

(continued)

of slaves. However, on April 14, 1865, while attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington D.C., his life was cut short by the bullet of an assassin, John Wilkes Booth, an actor and a Confederate sympathizer. Lincoln's nicknames were Honest Abe and the Great Emancipator.

Homage is paid to these two great patriots and their contributions to make our country the great country that we now enjoy and have the freedom to live in.

Robert Evans



### 2015 DRGHS Program Calendar

- Jan 14 Business meeting
- Feb 11 Wynell Parrish/ Genealogy Roadshow
- Mar 11 Judy Wallace/ author John Morris Ward
- Apr 8 Vivian Newkirk/ author Grady Howell
- May 13 Growing up in Carthage/ Mike Ellis, James Harkins and Reba Hayes
- Jun 10 Judy Wallace/ Mississippi Authors
- July & August No meeting
- Sept No program as yet
- Oct 14 DNA and Genealogy/ Dr. Rebekah Ray
- Nov 11 Displaying Military Medals/ Mark Bryant
- Dec 9 Christmas Social

### Remember to check out our website

[www.drghs.org](http://www.drghs.org)

#### GENEALOGY HUMOR

If at first you don't succeed, search, search again. That is why we call it research.

I can't find my ancestors. They must have been in a witness protection program.

A genealogist's filing system usually incorporates the floor.

Murphy's Law of Genealogy: Your ancestor's maiden name will be recorded on the one page that is missing.

You know you are a genealogist if you have had your photo taken in front of a tombstone and you were actually smiling.

Eventually, all genealogists come to their census.

## March Dates in U. S. History

### March 4, 1789

The first meeting of the new Congress under the new U.S. Constitution took place in New York City.

### March 10, 1862

The first issue of U.S. government paper money occurred as \$5, \$10, and \$20 bills began circulation.

### March 11, 1918

The "Spanish" influenza first reached America as 107 soldiers became sick at Fort Riley, Kansas. One quarter of the U.S. population eventually became ill from the deadly virus, resulting in 500,000 deaths. The death toll worldwide approached 22 million by the end of 1920.

### March 12, 1888

The Great Blizzard of '88 struck the northeastern U.S. The storm lasted 36 hours with snowfall totalling over 40 inches in New York City where more than 400 person died from the surprise storm.

### March 17 is St. Patrick's Day.

March 26 is the birthday of playwright Tennessee Williams (1911-1983) born in Columbus, Mississippi. His works featured Southern settings and include; *The Glass Menagerie*, *Night of the Iguana*, *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*.



### Natchez Spring Pilgrimage

Once the centerpiece of the Old South's cotton empire, Natchez was one of the nation's wealthiest cities per capita prior to the Civil War. As a New York Times correspondent reported in 1863, "It contains more wealth in proportion to its inhabitants than perhaps any town in the whole country, either North or South". The Civil War ended this way of life and the slavery that sustained it, and a number of people packed up and went back home to the northern cities and towns from which many of their families had originated. Natchez remained virtually unchanged with very little growth into the early twentieth century. In 1930 there were only 13,422 inhabitants. What remained were the remnants of the numerous antebellum mansions from the pre-Civil War era. Beginning in 1932, those homes became the basis of a tourist event sponsored by the local garden club and known as the Natchez Pilgrimage. Proceeds from the event were earmarked for historic preservation. Through the determined efforts of the Natchez Garden Club the town has experienced an ongoing economic revival.

The 2015 Spring Pilgrimage tour of homes will kick off on March 7 and last through April 7.

