

# HEIR LINES

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF  
SISKIYOU COUNTY

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Yreka Genealogy Society of Siskiyou County



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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

HEIR LINES EDITOR. THIS CAN BE DONE AT HOME  
BOARD MEMBERS.

GREETERS. SOCIALIZE WITH FELLOW GENEALOGIST.  
CEMETERY CANVASSERS.

INDEXERS.

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

By Pat Williams

I hope that everyone is well and working on their families. GSSC is working on many Obit books. We are making the library research friendly.

GSSC does have a problem. We may not be able to stay at Gold Street much longer. Do any of the members know of a possible place we can move to? Any suggestion will be investigated.

Have you ever wanted to attend a big Genealogy Conference to hear the speakers? This year the Conference is too far away, can't get the time off, to many responsibilities? Here is your chance. With the corporation of 5 other Genealogy Societies you can attend a Zoom speaker that GSSC cannot afford on their own. For only \$10.00 you can attend in your own home in your jammies if you choose. How can you pass up such a deal?

Stay warm and good luck finding what happened to that missing relative.

## PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

We are now offering ZOOM classes in partnership with several genealogy societies in So. Oregon and No. California. These classes will offer a verity of professional genealogy speakers.

To attend these classes sign up on our webpage [www.siskiyougenealogy.org](http://www.siskiyougenealogy.org) . You can pay on PayPal, but you don't need your own PayPal account. You can also sign up and pay in person during our regular office hours. If you are not familiar with using ZOOM we can teach you.

ITS EASY REALLY!

### PROGRAMS ZOOM

#### SISKIYOU COUNTY RESEARCH

Jennifer Bryan Siskiyou County Native will cover what is available for research on and offline.

**MARCH 16, 2023, 10am**

Members \$10.00 non-members \$15.00

#### RESEARCHING MAYFLOWER RECORDS

By Beth Ranbright

In partnership with OR-CAL Genealogy Societies

**APRIL 6, 2023, 10:30am**

Members \$10.00 non-members \$15.00

#### DOCUMENTING YOUR HEIRLOMS

By Glenda Hoyd

In partnership with OR-CAL Genealogy Societies

**APRIL 21, 2023, 10:30am**

Members \$10.00 non- members \$15.00

### MEETING

**MARCH 25, 2023, 1pm Rm 9**

Bryan Duncan will be our guest speaker. His topic will be. Siskiyou County Civil War soldiers

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS. THE BOARD AT GSSC THANKS EVERYONE FOR THEIR HELP**

## WHATS IN YOUR RESEARCH LIBRARY

Check out our online catalog at [www.siskiyougenealogy.org](http://www.siskiyougenealogy.org) Just click on New Online Catalog. Your library has over 2,000 books from all over the world. Our newspaper clipping books are in the process of being indexed on our website. For a small fee we would be happy to copy any of them. We have a large Siskiyou County Collection. The list on this page covers a few of the items in your library.

Need help with your research and can't come into the library? Just send us an email at [gssc1@att.net](mailto:gssc1@att.net) We will give you some ideas on how to break down that brick wall.

### SISKIYOU COUNTY COLLECTION

Newspaper Clippings Books  
Births, Deaths, Marriage, Military  
From 1909-2015

St Mark's Episcopal Church Records  
Original records from 1865

Siskiyou County Great Registers  
1880 -1900 Not indexed.

Siskiyou County City Directories  
Several years from 1954

Turner Funeral Records  
1901-1946 indexed.

Scott Valley Funeral Cards & Obits  
1950-1980 Indexed on Website

### REMEMBER YOUR LIBRARY IS A FAMILYSEARCH AFFILIATE

This means that files which  
could only be viewed at Salt Lake Family  
Search Library or a Family History Center  
can now be viewed in the GSSC Research  
Library

### PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

City Cemetery Project. Information  
has been gathered from newspapers, church  
and lodge records to document burials.

## GENEALOGY SOCIETY OPEN TUESDAY AND SATURDAYS

**10AM – 3PM**

Room 8 & 9 Gold St. School  
Also by appointment.

## The Rosborough Family—Siskiyou County Pioneers

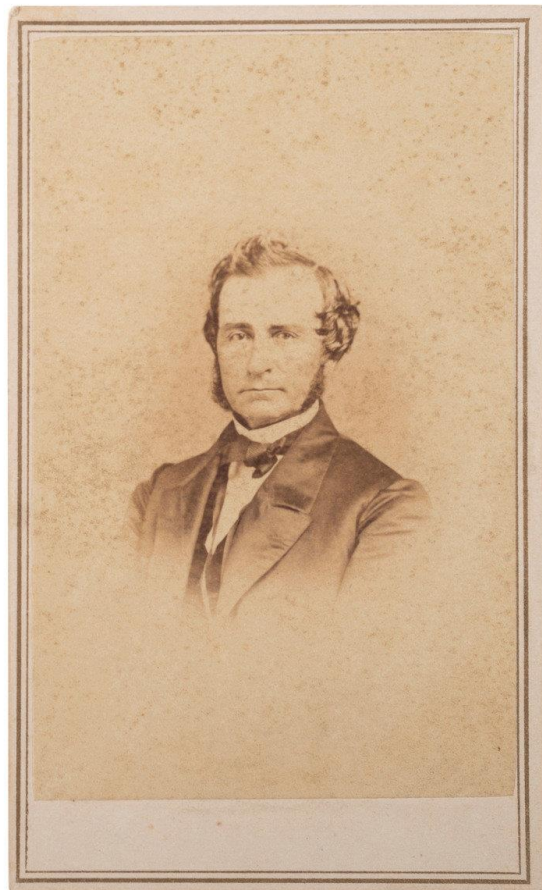
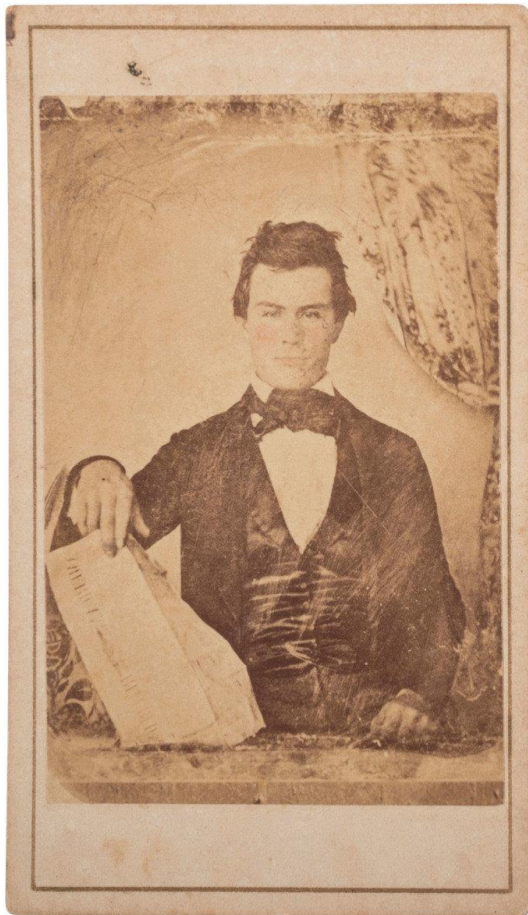
By Mike Grifantini

Within the Gold Street archives, in Yreka, are several binders containing letters from a prominent early-day Siskiyou County family—the Rosboroughs. The letters date from 1848-1890, and recently have been transcribed and made available to the public.

Robert Rosborough was a local politician and farmer, who moved to Texas in the 1850s. His letters give a very interesting perspective of the farming life in the early days in the Prairies.

Alexander Madison (A.M.) Rosborough (picture to the right), was an Indian agent, lawyer and judge. He had pivotal roles in Siskiyou's early-day history—whether dealing with transportation, mining, law or Anglo-Indian relationships. The letter collection does not contain many letters written by him, as most of them would have been sent to other people, however there are many references to him in the archive's letters.

A.M. was born in South Carolina on May 30th, 1815, and the family moved to Tennessee in the late 1820's.



While only seventeen, he fought against the Creek Indians in Alabama, then the Seminoles in Florida. A few years later A.M. went back to school and studied law and soon formed a partnership with his younger brother, Joseph Brown (J.B.) (photo to the left).

In 1840, the Rosborough brothers managed the Columbia Register newspaper, then the Nashville Daily Whig. After news of the California Gold Rush, Alexander and Joseph, along with a group of other young Tennesseans, formed a mining company, A.M. being in charge of the wagon train to CA. The brothers mined for a short time, then moved north to establish the community now called Crescent City. They envisioned it would be the primary access point for supplies sent to inland mining areas.

Alexander was appointed as special Indian agent in Yreka. He continued working in the law and became Judge of Siskiyou County in 1855, then in 1869 he won election for District Judge of Modoc, Shasta, Trinity and Siskiyou counties, and held the position until 1880. At the close of the Modoc war, at the request of the Modocs, he was appointed a Peace Commissioner and narrowly avoided the meeting where Captain Jack killed General Canby.

A.M. married Ellen "Nellie" Raynes, a native of Maine in Yreka, California, in 1861. Nellie was the sister of Alonzo E. Raynes, prominent early-day Siskiyou County resident who served as Postmaster of Yreka. Alexander and Nellie's had at least six children, three of which survived to adulthood. Two of the earliest burials at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Yreka, were their children. While A.M. and J.B.'s letters are full of business and legal information, Nellie's letters share the human side of life—full of updates on family members, their health and activities.

Brother Joseph left Siskiyou County during the Civil War. Supposedly, when required to sign a letter of allegiance to the Union, he refused and departed. Even so, he continued to write to A.M. and Nellie in Yreka. J.B. became a prominent lawyer in Salt Lake City and lived there until 1890.

One of the A.M. and Nellie Rosborough children, Alex Jr., was a driving force in creating and organizing the Siskiyou Co. Historical Society and County Museum. He was a lover of local history and donated his family letters for future enjoyment and research.

The transcriptions will soon be available on-line. Please view them to get an interesting perspective of life in Siskiyou Co. during the Gold Rush and decades past.

## Rosborough Letters

Transcribed by Mike Grifantini

### L1.1-L1.3 (Binder #1)

Weaverville, August 13, 1852

Mr. A. M Roseborough

Dear Sir:

Since my return from San fransesco I have written you two letter by each of which I requested you to inform me of the state of things in the case of the people vs. C.C. Williams and together with my last I forwarded you one hundred dollars in coin by Cram and Rogerses? ? and directed to Adams and Co. of San fransiso.

The sheriff proceeded on the \_\_\_ day of last month to sell all the personal property levied on as the property of Wm.? B. Horton (not previously disposed of by Horton) and on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant the real estate leavied on consisting of two house and lots ?? sold by the sheriff and the proceedes of sales of both real and personal property amounts to two thousand four hundred dollars and some cents: This amount is not sufficient to satisfy debt interest and costs but the deficiency is probably not much; I have not made a full settlement with the sheriff ? but will do so tomorrow. The amount of sales I have on deposit with Church and Mise Merchants of this place subject to your order, it can be forwarded by the express of Cram Rogers and Co. to the express office of Adams and Co. of San Fransiso: this I make as a ?? ??. I shall await your order before I send it upon the reception of which it will be completed with ?? delay.

I hope a copy of the second of the proceedings had in the case against C. E. Williams Judge of the County court of Trinity County will be forwarded to me as soon as practable, it may be of infinite use to me on the trial of the sheriff which will soon take place.

Judge Williams reports here that he was fully sustained and satisfied by the District Court if so I must confess I am at a great loss to know or imagine upon what ground or showings it could be I have been all impatience to learn the particulars and I had no doubt up for our last mail and the arrival? of the last express but you would give me the desired information. If it is so that Mr. Roseborough cannot come up immediately do not fail to send the desired information without the least delay for I am informed a court will be held in a few days for the trial of the sheriff and other persons connected with the affair of killing Horton.

Yours respectfully, O?A? Allen



N.B.

According to an agreement made with A. M. Roseborough I was to receive two hundred dollars in the event of selling the property which has been effected and most of the money made and the sheriff will assign the bond given to him on the issuance of first injunction, the amount to be made on the bond to make the deficiency is so reduced that it will come under a magistrate jurisdiction which action I will commence so soon as I am fully informed of the amount of the deficiency. The fee I am to receive for my services will not more than pay my actual expenses. It has been an interesting case with great labor and expense attendant upon it and yet it is not finished: Therefore, I leave it with you to say under the circumstances (with which you are familiar) to say how much more and above the amount first agreed upon I shall receive.

Yours,

O.H.

It will be also to send a copy of the first execution issued from the District Court of the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District against Wm. B. Horton in favor of A. Bartol.

O.H.A?

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(On the back of document L1.3)

Weaverville Cal

Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>

A.m. Roseborough Esq.

Op A Bartol Esq

Sanfransisco

California

L2.1- 2.2 (Binder #1)

“Point San Quentin”

May 11<sup>th</sup> 1857

Hon Judge Rosborough

Honored Sir

I take the great liberty of writing these few lines to you, and the only excuse I have for so doing, is the very unpleasant situation I am placed in at this place.

I think the punishment I endured before I came to “Prison” was sufficient for the crime I was punished for, and I believe you thought the same.

Here I am compelled to associate with all classes of criminals “thieves and murderers” etc and one cannot imagine, my feelings up to this time and if you have any pity or sympathy for me, I trust and hope you will urge upon Messers Turner and Snelling my case, so they may go on with my petition and I am pretty sure that I will get pardoned for I saw Senator Tosh? Hare?, Gen. Crosby, Varney? Etc. they went and saw the Governer and stated the case to him and he told them that when the petition came down he would pardon me, sure.

? Sir. The only hope I have now and the only thing which keeps my sperets up, is in the hope of a pardon shortly and if a petition comes down I don’t fear for the result and you I have to thank already for making my sentence as light as possible and if you urge them with the petition that is up for me you shall never have cause to say I am ungrateful.

I have already written to Messers Snelling and Turner telling them the situation I am in and I hope you will join me in so doing and I will remain your debtor for it for life. and when I do get pardoned I will come out a reformed and better man.

I also wrote Samuel P. Fair and if, my friends now try for me, they will have but little difficulty in getting me out.

I Remain

Your most Respectfully

James Smith

L3.1-3.4 (Binder #1)

San Francisco

Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Judge,

Some time since I determined to write to you in reference to the candidacy of Gov. Haight for a renomination—it struck me though that you probably knowing that I have caused to be personally hostile to him, would think that my objection arose from that cause, a few days since in a conversation the Hon. W. M. Guinn and other friends, I mentioned of at one time having determined to write to you, and told them why I hesitated to do so-- By all means I said Dr. Guinn write to him, I know him well, and would be glad indeed to have you caution him in reference to this man-- I know that your efforts to defeat his renomination spring from a desire to serve the interest of the democratic party-- with this character of advice from a mutual friend I hope you will not think it arrogance on My part to make you a few suggestions as to his renomination.

Judge he has made the poorest party Gov. that we have ever had. When first elected he commenced by appointing to office “Black Republicans.” take for instance one of the three tide? land Commissioners, an office that has very considerable political patronage to dispense, and one of profit and honor itself. Again of the twenty “Notaries” in this city he appointed nine of them from the “Blacks”, these offices are snug little places worth from \$2,500-\$8,000 per annum, and were eagerly sought after by many worthy and hard working democrats who are full competent to fill the positions.

Again last winter when the Police departments of both this city and Sacramento were in the hands of the “Blacks” and the Legislature passed bills to place both department in the hands of democrats, thus greatly strengthening the party, Gov. Haight stepped boldly into the face of the party with his veto.

I can also say to you Judge that since he has held his present position he has urged upon members of the party to assist him in building up a new party, upon the ground that the grand old democratic party as well as the republican, were too corrupt to exist, this information I have from one of the parties to whom Gov. Haight made the proposition. Now is not this of itself enough to crush any man whoever he may be, can the democratic party afford to place in the gubernatorial chair a man who systematically goes to work to crush it? A great many of us, down this way think not Judge, and I sincerely hope you will use every effort to send from Siskiyou a delegation that will not support Gov. Haight in the approaching Democratic convention.

You will find that he has appointed Republicans to office in various counties through the state. But knowing you to be a straight up democrat, I think the above information is sufficient. These are plenty other caused to make democrats oppose his renomination Judge, and if you feel like taking an interest in the approaching election I will be delighted to hear from you, and assist in getting such information as will be useful to you in securing a delegation from your district that will oppose one so unworthy in my estimation, in getting a democratic nomination.

Very truly yours

W.D. Aylett

P.S. Please address me at 736 Market Street.

LOOK FOR MORE ROSBOROUGH LETTERS IN FUTURE ISSUES  
OF HEIR LINES

# O. A. BENNETT

Published in *Yreka Echoes* by the Yreka Preservation Corporation January/February 2023

From the Siskiyou News, May 28, 1898, Page 6:

Mr. Bennett came to California fifteen years ago, and to Yreka seven years ago. He does a general contracting and building business; draws plans and writes specifications. He will draw the plans and do all the work from the commencement of the foundation until the key is turned over to the owner. He erected the court house and drew the plans for the high school and the Peters & DeWitt Building. As his work is not based upon theory, but is the result of actual experience, he has given entire satisfaction. About fifteen of the last additions to Yreka's residence list were constructed by him. From one to a dozen men are employed. He also carries a complete stock of lumber, lath, shingles, sash, doors, moldings, millwork, building paper, in fact, almost everything that goes into a building except hardware. As showing his standing in the community, it may be stated that he was recently elected to the office of town trustee. In a secret society way he is a member of Yreka Lodge, No, 188, Knights of Pythias, and is Grand Chancellor of this district. Editor: O. A. Bennett as the article mentions built quite a number of homes and buildings in Yreka. At 340 North Oregon Street the house that sits there is one that O. A. Bennett built in 1894 and lived in, however, he did not live there even a year, he sold it soon after it was finished. According to information the home on North Oregon has been altered a number of times over the years.



The O. A. Bennett Home on North St. 2010

Editor: O. A. Bennett as the article mentions built quite a number of homes and buildings in Yreka. At 340 North Oregon Street the house that sits there is one that O. A. Bennett built in 1894 and lived in, however, he did not live there even a year, he sold it soon after it was finished. According to information the home on North Oregon has been altered a number of times over the years.

## F. A. AUTENRIETH

Published in *Yreka Echoes* by the Yreka Preservation Corporation January/February 2023

From the *Siskiyou News*, May 28, 1898, Page 6:

No line of commercial enterprise requires ampler capital, keener business perception or greater executive ability than to successfully conduct a hardware store. The representative firm in this line in Yreka that is conducted by F. A. Autenrieth. The premises occupied for mercantile purposes comprises a basement and a storeroom 25 x 75 feet in dimensions. The stock is especially adapted to the wants and needs of this community, and consists of builders', shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, ranges, Tinware, granite, agate, ironware, fishing tackle, guns, ammunition, miners' supplies, etc. This store has the agency for the Grand Pacific ranges, Judson powder, Crown mowers, etc. Recently a sale of 6,000 pounds of powder was made to one miner. Tin, galvanized and sheet iron and copper cornices, siding, roofing, spouting, skylights, etc., are made to order. Repairing and the manufacture of Tinware furnishes one man constant employment at good wages. The business is owned and conducted by F. A. Autenrieth. Mr. Autenrieth was born in Yreka and was educated at Benecia. For six years he was in the railroad business, and a year and a half ago commenced his present enterprise. His extensive and favorable acquaintance and enterprising business methods at once secured him a trade and mercantile standing ordinarily requiring years to obtain.



F.A Autenrieth home built 1890 208 north Oregon St. Yreka

Editor: F. A. Autenrieth was the son of Dr. Louis Autenrieth who came to Yreka in 1859. F. A. Autenrieth's hardware store was located at 200 W. Miner Street in about 1896 or 97. Interesting to note that the home was converted into apartments in about 1915

### Laid to Rest.

The remains of J. H. Rand a notice of whose death appeared in the appropriate column last week, arrived at Fort Jones at about half past four o'clock on Thursday afternoon and were immediately conveyed to the M. E. Church on Sterling street, where the funeral services took place, on Friday. Rev. W. C. Stewart preached the funeral sermon yesterday at 2 p. m. A large number of friends and relatives were in attendance, many of whom followed the remains to their last resting place in the Fort Jones cemetery.

[John H. Rand was about 55 years of age at the time of his death. He was a pioneer of '51 having located at Sawyer's Bar in that year. Latterly he has been engaged in mining operations in Nevada being a resident in that State, temporarily living in San Francisco to secure medical aid in his last illness. He was a son-in-law of Mrs. Hinckley of Etua, his widow being a sister of Mrs. J. A. Diggle and Mrs. Walter Ticknor and an aunt of Mrs. Basham of this place. He was well known and highly respected here.]

### The Funeral of George Chase.

The remains of the late George Chase arrived on the two o'clock train Sunday night. A letter received previously gives particulars of George's sickness. He had been sick a couple of weeks. During that time he had had kind and excellent care and the best medical attendance. All that was possible to do for him was done.

The funeral was held at the house this afternoon at four o'clock and was largely attended. Rev. Mr. Gould of the M. E. Church officiated. The floral tributes from friends were numerous and very beautiful. Among them was a new and lovely design, "the heavenly portal," which a number of ladies obtained in Detroit. It was made of most exquisite and rare flowers.—*Mich. Kalamazoo Telegraph, Aug. 3d*

[Deceased was a brother of Miss Meda Chase who was here some years since and a cousin of Mrs. Carrie Walker and A. D. Goodale of this place. Relatives have the sympathy of friends and neighbors in their bereavement.]

Scott Valley News 1887 Aug. 20-page 3

Scott Valley News 1887 Aug. 20- page 3

### SMALL BOYS LOCATE HIDDEN TREASURES

Three small boys, Matt George and the Phillips brothers were out shooting near the old home of the late Thos. Greenwood, of Hawkinsville, last week and had with them a small dog that while digging around the place unearthed a can of \$20 gold pieces, \$700 in school bonds and \$1000 in Siskiyou Light & Power Co. bonds, all of which had been buried by Mr. Greenwood before his death. The bonds were known to have been hidden somewhere and there was supposed to be a quantity of money, but no one knew how much. A substantial reward had been made for the recovery of the property.

Antonio Castro and Newton Gordon, residents near by, brought the papers to Yreka and turned them over to former Public Administrator T. B. Davidson. Greenwood left no known heirs.

Jan 1, 1916 Mt Shasta Herald





# PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

- [ **Evergreen Cemetery** \$15.00  
Evergreen Cemetery is in Yreka, CA
  
- [ **Winema (Weed) Cemetery** \$15.00
  
- [ **100 Years and Going Strong** – by Rose L. Hicks Brown \$17.00
  
- Note: Shipping and Handling on the **above** books: \$6.00 per book.*
  
- [ **Siskiyou County Marriages 1852 – 1910** \$35.00  
This is a new reprint of a book put out by our Society many years ago.  
Includes a bride's index.
  
- [ **Cowboy Poetry and Barn Sour Verse** \$10.00  
Written by V. June (Blevins) Collins
  
- [ **First Family of the Pacific States** Vol 1 A – E \$40.00
- ][ **First Family of the Pacific States** Vol 2 F – M \$40.00
- ][ **First Family of the Pacific States** Vol 3 N – Z \$40.00
- ][ **Henley - Hornbrook Cemetery, Siskiyou County, CA** \$20.00

Save \$20 off First Family books when purchasing all three!

*Note: Shipping and Handling on the **above** five (5) books only: \$8.00 per book.  
We now have Pay Pal on our website! Check it out! [www.siskiyougenealogy.org](http://www.siskiyougenealogy.org)  
Membership can also be paid on Pay Pal.*

**Membership Year begins July 1<sup>st</sup>**  
 New Member       Renewal

**Membership Dues**  
 Individual \$25.00    Family \$30.00

Total Book(s)	_____
Shipping & Handling	_____
Membership	_____
Donation	_____
Total	_____

Shipping Address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Cell#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to GSSC

Allen, O. A., 5  
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