

# CCHGA BYTES

## Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association

23 books have been donated to the CCHGA library by J. David McMahan. These include books about U. S. History and pre-history.

Books in the CCHGA library may be checked out by members for 2 weeks. Census, cemetery, and family genealogy books must be used in the CCHGA office only and are not checked out.

Do you have access to our CCHGA member only website or the "open to everybody" CCHGA website? If not send email to [ltinch@bellsouth.net](mailto:ltinch@bellsouth.net)



Many interesting historical and genealogical displays were provided by CCHGA members at the Spring Social and Dinner on April 22, 2004. Above, guest speaker Bill Maddox and his son Mark, display their ware and goods used at Historic Mankers Station.

### Important!

- Beginning in May, the regular CCHGA meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m.
- The PALS Chapter is beginning work on the "PALS Book" that Jim Allen wanted very much to see us accomplish. Anyone in CCHGA who has any past or present connections with the Pond Creek, Lillamay, Sams Creek and River Road communities is encouraged to contribute to this project. A book committee will be selected at the May 18 PALS Meeting. For more information you may call Judy Mayo at (615) 352-4408 or e-mail her at [judimay@att.net](mailto:judimay@att.net).
- Roy Miles presented a copy of The American Heritage, History CD to CCHGA at last month's CCHGA meeting. Copies are available to the schools, at no charge, (1-per school).

Roy (member of KS chapter of CCHGA) is currently Regional Vice President for the Tennessee Society, of The Sons Of The American Revolution. This group consists of compatriots, whose forefathers fought to gain our independence from England. They are concerned about preserving our National Heritage, honoring our Ancestors, and promoting pride and patriotism in our country. The SAR website is [www.Sar.org/tnssar/](http://www.Sar.org/tnssar/)

Currently Cheatham County residents may fit into either the Valentine Seviere Chapter, which is located in the Clarksville area, or the Andrew Jackson Chapter which is in the Nashville area. Please contact Roy and he will try to get you in touch with a representative from one of those chapters.

Roy Miles III  
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Kingston Springs, TN 37082  
phone: (615) 952-9552  
e-mail [Roy@TheMilesCo.com](mailto:Roy@TheMilesCo.com)

### (1935) Mr. Hagewood Celebrates His 76th Birthday

- submitted by Ola Vaughan

J. W. D. Hagewood was honored with a surprise birthday dinner Sunday, February 24, at his home near New Hope in celebration of his seventy-sixth birthday. A delicious dinner was served at a beautifully appointed table.

The guests enjoying the occasion were: Mr. and Mrs Robert L Hagewood of Nashville, Paul Hagewood of Ashland City, Mrs. Bob Fambrough, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hagewood, Mr. and Mrs. S.E. Tatum and children Mary Alice and Ola Mae. Mr and Mrs Andrew Hagewood and daughter and daughter Mary, and Mrs. Mary Groves all of New Hope.

**NEXT CCHGA MEETING IS MAY 27, 2004 AT THE CHEATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY - 7:00 p.m.!**

## **My Daddy, Milton Vick** – submitted by *Judy Vick Mayo*

Milton Odell Vick, the son of William Daniel (Buster) Vick and Evalena Davis, was born on Sams Creek on Mother's Day, May 11, 1919, one of many Vicks who had lived in the area for several generations. Buster was a blacksmith and ran a general store. Milton grew up and went to school on Sams Creek and Pond Creek. He nearly died of typhoid fever when he was ten and his parents divorced when he was about twelve years old. During the depression, he and his three brothers, Houston, Edwin and Howard farmed and hunted wild game to keep the family fed. Suffice it to say that life was not easy for Milton and his brothers growing up.

Milton joined the Civilian Conservation Corps at Clarksville, Tennessee, and later worked at Martin Aircraft in Baltimore, Maryland, where he and Kate Ella Crouch lived after they married on December 22, 1941. He was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps at Camp Forrest, Tennessee on October 24, 1942 and underwent basic training in Fresno, California. He trained to be a teletype repairman and weather observer at Chanute Field in Chicago and then was assigned to the 70<sup>th</sup> Army Air Corps Base Unit at Kelly Field near San Marcos, Texas, where bomber pilots were trained for World War II. That's where I was born. He was discharged on December 12, 1945 with the rank of Sergeant. His mustering out pay was \$200.

After the war, the family lived in Tampa, Florida, and Chicago, Illinois, for short periods before moving back to Pond Creek to make their home for the rest of their lives. Milton and Katie loved Pond Creek and their memories of growing up there and they had missed their families while they lived away. They told lots of stories of the families they knew and all the things they had fun doing, even though everyone they knew was as poor as they were while growing up. I wish that I had recorded the stories before they died and asked them a lot more questions.

Back home on Pond Creek to stay, Milton bought an old house, tore it down and used the lumber to build our first real home on land he bought that was part of the Old Milton Davis Farm, his great-grandfather's land in the 1800s. Eventually he bought all of that land and now my sister and my husband and I own the land and that is where I live. Daddy always whistled while he worked and that's one of the happy memories of my early childhood. He did logging and truck farming and kept some pigs and a few cows. Then, through the G1 Bill, he learned refrigeration and air conditioning and worked at Southern Tire Service in Nashville where he learned to repair television sets when TV first came to Nashville. He could bring TV sets home to test them out after repairing them, so we had television at our house before we could afford one of our own. Milton and Jake Lovell started a TV sales and service business in West Nashville and later Milton had his own TV repair business on River Road and then at home. When his station wagon with all his equipment in it caught fire from an electrical problem while he was driving, he decided to take a job as chief engineer at the Sheraton Hotel when it opened at 10<sup>th</sup> and Broadway in Nashville. Milton had a heart attack in 1973 after working to help repair our bridge that had washed out and was the first open-heart surgery patient at the new St. Thomas Hospital on Harding Road.

After he retired from the Sheraton in 1981, Milton served as the inspector for the River Road Utility water line installation and was a charter member of the E-911 Board for Cheatham County. In his spare time he learned to paint from Channel 8 television and also started doing woodworking. He enjoyed making unique stacked laminated bowls and one-of-a-kind items and he and his work were featured on "Tennessee Crossroads" and also on Channel 5 Television. He sold many of his wood items at craft fairs and at the gift shops at Montgomery Bell State Park and Tennessee Memories in Green Hills. He loved to meet people and tell them about his hobby and he made many friends along the way.

Milton and Katie, the daughter of William Bates Crouch and Lida Lou Allen, graduated together from the eighth grade at the Pond Creek School and, though they weren't able to attend high school, they were both talented and creative and they continued to learn new things all their lives. Both had ancestors in the Cheatham County area going back several generations and they knew all the old families and how everyone was kin. They were devoted members of New Bethel United Methodist Church and served it in many ways. Katie died on May 15, 1995 and Milton died on December 1, 1996. They were wonderful parents and grandparents and my sister, Carolyn and I and our families miss them both very much. We are grateful for them in many ways and that they shared their family histories with us. I hope that everyone who reads this will collect as much family history as they can while their parents are alive.



## **Miss Robbie Allen and Her Love for Her Church** *by Judy Vick Mayo*

Robbie McFarland Allen was born on March 2, 1897, in the Pond Creek Community, the youngest daughter of Andrew Franklin Allen and Jim Ella Hale. She was my great aunt, a sister of my maternal grandmother, Lida Lou Allen Crouch. Aunt Rob, as we called her, was a teacher in the elementary schools of Cheatham County, especially Sams Creek and Pond Creek and she played the piano at the New Bethel Methodist Church where her ancestors had attended for several generations. Her parents and other relatives helped build the church building which is still in use today. During World War II, Aunt Rob and Aunt Emma, her oldest sister, took the church records home with them for safekeeping because services were not being held during that time. They never would trust anyone else with the records, so they perished in a house fire during the 1970s. However, Aunt Rob and Aunt Emma were devoted to the church and helped to preserve its' history in their own way. Following is one of two articles Robbie Allen wrote during the 1950s when services had been resumed at New Bethel. I believe it was published in the Ashland City Times.

### **HISTORICAL NEW BETHEL, THE MOTHER CHURCH** *By Robbie Allen, submitted by Judy Vick Mayo*

More than one hundred fifty-five years ago a church was born. Records now in possession of its members date back as far as one hundred fifty-five years ago. Historical facts show that the first church erected on these grounds was a log one, then a frame (and no doubt the early settlers brought along their rifles to defend themselves against Indian attacks) and now the frame construction which is now in use – the first church that was ever known to be organized in this community – New Bethel Methodist Church on Pond Creek in the old ninth district of Cheatham County, Tennessee.

New Bethel is a beautiful church, located in a quiet peaceful setting with a green velvety lawn and wild flowers and springs and trees and clear-running streams which add much to the beauty of the house and grounds.

No one now living knows exactly when New Bethel Methodist Church was first established, but many are the touching incidents and remarkable answers to prayer that have been connected with it. One incident in particular which I can recall as having been handed down from generation to generation was the story of one of it's pastors "Uncle Bill Cherry," as he was affectionately called. The story goes that at one time in the history of the life of this church that the weather has been so dry that the people began to feel that they were faced with a terrible famine in the community – in other words, starvation. Then one old brother, Jess Dozier, made a proposition with Uncle Bill that if he would pray for rain and get it th at he would give him a horse and saddle. Uncle Bill agreed, and the members of the church met there at the appointed time, one hot dry day under a scorching sun – not a cloud in the sky and no sign of rain.

Then Uncle Billy began to pray. How thrilling and inspiring it must have been when but a short time after he began praying a cloud appeared in the sky about the size of a man's hat! Well, bless your sour, by the time the folks were ready to start home it was sluicing rain – almost a cloudburst as I understood it. Whether Uncle Billy was praying for the reward or not, he got it – his horse and saddle.

The present church building was erected in 1886 and though somewhat weather beaten at the present it is still loved by its members both young and old and was the first place that the writer, as a babe, was ever carried to. But one of the best things we have to tell about this church today is that though it was once dead – it is alive again. "Faith of Our Fathers Living Still," could be sung very appropriately with reference to this church and its members now extend the same warm welcome to new members and visitors as did their forefathers over one hundred fifty years ago.





## Balthrops of Cheatham County, Submitted by Jack Bowker

John Balthrop 1727 NC – 4/1802 Warren, NC m. Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ 1730 – 1817 NC

1. William W. Balthrop, Sr. 1752 NC – 1835 Dickson County, TN m. Mary Christian 1755 NC – 1738 Dickson County, TN. Both are buried at Ott Smith farm, Balthrop Br., Dickson County, TN.
  - a. Francis Balthrop 1775 NC – 1842 TN m Alice Goodrich 1789 NC – 1847 TN.
    - i. Elizabeth Waller Balthrop 1806 NC m. James Madison Gilmore 1802 – 1888
    - ii. Thomas Garner Balthrop 1808-1882 m. Mariah L. Hinson 1813 NC – 1890 TN
    - iii. John Chistian Balthrop 1810-1892 m. Nancy White 1808-1869 and Martha Ellen Mayo 1848 - ?
    - iv. Edward S. Balthrop 181 2 - ? Texas?
    - v. Sarah Balthrop 1822 – 1862 m Bennett H. Gibbs 1822 – 1868, buried Gibbs Cemetery, Greenbria, Cheatham County, Tennessee
  - b. William W. Balthrop, Jr. 1781-? M. Elizabeth ? - ?
    - i. Elizabeth Balthrop 1815 NC – 1891 Dickson County m. A. Wash. Norris 1810 – 1883 . Had 8 children. This couple is buried on Ott Smith farm.
2. Wiley Balthrop 1789 NC – 2/1/1858 Dickson County m. Mary W. Turner 1805- 1853
  - a. James C. Balthrop 1821- ? m. Mary Russell 1824 - ?
  - b. William D. Balthrop 1824 -? M. Dilly Ann Slayden 1823 - ?
  - c. Simon M. Balthrop 1826-1871 m. America B. Slayden 1830 - ?
  - d. David Epps Balthrop 1828 – 1900 m. Sarah M. Williams 1832 – 1907
  - e. Catherine A. Balthrop 1834 Dickson County, TN
  - f. Wiley B. Balthrop 1836 - ? m. Amanda B. Slayden 1834 - ?
  - g. Amanda E. Balthrop 1838 - ? Dickson County, TN
  - h. John L. Balthrop 1841 - ? Dickson County, TN

Francis, William W. Jr., and Wiley Balthrop came to Dickson County, TN in about 1815 and their father William W. Sr., came about 1822.

Francis Balthrop left Dickson County about 1838 and went to Robertson County. William W. Jr., possibly went to Texas as did some of Francis's children.

Wiley stayed in Dickson County as did his children. They are buried at the Ott Smith famr and at Balthrop Cemetery on Balthrop Br. – Yellow Creek

All of the Cheatham, Robertson and Dickson County Balthrops come from the William W. Balthrop, Sr. family!!

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### CCHGA Members!

Continue to send in your photos and family genealogy or tid bits about Cheatham County to be published in the newsletter! We had such a great response that we will continue member submitted articles until the well runs dry. In next month's newsletter, look for excerpts from the Hooper Diary.

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**Encourage your family and friends to join CCHGA!**  
**CHEATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION**  
**P O Box 703**  
**Ashland City, TN 37015**

615-792-3623..... [Cchga007@bellsouth.net](mailto:Cchga007@bellsouth.net)..... <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncchga/>

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SPECIFIC CHAPTER DESIRED:

<input type="checkbox"/> Ashland City	<input type="checkbox"/> Kingston Springs	<input type="checkbox"/> Pleasant View
<input type="checkbox"/> Pond Creek & Lillamay/SamsCreek (PALS)	<input type="checkbox"/> At Large Member	

**Make checks payable to CCHGA**

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## **CCHGA BYTES**

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