

# CCHGA BYTES

The Newsletter of the Cheatham County Historical & Genealogical Association

## Cheatham County History Center Hours

Tuesday 12:00 - 4:00

Wednesday 11:00 - 3:00

Saturday 10:00 - 12:00

Call the CCHGA office 615.792.3623  
or email  
[cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com)

CCHGA Newsletters are snail mailed or emailed to membership in March, June, September and December. If you would like your newsletter sent to you in an email, notify us by sending an email to [cchga007@bellsouth.net](mailto:cchga007@bellsouth.net).

### Upcoming Events

July 13 @ 6:30 CCHGA  
Program

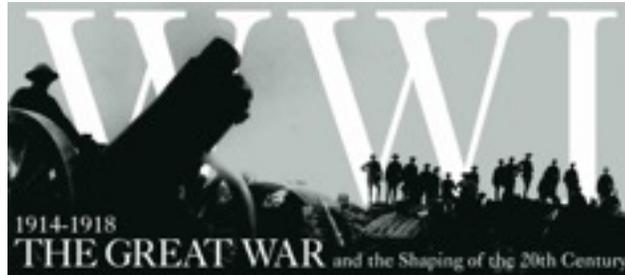
Aug. 10 @ 6:30 CCHGA  
Meeting

Sept 14 @ 6:30 CCHGA  
Meeting

October 7 - CC Public  
Library 50th Birthday  
Celebration and Cheatham  
County Museum Open  
House

October 12 @ 6:30  
CCHGA Program

October 14 - Adam  
Binkley Commemoration



## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WWI

July 13, 2017 ~ 6:30 pm

Cheatham County Public Library ~ Community Room

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of World War I. CCHGA member Clayton D. Walden will give a presentation on WWI and the presentation will include photos and information about Cheatham Countians who served in this war.

Mr. Walden entered service in 1965. His first duty station was Germany, his next tour of duty in Viet Nam 1967-68. Other overseas duty stations included: 2 additional tours to Germany, North Yemen, Korea, and the Gulf War. He completed 26 years of active military service and retired in 1995 from Fort Campbell KY, as a Chief Warrant Officer Four. Upon completion of military service, he was employed as a Senior Estimator for a Mechanical Contractor.

Everyone is invited to hear this presentation and light refreshments will be served. Call the CCHGA office 615.792.3623 if additional information is needed.

## The Memoirs of Ralph Spangler

**Interviewer: Gary Pace, Transcribed in 2010 by Betty Harris**

Continued from March 2017 Newsletter

By then, it was about 12 o'clock. And I said, "Well what am I going to do till 7:00 when you get here?"

He said, " You get on a bus and you ride out to Bordeaux. And you get off the bus at Bordeaux and you walk up to Cumberland High School, and of course that's where the road comes off the regular road there and then you hitch hike on down here."

That's what I did. It took me three rides to get to Ashland City. I didn't think I'd ever get to Ashland City. But, anyway, I did get to Ashland City and I had no car, no money or anything but myself. Sam and Marian had a jalopy and he didn't have any money.

My first place to stay was at Frank Stratton's. Frank and Peggy, seeing I had no car or money for room rent, gave me a room in the basement for nothing. I stayed there until his father built a house up on the lake, and then I moved up with Mr. Frank, senior. I stayed with him seventeen or eighteen years. I did not have a car until after Christmas of that first year. I remember I went down to the bank that winter. It was after we got back in December. It was a bad, bad winter. We got paid then (teachers) every twentieth day they taught. We were paid about the fifteenth of December and I still didn't have a car. I was walking up Stratton Hill. By December 25th, Christmas Day, I'd spent all my money. So we came back to school in January and we were out for about ten days for bad weather, and I was thinking, 'Gosh, we're not going to get paid until February'. On this particular day in January, I went down to the bank and saw Mr. Robertson. Then, there was only one bank, Ashland City Bank.

And I said, "Mr. Robertson, I need a little money."

I remember he said, "Now is this necessary?"

I said, "I don't have a dime to eat on!"

He said, "That's necessary." and he let me have twenty-five dollars, and that carried me through to my next payday which sometime in February. Then I was lucky enough because of Frank and Sam, in 1959 they started asking donations from various people and organizations and they bought me a '59 brand new nine passenger station wagon. We went undefeated in '59 and they rolled it out on the field that night and presented me with the keys and I guess that's one of the happiest evenings I ever had. They gave me another one in '68.

The first car I ever owned was an old Ford. I couldn't have paid much for it because I didn't have anything to pay. But I bought an old car that was Warren Nabor's. I guess it was a '47 or '48.



Warren bought a new one and he sold me that one, and I can't remember, but I guess it was \$200 or so. But that was my first car to own for myself.

I had a 1951 yellow Ford convertible. (Gary Pace remembers that it had so much athletic equipment in it that there was no room for passengers. There was no room for anything else, not even a mouse, in that car. Gary came out and tried out for baseball that year, and Spider Baker threw ten pitches and Gary didn't touch a one of them. That ended Gary's baseball career. Coach gave Gary a ride back to AC, and since there was no room in the car, Coach asked him if he would mind riding on the fender and hold on to the hood ornament. He did, since in those days, nobody thought anything about that. Coach drove down Stratton Hill and Gary thought Coach was going up and through town. However, Coach had other ideas, and when they got to the intersection of Main and Elizabeth, Coach slid into Elizabeth while Gary, leaning to the right and kept going as Coach and the loaded convertible continued on up Elizabeth.)

Coach remembers that back then, we had running boards and that it was not unusual to stand on that running board and hitch a ride where ever you were going. That yellow Ford was as treasured by Coach as much as if it had been a Mercedes. "When you have nothing and having walked so much, that car was a pleasure to me."

But that first year, of course one thing to another and they said, "You know , you're going to have to coach girl's basketball."

Well, I'd played two years of college basketball, but football was what I wanted. But they said, "Well, you're going to have to coach girl's basketball, and then you're going to have to coach boy's basketball. And you're going to have to add football."

I asked about an assistant. And they said, "Sorry, it will just be you." And that's how I came to be in Ashland City. I had girls basketball for about 15 years and I had boy's basketball for about that long. And I coached football by myself till I got Coach Jarreau. I remember Mrs. Bess Jordan was superintendent...very, very efficient, very business like. She was very professional at her service. One doyen I went over to Ms. Bess (Mrs. Bess always stayed one step in front of you.) But after 15 years of coaching alone, I went over to Mrs. Bess and I said, "Mrs. Bess, some of the teams that we're playing have an assistant coach and some of them have two assistant coaches. And they work with each on a number of sports rather than just one sport."

She listened to me ramble for 10 minutes and while I was rambling, she was thinking and then she gave me an answer.

I remember she said, "Coach Spangler, Mrs. Christian (who was a history teacher) how many students does she have in her history class?"

I said, "I don't know, Mrs. Bess, probably about 15 or 20."

And then she said, "Well what about Mrs. Nannie Harris's English?"

I said, "I guess about the same number."

She said, "What about Miss Gladys Jackson's chorus?"

I said, "She probably has more."

She said, "Now let me ask you this: Do these teachers have assistants?"

I said, "No mam."

And she said, "I don't believe you need an assistant either." So that wound the conversation up about the assistant. Then the next year she called me and asked, "Do you still want one of those assistants?"

She said, "Well, I'm sending you over Mike Jarreau." and that's how I was lucky enough to get Mike Jarreau; fine coach and a great person. We stayed with each other coaching until I gave up the coaching."

*To be continued in the next CCHGA Bytes.*

### **A Family Stairway of Five Generations**

The New York Palace received a visit, yesterday, from a family of Thomasville, Cheatham county, which included five generations, as follows: Mrs. Sarah Ferebee, aged 78 years; Mrs. Virginia Hutton, daughter of Sarah, aged 60 years; Mrs. Sallie Cherry, daughter of Virginia, aged 42 years; Mrs. Cornelia Mallory, daughter of Sallie, aged 22 years; Master James Mallory, son of Cornelia, aged six months. The entire group were all in good health, and being mostly girls were able to go "shopping." Our reporter undertook to do a little sum in arithmetic, and though not figuring precisely, thinks he found where a few boys may have come in who are not named in the list.

The Tennessean, 03 Jul 1877, Tue, Page 4

### **First Ashland City Train.**

The first train will run from Nashville to Ashland City this morning over the Tennessee Central Railroad. It will be the inauguration of actual operation of at least a part of the Hopkinsville branch. The train will leave here at 6:30 a. m., arriving at Ashland City at 8 o'clock. On the return trip it will leave Ashland City at 5:30 in the afternoon, arriving here at 8 o'clock. Between the thirty-nine miles from here to Ashland City there will be some twelve stations.

Announcement has been made of the completion of the Tennessee Central spur line to Union street.

**The Tennessean, October 28, 1903, Page 8**

## **JOHANN JACOB BINKLEY** - submitted by Charmaine Cochran Jamieson Continued from March 2017 Newsletter

John Jacob Binkley lived in Springfield, Tennessee in 1820 and 1830 and 1840. **Jacob's sibling's** names were: Elizabeth, (1774-1841) born 25 Nov 1774 in Franklin, Carroll, Maryland, USA; Joseph, (1779-1842) born 11 Nov 1779 in Bethania, Stokes, North Carolina, USA; Henry (1782-1859) born 20 Dec 1782 in Bethania, Stokes, North Carolina, USA; Adam (2 Aug 1744- 3 March 1837) born in Bethania, Forsyth, North Carolina, USA; Christopher (1786-born in Tennessee, USA; George (26 Mar 1790), Bethania, Stokes County, North Carolina, USA. (There was another Adam Binkley born 1785 by ancestry.com which should not be confused with the one born in 1744. Adam, born 1744 was a Lt.; Adam born 1785 was probably a Col in the ARW).

**Jacob Binkley's children** were: Elizabeth 1792, North Carolina, USA; Julia (1794); James (1797-1866) in Davidson County, Tennessee, USA; Sarah (1798-1880); Martha (1801-1855) b. 14 Jan 1801 Tennessee; William (1804-1888) Davidson County, Tennessee, USA; birth of son Henry Binkley (1805-1845) 7 Aug 1805 Robertson, Tennessee, USA.; David Sterling (1811-1881) Davidson County, Tennessee, USA; George C. (1812-1874); Jacob J. (1814-1876) born 10 Jun 1814 Bethania, Stokes, North Carolina, USA; Mollie (1815-) Davidson County, Tennessee, USA; George Washington (1831-1911) was born on 12 Jan, 1831 in Robertson County, Tennessee, USA; Levi (1805-1875) was born on 22 Sep, 1805 in Tennessee, USA; Lavina (1811-1854) in Davidson County, Tennessee.

According to Bidwell's Family Data, one of John Jacob's children, Martha Binkley, married Major Charles Bidwell. Charles Bidwell was a Major in the Battle of New Orleans, January 8, 1815. He died in 1848. According to Bidwell Family Data, Charles and Martha had eight children. Martha was a native of North Carolina of German decent. Major B.G. Bidwell was the 6<sup>th</sup> child who had a brother A. F. and a sister, Mrs. Sarah B. Frey of Robertson County. (This Sarah B. Frey was the same Sarah Binkley who married Peter Frey of Robertson County). According to "facts" on ancestry.com, John Jacob at age 26 had a daughter named Sarah Binkley (1798-1880).

Ancestry.com "LifeStory" indicates "**James Binkley** was a son of Johann Jacob, age 25 and his mother, Elizabeth Wright, was 20. James was born in 1797 in Davidson County; James married Lucinda "Lucy" Smith on December 21, 1826, in Nashville, Tennessee. James and Lucinda had ten children in 20 years. James died on April 20, 1866, in Ashland City, Tennessee, at the age of 69."

Sarah, James' sister, born on 27 Nov 1798 in Stokes County, North Carolina was the first female born when James was one year old. James' brother, Male, was born in Stokes County, North Carolina. Another sister, Martha was born on 14 Jan 1801 in Robertson County. Martha died at a young age in 1855. James' sister Molly was born in Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee when James was five years old. Molly died at age 35 in 1837. William was born in 1802 and died in 1888. James' brother, Henry, was born on August 7, 1805 in Robertson County. David Sterling, James' brother, was born in 1811 in Davidson County. James' sister, Lavina, was born in 1811 in Davidson County, Tennessee when James was 14 years old. James brother, Levi, was born in 1812 in Robertson County, Tennessee. James' last brother, George Washington, was born on January 12, 1831 in Robertson County, Tennessee. Seems James Binkley lived in Davidson County in 1830.

According to a document dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 1824, Jacob Binkley signed this document where he bought ten acres of land from Robertson County (Springfield) to Nashville. "The State of Tennessee, No. 22073, know ye that By virtue of part of certificate NO. 1432 states the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1813....."

In addition to owning land, Jacob B. son of Adam, had Last Will & Testament. Actually, it was more like a letter of Estate not a will, according to Robertson County Will Book No. 13 pp 28-29; Deed Book #6 page 317; Robertson County Will Book 2, page 517 and page 605; Will Book 23 pager 227. I believe Jacob "Jake's" wife was Sarah Frey who had Amanda, Andrew Jackson, Jolenna, Catherina, George Washington, Elizabeth (1792), Sarah (1798), and Martha (1801) were the children of Jacob Binkley.

According to "LifeStory" of ancestry.com, John Jacob Binkley married Maria Barbara Demuth (1770-1828) and they had nine children together. He then married Elizabeth Wright and they had three children together. He died on December 15, 1845 in Robertson County, Tennessee, at the age of 73.

**Published in May 22, 1957 Tennessean**

**'Gypsy' at Heart, Ashland City Girl Happy To Travel With Andy's Atlas**

Like the "wayward wind" Judy likes to wander.

Because the open road looks so inviting to her, 12-year-old Judy Vick of Ashland City thinks people who travel the world in painted caravans are fascinating and mysterious. But where did they come from? She decided to "Ask Andy," and he answered her question today on the comic page of THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN.

**Travels Via Print**

When she can't go to faraway places herself, Judy travels via the printed page. Reading is her hobby. So when THE TENNESSEAN delivered the prize for her winning question, "Who are the gypsies?", the young adventurer couldn't have been happier. For what is better for an armchair traveler than a World Atlas?

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milton O. Vick, Judy is in the 7th grade at Ashland City Elementary School, where she is one of the top rated students in her class. Perhaps Judy's feeling for the gypsy life comes naturally... she started life as a transient. She was born in San Marcos, Texas, while her dad was stationed there in the Air Force.

Judy's question was selected from thousands of queries from



**Judy Vick**  
*She asked Andy*

readers all over the country. Children of all ages write the popular column, "Ask Andy," which appears daily in THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN. Questions used win valuable prizes.

Judy says she's going places... with her new Atlas!

**Quake Jars Tokyo**

TOKYO —(IP)— A fairly strong earthquake jarred Tokyo last night, causing tall buildings to sway.



**Golden**  
*Exclusive Millinery.*

**2nd Prayer Service For Crusade Set Today**

The second weekly service of prayers for success of Billy Graham's New York crusade will be at noon today at First Baptist church, Seventh avenue and Broadway.

## Cheap Hill

*The Tennessean - December 10, 1921, page 4*

No more wilt the knife of the fewer ple-cutter dull itself on the postoffice of Cheap Hill, Cheatham County. By order of the Postoffice Department this name has been expunged from the postal guide, and no longer will it affright the dreams of the federal referee. Cheap Hill has been rechristened "Chapmansboro, but it was baptized under protest and remained stiff-necked and unrepentant to the last. It was born of Democracy and died. In that belief.

Before the Civil War their dwelt in the adjoining corners of Davidson, Montgomery and Robertson counties a stalwart community of the followers of "Old Hickory." The effete trail of luxury began to mark the citizens of Nashville, Clarksville and Springfield, and when these yeomen attended the "muster" or the assizes, their eyes were affronted at the sight of stovepipe hats, and starched shirts worn openly on the streets of their county seats. Therefore, they carved out for themselves a new county counted called Cumberland, and designated Cheap Hill as the capital thereof.

But a Whig Legislature scrambled the plans of these forefathers, gerrymandered the boundaries of their county and relabeled it Cheatham County. The center of the "new county" was snatched from under Cheap Hill, but its militant spirit remained unimpaired. Before the war it fought Whigs, and after the war it tough, Republicans. Its Democratic majority was always the same as the total vote polled.

Tradition has it that some ten years after the Civil War, some miscreant mailed a batch of Republican ballots to the Cheap Hill postoffice on the eve of a national election. In some way these curios were conveyed to the polling place; where they attracted great interest and distributed as souvenirs. But a member of the Cheap Hill electorate, who could not read, made the appalling blunder of voting one of them. Discovering his unfortunate mistake, he requested the privilege of voting again, and was refused. He then demanded that his ballot be extracted from the box, and that he be recorded as present and not voting. This simple courtesy being denied, he essayed to break up the election. Though his neighbors afters viewed his sin with charity and compassion his family could not endure the disgrace and they moved away to begin life anew.

But Cheap Hill learned a lesson from this calamity. Only after time had softened the poignance memory of this catastrophe was there ever allowed another Republican ballot on the election ground at Cheap Hill. And there are yet Democrats at Cheap Hill who believe that this is a good rule and a safe rule.

The first pitched battle between Cheap Hill and the Postoffice Department occurred some years ago. In this struggle the postoffice was dragged about two miles from its ancient site and landed on the railroad but even this maneuver failed to lace it in reach of any Republican. In time “rural routers” became appended to the Cheap Hill office and these too were of the ancient faith.

Then came the Harding administration with the mistaken belief that there was any “normalcy” in having a Republican connected with the Cheap Hill postoffice in a any capacity. Cheap Hill repulsed the attacks of the referee and the sub-referees, and then went to sleep on its victory. Cheap Hill underestimated the versatility of Mr. Hays. Having failed to change its postmistress or its “rural rosters,” he changed its name

While Cheap Hill had its back turned watching the peace conference, and pondering the problems of the “Far East,” it was struck down from behind. In the midst of victory, it disappeared. Yesterday it was coming into the prominence due its long and valiant career, and today it is with Palmyra and ancient Troy. But it was born lighting Whiggery and died fighting Republicanism. It fought a good fight, and kept the faith.



**Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association**

**P. O. Box 703**

**Ashland City, TN 37015**