

**November 1, 2008      Part One:      *Breakthroughs & Discoveries***

The meeting opened with members and guests sharing their recent research findings in this ever popular session. We were pleased to welcome Charter Member and former Board Member Rosemary Clemmons. She is recovering from a serious injury, who shared an important research finding.

**Part Two:      *Pre-Holiday Trunk Show & Book Give-Away***

Society members and guests were treated to a special performance by violinist and Junior Genealogist Aleah Lynn Stallings. Aleah is a high school Senior and daughter of Society Board Member Tonja Stallings. There was holiday shopping in the Trunk Show where everyone enjoyed selecting stunning handcrafted gift items created by talented FHWGS members Doris Williams and Tonja Stallings. Also featured were art prints by artist Halima Cassells, and genealogy related items by Cassandra Davis. First Vice President Felicia Lewis Williams graciously donated books from her enormous collection of genealogy resources at a Book Give Away table. New members and guests were invited to select a book as a welcome gift.

**Save the Date:      *FHWGS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, November 7, 2009***

Plans are underway, and in the very capable hands of planning committee chair First Vice President Felicia Lewis Williams, for the Society's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Committees have been formed. Sign-up sheets will be available, and meetings dates will be announced at our January membership meeting. We look forward to active and enthusiastic participation in the planning process from the membership.

**Final Thoughts:**

Wishing you a safe, peaceful and thankful holiday season as you gather with your loved ones, friends, colleagues and neighbors, and a hopeful New Year.

<b>PREPARE FOR FAMILY GATHERINGS</b>
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The holiday season and family get-togethers provide a great opportunity for family historians to glean information from relatives that can further your research. Whether you are planning on conducting formal interviews or just a little discreet prying, a little pre-planning can go a long way. Take some time to review what you know and what information you need to know. Prepare a list of questions. The answers to the questions may give you some guidance.

<b>TRANSITION</b>
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Condolences are extended to FHWGS Member, **Cynthia Reed** and family, for the loss of her mother, **Hazel Dean Sutton-Reed**. She was born on June 6, 1931 in Stephens, Arkansas, and she died in Detroit, on November 13, 2008. Services were held on November 22, 2008 in Detroit, MI.

