

CCHGA BYTES

The Newsletter of the Cheatham County Historical & Genealogical Association

CCHGA Office and Cheatham County Museum

Call the CCHGA office
615.792.3623 or email
[cheathamcountyhistor
y@gmail.com](mailto:cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com) and
leave a message if
needed!

CCHGA newsletters
are snail mailed or
e m a i l e d t o
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
[cheathamcountyhistor
y@gmail.com](mailto:cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com).

Our past newsletters
are located at [https://
cheathamcountyhistor
y.weebly.com/cchga-
newsletters.html](https://cheathamcountyhistory.weebly.com/cchga-newsletters.html)

CCHGA Notes:

- The museum has closed temporarily until we find a new location. We will continue to answer emails, phone calls, have programs and send out newsletter.
- If you have had a change in email address or physical address, please call 615.792.3623 or email cchgaoffice@gmail.com so we can update our records.

2023 CCHGA Officers

Lisa Walker, President
Nicole Binkley, Vice President
Dreama Davidson, Treasurer
Lisa Walker, Assistant Treasurer
Rosemary Klein, Secretary
Jane Crisp, Assistant Secretary
GeorgeAnne Raines, Member At Large

CCHGA 2023 Meetings and Other Dates

- April 13 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room/
Guest Speaker
- May 11 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room
- June 15 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room
- July 13 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room/
Guest Speaker
- August 10 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room
- September 14 @ 6:30 McCullough Community
Room
- October 12 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room/
Guest Speaker
- November 9 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room
- November 21 Bake Sale @ Sycamore Square
- December - No Meeting

**Program Meeting: Moonshine and Stills:
Finding Archived Records for Your Moonshiner Ancestors**

Melissa Barker

April 13, 2023

6:30 David McCullough Community Room

Melissa Barker is a Certified Archives Manager and Public Historian currently working at the Houston County, Tennessee Archives. She is affectionally known as The Archive Lady to the genealogy community. She lectures, teaches, and writes about the genealogy research process, researching in archives and records preservation. She conducts virtual presentations across the United States and other countries for various genealogy groups and societies. She writes a popular blog entitled A Genealogist in the Archives and is a well-known published book reviewer. She has been a Professional Genealogist for the past 19 years with expertise in Tennessee records. She has been researching her own family history for the past 33 years.

Have you been told that our ancestors made moonshine? Have you ever wondered if there were records to help you verify those stories? Learn from an archivist who has found moonshine records in the archives about finding records for our moonshine ancestors.

Pgrogram Meeting: Luella Leaving and a Lasting Legacy

Carol A. Stuart

July 13, 2023

6:30 David McCullough Community Room

A Cheatham County native, Carol Stuart is a graduate of Cheatham County Central High School (1979) and holds B.S. (1983) and M.A. (2022) degrees from Middle Tennessee State University. Stuart recently finished a master's she started years ago, completing a capstone creative project about her paternal grandmother's 1920 domestic-violence related divorce that a cousin had unearthed through genealogy work—with Luella leaving her first husband the week the Tennessee special session began meeting

to ratify women's suffrage. A former journalist including 26 years at The Tennessean, short stints at USA Today and the Memphis Press-Scimitar, and an internship at Music City News, Stuart now works as associate editor in MTSU's University Publications department. She has three young adult children and is still a huge sports fan.

Her presentation will be on:

“Meeting a grandmother I never met and adding to real women's voices of marriage, divorce, and life in the early 20th century.”

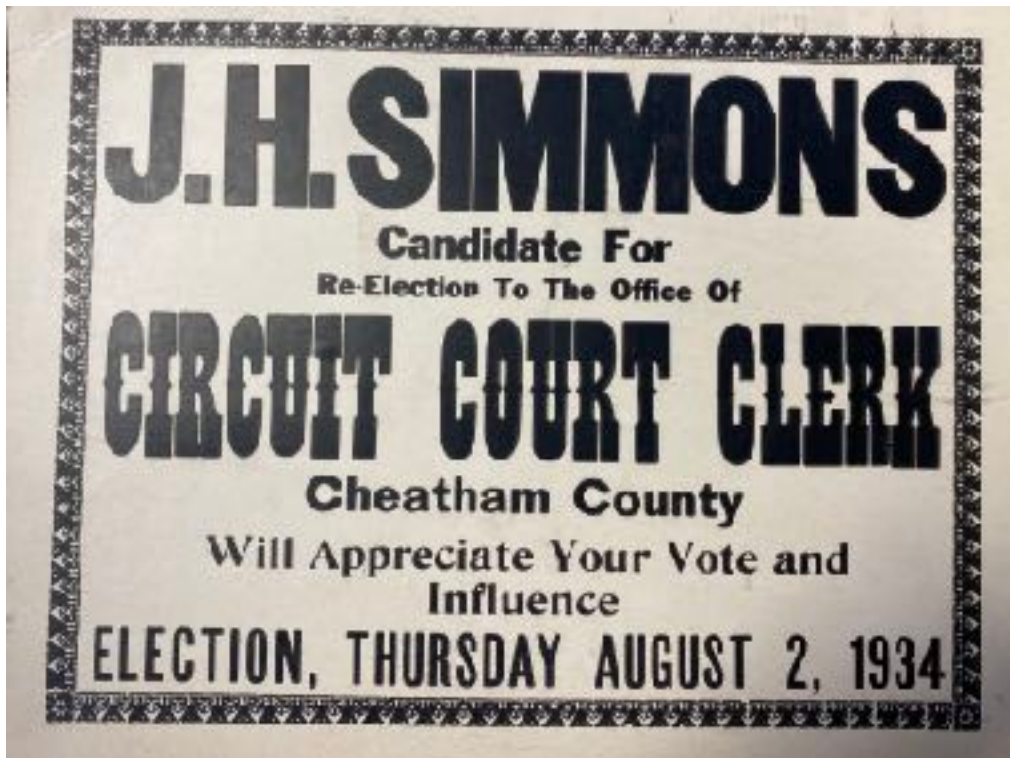
TOPICS

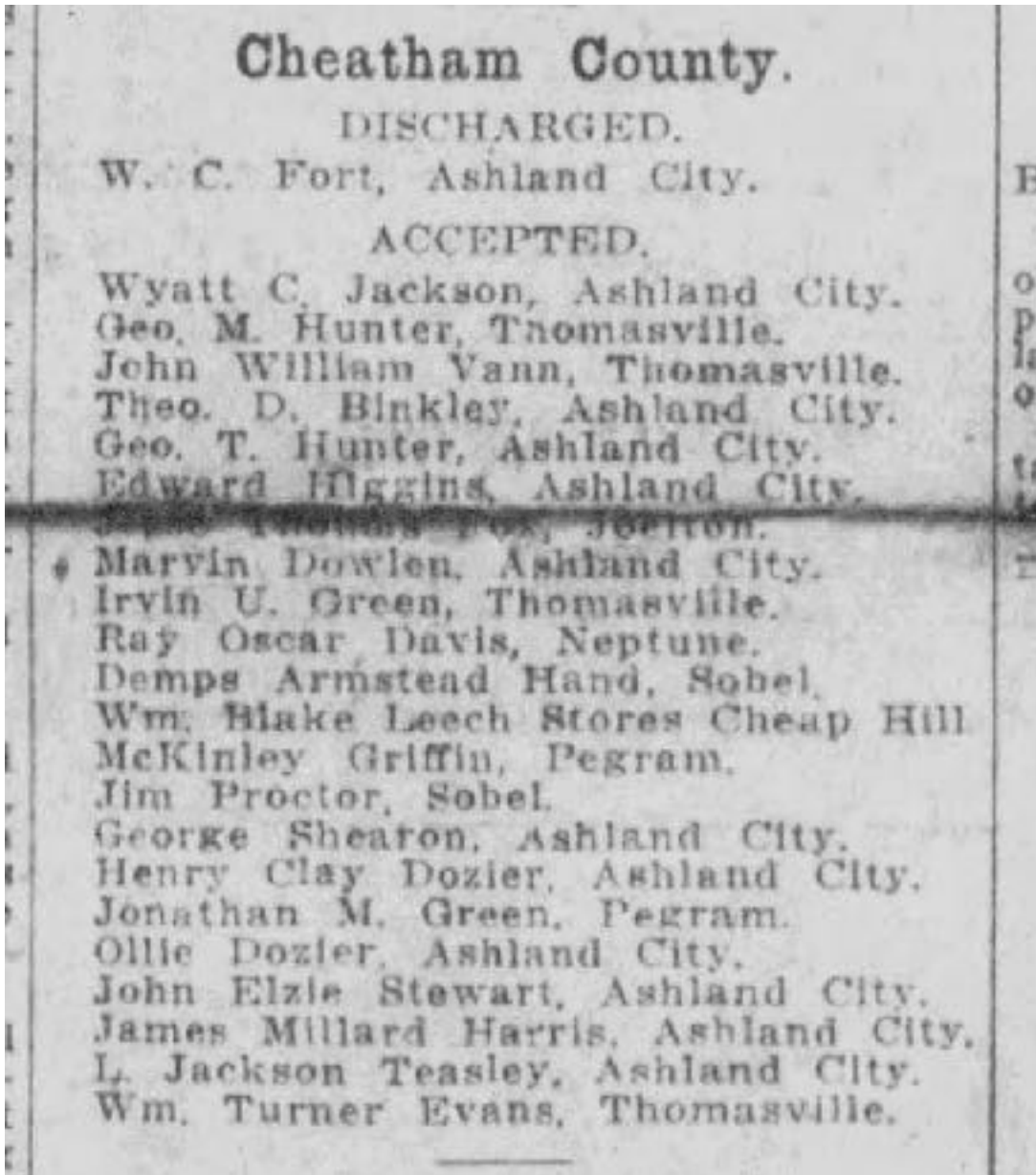
Genealogy for Luella's, Gilp's, and others' families

Suffrage movement and 1920 vote in Tennessee

Laws about women in Tennessee and to some extent the U.S.

Marriage and divorce in the era / women's conditions and by demographics





September 26, 1917 Nashville Banner

South's Grocery Serves Community 55 Years

June 11, 1948

Gordon H. Turner Staff Correspondent

When thieves broke into the King Griffin Store here 25 years ago, the owner deserted the little house and started all over again next day in the old fashioned "parlor room" of his nearby bungalow.

And to that clean little room every day since, except Sundays, the neighbors have come by to buy their sugar, flour, coffee, and other staples which they didn't raise or preserve at home. At rush hours those who have to wait usually sit on the cool front porch, or stand around the wall which is noted for its fine freestone water.

King Griffin, one of many local Griffins from which the community got its name, operated this store for 50 years before his death in 1943, at near the age of 90. He had also been a collector of Indian relics and a magician of such more than local fame.

Daughter Continues Business

At Griffin's death, a daughter, Minnie, who had been a clerk, heired the store. But she soon changed its name to South's Grocer in honor of her second husband with whom she had lived fro 20 years until his death. "Herman South was one of the best men who ever lived," she explained. "And I wanted this business to be a memorial to him."

The folks who shop South's grocery are all farmers in this southeast corner of Cheatham County. Some come from the edge of Dickson county a few miles farther. Minnie says they usually trade early in the morning or late in the afternoon, leaving the daytime free for working the fields and home chores. "Saturday is no bigger than any other day," she explained. "They don't work much on Saturdays but they like to go into town at White Bluff, Charlotte, or Ashland City."

Anniversary Celebrated

The store owner is now Mrs. William E. Read. Minnie and her new husband celebrated their first year of married life May 15, at ages 64 and 80 respectively. But the wife had had four previous anniversaries.

Married first at age 13, 51 years ago to Will Harper, Minnie lost her first husband after 18 years. Then she married South who died 20 years later.

She lived with her third husband for 12 years before his death, and then the fourth, Eli Turner, for only three months.

“I thought I’d had enough,” Minnie explained. But early last year a neighbor told Bill Read in Ashland City about her and the neat little home and grocery. Bill says he lost no time in coming to look it over.

“He proposed the very first trip,” the versatile and attractive grocery woman declared. “And I wouldn’t have him for I didn’t know what kind of man he was.” But with persistence, Bill won her hand on the fourth trip a few weeks later, and since that time he has been part of Griffintown.

continued in next newsletter

CCHGA member Rosemary Hunter Klein is available to research genealogy records, you can reach out to her at rosemaryhklein@gmail.com and she will do what she can to assist. No promises that she can find anything, though, but she will be glad to look.



W. K. Christian Funeral Held; Leukemia Victim Nashville Banner, July 6, 1959

Services for William Kerwin Christian, 14, former cadet at Sewanee Military Academy were conducted at 2:30 p.m. today at Ashland City Free Will Baptist Church, of which he was a member.

The Rev. J. T. Hurst and the Rev. Cater Elmore, Baptist ministers, officiated. Burial was in the Hudgens Cemetery near Ashland City.

The youth died Saturday in Vanderbilt Hospital. He was stricken with leukemia last November while in his freshman year at ten academy. He as a member of the freshman football team.

Cadet Christian was a son if Mr. and Mrs. Herman Christian of Ashland City, who survive. His father is owner and operator of Christian Furniture and Appliance Co., Ashland City.

The youth attended Ashland City schools and transferred from the academy to Ashland City High midyear. He was active in the youth program of the Free Weill Baptist Church.

Additional survivors include his grandparents, Mrs. J.E. Hudgens, Ashland City, and Mrs Caroline Christian, Knoxville.

Active pallbearers were Ralph Spangler, Anthony Fizer, Jim Beasley, Charles Tucker, Jr., Johny Hagedwood, James (Bubba) Simmon, Larry Ellis and Billy Simpkins.

Honorary pallbearers were Dr. Jack Oliver, Dr. J.C. Overall, Dr. Robert Zanone, Dr. O.L. Fields, Capt. Robert Gentry of Sewanee Military Academy, and members of the Ashland City football team.

Lockert and Shearon Funeral Home, Ashland City, was in charge.

Cheatham County County Courthouse
Page 23
Inventory of the County Archives of Tennessee
Number 11 Cheatham County Ashland City
Work Projects Administration 1941

The Cheatham County Courthouse , in Ashland City, is on the east side of the public square facing Main Street. The original building. measuring

45x50x30, was erected in 1869. In 1914 it was remodeled and an addition, 57x26x30, was annexed forming a T-shaped structure. The present courthouse, containing 102,600 cubic feet of space, is constructed of brick, concrete, plaster and wood. It is not fire proof.

The county court clerk, the board equalization, the register, the clerk and master, and the trustee have offices on the first floor. The offices of the circuit court clerk and the superintendent of schools are on the second floor. The county court clerk's vault, the register's vault, two storage closets, and the WPA office, which is also used for storing records of several bureaus, are on the first floor.

Email: cchgaoffice@gmail.com cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/CheathamCountyHistory/>
Website: <https://cheathamcountyhistory.weebly.com/>
Instagram: [@cheathamcountyhistory](https://www.instagram.com/cheathamcountyhistory)

Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association
P. O. Box 703
Ashland City, TN 37015