

CCHGA Bytes



R.D. Huffines - President
James Jenkins - Vice President
Judy Mayo - Secretary
Betty Cannon - Treasurer

\$405.00 was raised at the CCHGA Bake Sale. Thanks to all who participated baking and eating!

Donations

Thank you Lorraine Stewart!

Need a last minute Christmas gift?

Give a CCHGA membership!

Our application is located at:
http://www.rootsweb.com/~tnccgga/cchga_app.pdf

**Merry Christmas
And
Happy New
Year!**

The next CCHGA meeting is January 27, 2011 at the Cheatham County Public Library @ 6:30. This will be a business meeting.

Welcome new members
Yvonne Stinnett and
Rochelle Fuller!

February 2011 CCHGA Program Meeting VAULX CIVIL WAR ERA JOURNALS

Ross Hudgins of Fairview will give a presentation on the **Private Journals of Maggie Vaulx** at the February 24, 2011 CCHGA meeting to be held at the Cheatham County Public Library. The meeting will start at 6:30 and refreshments will be served.

Maggie Vaulx was 17 years old at the outbreak of the Civil War and a member of a prominent Nashville family. Her journals chronicle life in Union occupied Nashville and include her eye witness accounts of the Battle of Nashville.

Hudgins acquired the journals almost 50 years ago while helping his grandfather tear down an old barn in Fairview. He has transcribed the journals and is preparing to have the work published.

CCHGA members and the public are invited to attend. Contact the CCHGA office at 615.792.3623 for additional information.

April 28, 2011 CCHGA Program Meeting

J. Mark Lowe, CG has been researching families for more than 40 years. He grew up in Tennessee with extensive family roots in Kentucky. He has travelled extensively in both states and enjoys sharing his love of genealogy and the joy of research with others including some historic reenacting.

In the process of teaching others, Mark builds his own skills and insight for research. His experience as a classroom teacher, principal and professional researcher provides a different perspective for each research problem.



Mark lives in Robertson County, Tennessee which lies in Northern Middle Tennessee along the Kentucky border. With family history in both states, a knowledge of the interaction of citizens along borders helps Mark resolve difficult issues using often overlooked records. As a national and regional speaker, he has brought these areas of expertise along with his unique humor and southern style to many diverse audiences.

Jeremiah Walker Cullum – contributed by Marie M. Garland (mmgar@att.net)

Continued from CCHGA newsletter dated April 2010

This article was in the March 7th, 2009 issue of the South Cheatham Advocate Newspaper. Tony England and Dale Graham gave the PALS Chapter of CCHGA permission to use this article in the CCHGA newsletter. It was taken from the journal of Jeremiah Walker Cullum (Cullom), a first cousin to Clayborn S. Hooper. Mr. Cullum was born December 20, 1828 and married Mary B. Isom on October 13, 1857.

I have often known my father after the corn was shucked out to haul it to Bass's tanyard and sale it 12 ½ cents per bushel and then set fire to the shucks and burn them to get them out of his way. We don't do such foolish things now.

The postage on a letter was 25 cents. There were no envelopes. There were not postage stamps and no prepaid postage. The postage was paid only on delivery. I remember a remark made by Bishop Bascome that his correspondence cost him three hundred dollars a year.

There were no wheat threshers. It was beaten out by a flail or tramped out by horses in a barn. There were very few barns for this work. My grandfather John Hooper had one. The bundles of wheat were laid down in a circle around the wall and a half dozen horses two and two were trotted around over them. Then the straw was taken out and the wheat raked up. Much of the wheat was reaped by the sickle a hand pull at the grasp. When the cradle came in use in use it was a great improvement. A good milk cow sold for seven dollars and a good horse for forty.

The neighborhood burying ground was on my grandfathers Hooper land and I never knew a funeral preached at the time of burial. There was a time set apart for that afterward.

The three distilleries made enough whiskey to raise a crop of drunkards in the neighborhood. Can any good thing come out of Nazareth. Yes. In this case several preachers came out of the neighborhood among them were myself, J. W. Cullum and Rev. Thomas Cullum my double first cousin. Then there was John Cox, John N. Allen and G. W. Allen. The last three are long since dead.

We surely celebrated Christmas. A party of men and boys met at an appointed place on Xmas eve night all armed with fire arms and we halted at each house and fired a salute then we were invited in and treated.

My forefathers came from Halifax County North Carolina. My grandfather was Jesse Cullum. My grandmother was Mary Lovell.

Their sons:

Lovell H.	married	Polly Garland
Gains F.	"	Cynthia Hooper (My Parents)
Jerry W.	"	Elizabeth Hooper
William	"	married in Ala
James	"	Betsy Hooper
Jesse	"	Amanda Hooper
Ellison M.	"	Ann Dozier

My mother's parents John Hooper married Cynthia Steward.

Their children:

Cynthia	married	Gains F. Cullum (My Parents)
Elizabeth	"	Jerry W. Cullum
Clemantine	"	John Lovell
Jincy	"	Charles B. Lovell
Nancy	"	G. W. Hartley
William C.	"	Nancy Cullum
Elizah	"	Nancy Hale
Catharine	"	Ephraim Miles

Dear Ancestor

*Your tombstone stands among the rest;
Neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiseled out
On polished, marbled stone.
It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn.
You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born.
Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own.*

Some American Civil War Soldiers with Cheatham County Ties

George J. Anderson

Residence: Ashland City, TN

Enlisted: June 18, 1863

Side Served: Union

State Served: Indiana

Service Record: Enlisted as a Private on 18 June 1863, 23rd Light Artillery Regiment Indiana, mustered out on July 2, 1865, Indianapolis, IN

John Simpson

Residence: Cheatham County, Tennessee

Rank at enlistment: Private

State Served: Confederate States

Survived the war? Yes

Service Record: Enlisted in the Confederate States Secret Service Infantry Regiment



JOHN SIMPSON.

Photo from Confederate Veteran Magazine

Remembering a Christmas Doll by Eva Christine Lee

Submitted by Janet Walker, South Cheatham Public Library Director

It was the saddest and happiest Christmas ever. The year, 1940, when I was 11 years old. My sister, Sylvia, who was 13, had died on December 18 and oh the sadness that filled our home and our lives. Daddy walked the yard crying. Mama had us six children and she had to be in control, even though she was wracked with grief.

Christmas Eve, my aunt and uncle came to our house and brought happiness to every one of us with wonderful Christmas gifts.

Mine was a beautiful long legged doll, with blonde hair and it had eyes that opened and closed. She had on a beautiful lavender organdy dress. I had never had a doll with hair and eyes. The hair and eyes had always been painted on the doll head.

I named her Donna Lucille, after a girl who gave me her dresses she had outgrown. It was the perfect gift and that doll helped me through the grief of losing my sister. I will always remember the moment I opened that box and saw that beautiful doll, so many years ago. (December 1, 1992)

Mark your calendar for the 2011 CCHGA meetings!

January 27, 2011	Business Meeting	July 28, 2011	Business Meeting
February 24, 2011	Ross Hudgins	August 25, 2011	Program Meeting
March 24, 2011	Business Meeting	September 22, 2011	Business Meeting
April 28, 2011	J. Mark Lowe	October 27, 2011	Program Meeting
May 26, 2011	Business Meeting	November 17, 2011	Business Meeting
June 23, 2011	Program Meeting	December, 2011	No Meeting

CCHGA newsletters from the past can be found at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tncchga/bytes.htm>

If Trees Could Talk

Submitted by Lisa Walker, Cheatham County Historian

November through March is "Cemetery Season" for people who wish to avoid the bugs, snakes and other critters when cleaning the family cemetery.

Before there were cemetery laws and public and commercial cemeteries, or in the absence of a local church cemetery, many people were buried in family cemeteries or on private property designated for burials.

Cheatham County has many family cemeteries, some of which are lovingly cared for while others are found to be abandoned because family members have moved away or died out. Many of the cemeteries contain graves of pioneers, early settlers and native peoples, often simply marked. Sadly, many of these cemeteries are damaged by the weather, animals or humans.

Cemetery clean up preserves our history. It is also hard work.

Meet Mr. Leo Smith. Mr. Smith is owner of Auto Salvage on Ashley Road in Cheatham County. Many times a day to and from work he would pass by an abandoned, overgrown cemetery. He decided to do something about it to honor those buried there. He took fifteen employees, some of his heavy machinery, and three days of his time to clean up the cemetery. He cut the brush, moved trees, cleaned headstones, sewed grass and cleaned up the trash thrown from cars traveling the narrow road.

Today, he can marvel over the changes in this cemetery, known locally as the Jackson-Shearron Cemetery. The site now has an iron fence built around it, shrubs with accent lights, and handmade cross markers marking those graves with no grave stone. Mr. Smith has been told there are about 57 graves in the cemetery. The first known burial there was in 1899.

So if you get the notion, go out and clean up around the grave stones and markers which are neglected and shrouded beneath overgrowth in your family cemetery. Or when you read in the local paper that a family cemetery seeks donations to maintain the cemetery, make a contribution in memory of a loved one. We keep up the cemetery to honor the people buried there, whether we are related to them or not.

Tennessee Cemetery and Burial Site laws can be found at

<http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/arch/pdf/historiccemeteries.pdf>



Sycamore Hill House (located 1425 Highway 49 East)

Written by Ken and Tiffanie Markus for their December 11, 2010 Open House

The Sycamore Hill house is a combination of two dwellings. The first is a two story log cabin that comprises the kitchen and loft above. It was built in 1795, making it one of the oldest dwellings in Cheatham County. The cabin was one of the first homes established outside of the nearby Sycamore valley which was settled in 1780. The cabin was constructed using chestnut trees, which were common to Tennessee at that time. The trees have since died out due to a blight that wiped them out shortly before WW II. The original cooking hearth sits under the kitchen floor and the chimney base can be seen outside of the kitchen on the west end of the house.

The second dwelling is the main house which was constructed in 1850. The two story was home to the milling company's doctor. Dr. Thomas Shaw was the first doctor to occupy the house. The Sycamore Milling Company was also known as Cheatham Watson Company sat in the valley across the highway from the house. The company manufactured blasting powder and was one of the two mills to manufacture gun powder for the Confederacy during the Civil War until it was occupied by Union forces. Business records indicate that the company had around 100 employees, along with their families, when the house was built. The company also profited from cotton and tobacco and operated its own grist and saw mill. The valley in all totaled around 200 people and had churches, a school, and a commissary, along with employee housing.

The house is the only original surviving dwelling of the milling company. Other signs of the milling company's existence are remnants of the dam on Sycamore creek, an iron pedestrian bridge that crosses the creek, and rock walls that swerved as barriers to protect buildings from being damaged in case of an explosion.

The house was constructed from a mixture of oak and yellow popular trees. Many of its original features still can be seen, such as the breezeway doors in the front entry hall, the exposed clapboard siding located in the enclosed porch, the stairs and banister railing along with the pine floors upstairs. Unique features include pocket windows upstairs and floor joists in the cellar that are held in place with wooden pegs. The kitchen and main house were joined together by owner Wyatt Jackson who built a large room and pantry in 1945, which is now the dining room, pantry, and bath to bring them together. The dining room, pantry, and a half bather were remodeled in 2009.

In all there have been an estimated nine owners of the house starting with the milling company and ending with the Markus family who occupies the house today. Two of the previous owners include E. I. DuPont of the DuPont Corporation which purchased the milling company in 1893.

The Jackson family, who were very prominent in Cheatham County, occupied the property for many years. Wyatt and his wife Irene were well known for raising peonies on the property along with many other ventures by Wyatt and his father. Irene was the granddaughter of Dr. Shaw who also lived in the house.

1928 Information on Graduates of Cheatham County Central High School

Submitted by Lisa Walker, Cheatham County Historian

1909 Mrs. Pearl Lenox Smith, Ashland City, TN	Mrs. Piccola Walker Bracey, Greenbrier, TN Byrd Rhea, Grand Chain, Illinois Mrs. Helen Burkholder Spiker, Louisville, KY
1910 D.C. Pardue, Memphis, TN Bettie Reeks, Ashland City, TN	
1911 Albatina Binkley, 605 Woodland Street, Nashville, TN Mrs. Grace Wilson Davis Mrs. Delta McKnight, Clarksville, Tennessee Mrs. Katherine Jackson Robinson, Nashville, TN	
1912 Hugh Binkley, Apt 10, 101 West Center Street, Akron, Ohio	1913 Theodore Boyd, 706 S. Lincoln Street, Chicago, Illinois Maurice Bennett Brinkley, Pittsburg, PA S. L. Felts, Ashland City, TN Tom Harris, Linden, TN Charles Thomas Pardue, Paris, TN Robert Larrimore Shivers, Atlanta, GA Vernon Smith (deceased) James Otto Wilson, Kenmore, Ohio

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1914

Mrs. Jennie Jackson Felts, Ashland City, TN
Mrs. Irene Shaw Jackson, Ashland City, TN
Louie Moore (deceased)
Willis West

1915

Mrs. Pauline Heathman Gunn, Ashland City, TN
Estelle Robertson
Mrs. Gedie Shivers, Russellville, AL
Lewis Sloan, 1919 Elmhurst, Detroit, Mich.

1916

Mrs. Agnes May Brinkley Frazier, Nashville, TN
Mrs. Mary Fambrough Reed, Nashville, TN

1917

Denton D. Binkley, Nashville, TN
Mrs. Thelma Stump Fox, New Rochelle, New York
Mrs. Maggie Patton McWhirter, Nashville, TN
Mrs. Lewis Sloan (deceased)
Mrs. May St. Charles, Nashville, TN
Mary Tennessee Turner (deceased)

1918

Lavone Binkley
Jack Boyd, Ashland City, TN
Mrs. James Chamblis, Nashville, TN
Grace Hudgens, Ashland City, TN
Mrs. Brewer Shearon, Detroit, Michigan
Mrs. Grace Hooper Shelton, Venus, Texas

1919

Mary Pace, Nashville, TN
Virginia Pace, McComb Mississippi
Mrs. Myrtle Stump Shaffer, Chicago, Illinois
Mrs. Elizabeth Adkisson Sloan, Detroit, Michigan
Adkisson Turner, Ashland City, TN

Continued in next newsletter



Don't forget to renew your membership for 2011!

Application located at

http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncchga/cchga_app.pdf



CCHGA BYTES

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