier* ca 1913-14, listed Goetz as member of the **American Barred Plymouth Rock Club** with his Buff Plymouth Rock cock, hen and pullet winning first place in their categories that year.

The **Goetz**s were active in community. William became known as one of the foremost progressive farmers, being first potato grower and first to have a 40 acre field of soy beans. In February, 1916, it was noted five thousand Satsuma orange trees were shipped by the **Mobile Nursery Company** to Foley to be planted upon the 120-acre orchard Mr. **William J. H. Goetz** was developing there.

William and associates became owners of the canal route, (*Gulf Shores/Orange Beach*) owning three miles on each side of the canal. Christina was active in civic organizations, including the Ladies Aid Society where during one meeting in 1918, in a discussion of the war, Mrs. Goetz said “Germany would win the war.” This comment was just after the battle of Picardy. She was arrested on espionage law following the remark but witnesses testified the statement was not intended as construed by some. Mr. Goetz gave witness as both he and his wife were citizens and reference as to himself having been the mayor of Detroit. Mrs. Goetz was permitted to sign bond and was released.

In May, 1919, headlines in newspapers was the ‘Big Deal in Real Estate.’ One of the largest real estate deals in the history of Foley was consummated when **J. A. Alferman** of the **Sunny South Development Company** sold the **William J. H. Goetz** farm of 120 acres adjoining city of Foley on the east to **William Weltner**, Palmer, Iowa, for “one dollar and other valuable consideration.”

The year was 1920. **Charles A and Marguerita Henry** of **Chicago** arrived in Foley to visit friends, the **Barchard** family.



The first class farmhouse that became first class hotel is today a private residence somewhat hidden by the growth of the oaks, pines and palm trees planted during the early days of the wonderful history of farmhouse/hotel. The Foley Cemetery borders on east.

By March, 1927, **Charles A. and Anna Marguerita Henry** became owners of **William and Christina Goetz’s** first class farmhouse. Mr. Henry set up dairy and chicken farming, selling milk, butter, eggs, fryers where everything was “kept thoroughly chilled in the new refrigerator built especially for them.” In mid-May, the Henrys hosted a Friday evening dinner in the home decorated with gladiolus, ferns and pale blue hydrangeas with a surprise farewell party for Mr. and Mrs. **W. J. H. Goetz** who left following Tuesday for their summer home in Detroit.

By the end of the year, the farmhouse converted to become the **Riviera Hotel** by the **Henrys** who had “remodeled and enlarged the spacious home, Ads boasted ‘Pastry and bread baked daily. Special orders filled promptly. Lunches served at all hours.’ Chicken dinners became added attraction especially on “Sundays where one can go and find a good jolly crowd gathered around tables enjoying their dinner; sit and chat as long as you like.”

The **Riviera Hotel** became the social center for many events, the place to-be-seen in attendance. It was beautified with concrete piers and post and wire fencing placed by **Mueller Construction Co.** It was one of the show places of South Baldwin as everything was kept in “such perfect order, so clean and neat, compliments to the owners.” It received three years in row of 100 percent by the State Health Inspector South.

But alas, a \$25,000 damage suit was filed by **C.A. Henry** against **Dr. L. M. Boyd** in March 1928, charges that his dairy business was ruined because the doctor condemned his milk. **W. Percy Roach**, Mobile attorney for **Henry**, ask for hearing of a plea for an injunction to restrain the city of **Foley** from emptying sewerage through a small creek which crossed Henry’s farm adjoining the town limits, placing the validity of sewer disposal being questioned even when the farm was owned by **W.J.H. Goetz**.

In August, 1939, **Charles A. Henry** died after a serious illness. Having been born in **Sweden** coming to Chicago when a young man, Charles was survived by his widow, and a niece **Liza Axelson** of Illinois, others residing in his motherland of **Sweden** among them, **August Johnson** and **Anna Fritzhof**.



Life must go on. On June 20, 1940, an ad marked **Henry’s Night Club** where one could “dine and dance, sandwiches a specialty,” with the proprietor being **Anna Marguerita Henry**, the widow of **Charles A. Henry**.

As of mid-year of 2022, the **Riviera Hotel** is full circle, a private residence, once again, now *within* the city limits of Foley, Alabama.

Sources: *Probate Deeds & Records*, Baldwin County Courthouse, Bay Minette, AL; *Detroit Free Press* newspaper, Detroit, MI 1909 pg 7; ‘Philadelphia Awards’, *Poultry Fancier* magazine, 1913-1914, Metuchen Poultry Farm, Metuchen NJ, pg 87; [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com); ‘Foley Cemetery’, *Baldwin County Cemeteries* compiled Jan Allison, Mary Jo Bassham, 2004-2006; *The Onlooker* newspaper, 1916, 1917, 1920, 1921, 1928, 1939, 1949; *Mobile Press Register* newspaper, Feb. 1916; compiled by Jeanette Bornholt, librarian, Foley Public Library.

