

# CCHGA Bytes



May 2008

R.D. Huffines - President  
Earl Nixon - Vice President  
Judy Mayo - Secretary  
Betty Cannon - Treasurer

On **June 7**, **CCHGA** members and friends will be taking a field trip to the **Drouillard House Retreat and Conference Center** located in **Cumberland Furnace, Tennessee**. We will be meeting at 10:00 at the **Cheatham County Museum** to drive to **Cumberland Furnace**. The cost for lunch, tour of the mansion and tour of the **Cumberland Furnace Museum** is **\$20.00 per individual**. Please mail your money to the **CCHGA** office by **May 10, 2008** for reservations. Call the **CCHGA** office at **615.792.3623** if you have any concerns.

<http://www.drouillardhouse.com/>

**Thank you Ashland City Wal-Mart for the \$500.00 donation to Cheatham County Museum.**



Fly your American Flag!

May 8 – VE Day  
May 17 – Armed Forces Day  
May 26 – Memorial Day

## Memories of Pauline Heathman Gunn – submitted by H. George Pitt

“Ma” (*Pauline Heathman Gunn*) wrote in the 1970s, “At the time I finished high school, anyone, eighteen years or over and who could pass a teacher’s examination could teach school. Many teachers had never been to high school.

I graduated in May (1914) before I was seventeen in July, so that meant no teaching for another year. So Papa (*Ben F. Heathman, Sr.*) decided I should go to college. Middle Tennessee Normal was the one chosen and Mamma (*Maude Chambliss Heathman*) began sewing and getting me ready. I can never repay her for the hours she stitched, making beautiful things for me, and every stitch was made with love.

The morning that Papa and I were to leave for Murfreesboro, Lewis Sloan came by and took us to the depot in his car. I kissed Mamma and Mamma walked to the car without looking back. Lewis said, “That’s why I hate to leave home.”

(*In Nashville*) We (Papa and I) got off the train at the old Tennessee Central depot, checked my trunk, got a taxi and went to the Union Depot. We arrived in Murfreesboro at 12 noon, took a taxi to the college, getting there in time for the noon meal.”

*Note, Union station in Nashville was built by Major E. C. Lewis. Tennessee Central was constructed by Jere Baxter. Lewis did not like Baxter and would not let Tennessee Central trains come to Union Station.*

*Major Lewis was instrumental in the construction of the Parthenon for the Tennessee Centennial but before that had been in charge of operations at the Sycamore Powder Mill near Ashland City. He had also designed the Ashland City Methodist church were Ma attended at this time.*

**Next CCHGA meeting is Thursday, May 22, 2008 at the Cheatham County Public Library at 6:30. This will be a business meeting. All members are invited to attend.**

## Memories of Pauline Heathman Gunn of Rev. Hogg – submitted by H. George Pitt

The minister of our church (*Ashland City Methodist Church*) when we moved to Ashland City was Rev. R.S. Tinnon. He was young, and he lived in the parsonage at Cheap Hill (still standing). He would come up on the train, usually on Saturday P.M. and stay with one of his members, returning Monday morning. Very often he stayed with us. I was very fond of him.

At that time Ashland City was on a circuit. We had preaching every 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays and Sunday nights and prayer meetings on Wednesday night.

It was in the summer of 1908 that I joined the church, a little girl of ten years. Grace Harris (Mrs. Bunyan Ayers) and Lewis Sloan joined the night I did. The Evangelist was Rev. Allison Malloy.

It was in November the Brother Hogg, a Vanderbilt student was sent to our church. The assigned pastor did not accept so Bishop Hoss sent the young student. He had a wife and one child, a little girl Virginia. As he had to ride the train to and from school he had to live in Ashland City. The parsonage was in Cheap Hill. From then on all the ministers lived in Ashland City.

One of the things I remember about the December happening was the “pounding” the people gave Bro. and Mrs. Hogg. Our preacher was really destitute, very little furniture, just clothes enough to be presentable and enough money to buy provisions that were necessary.

In the few weeks he'd been with us, he'd endeared himself not only to everyone of his congregation, but to the entire community. So the “pounding” was attended by many out side of our church. I heard my parents say that they never before nor since had there ever been such a tremendous one.

Everything they'd need for Christmas plus oodles and oodles of various commodities were received. The following day Papa (Ben Heathman) went down and built shelves to hold the ‘gifts’.

Bro. Hogg was such a gifted speaker he could hold his congregations' attention one hundred percent. I enjoyed every sermon that I heard him preach, from a 10 year old to a 13 year old.

He was a great spiritual leader. I didn't realize as a child, the influence he would have on my life. I could enjoy and understand his sermons. He and Mrs. Hogg were frequent visitors in our home and I 'sat at his feet' charmed with ever word that he spoke. He told of some of his miraculous experiences and today in my mind, hear him telling them.

He told about his appointment to Ashland City. He had very little money and to add to his meager sum, he sold magazine subscriptions. One afternoon he went to Franklin, Tennessee to see if he could sell a few, but no success. It was becoming late in the afternoon and he did not have money for car-fare (*street car, interurban line from Franklin to Nashville*) home. He leaned against as lamp post and prayed that God would tell him what to do. When he opened his eyes, he noticed a light in the second story of a building across the street. He felt led to go there. He found a lawyer and when he told him why he was there the lawyer exclaimed, “Well this is luck! I've just written a check for my renewal to *Cosmopolitan Magazine*. I'll tear it up and give you the money.” What a miracle! He was able to get home.

When he arrived at his home, Mrs. Hogg said, “Will, Bishop Hoss has been calling for you. He wants you to call him.” and wondering what he wanted, he called the Bishop immediately. The Bishop asked “Hogg, how would you like a church to pastor?” and would he?” He almost shouted. “Well”, continued Bishop Hoss, “we have a church at Ashland City, without a minister. It's on the railroad and you can go and come to Vanderbilt daily by train. Get ready to move immediately.”

He told Mrs. Hogg the news and they laughed and cried at their newfound ‘mission’. Then Bro. Hogg said, “Honey, we owe a grocery bill and have no way of paying it. We can't leave with a debt” But Mrs. Hogg said “Will, we'll pray” They did and went to sleep that night leaving all in God's hands.

When the mail came the next morning there was a letter with a check in it, more than enough to pay for everything they owed, another miracle.

Their three years here were years of spiritual growth for our church, revivals that not only brought souls into the kingdom, but revived the church people.

When Brother Hogg finished his work at Vanderbilt he wanted to return to his native state of Mississippi. So after three years here he was transferred to the Mississippi conference. It was a sad group of people who told him goodbye, not only the Methodist, but the Baptist and the Church of Christ.

He and his family were loved and esteemed by the entire town. He left our church in a much better condition spiritually and a few that remember him are still feeling the effects of his influence.

I want to close with one more miracle. His salary was small, for the people were not able to pay much and one Monday morning as he was preparing to go to White House, to conduct a revival, he said to Mrs. Hogg, "Virgie, do you realize I don't have money for my railroad ticket? What am I going to do?" She answered, "We are going to pray."

They knelt and asked God to provide a way. Mrs. Hogg continued packing his suit case, as she said, "Knowing the Lord would answer their prayers."

Soon they heard a knock at the door and when Mrs. Hogg went to the door there stood my Dad (B.F. Heathman, Sr.) He said "I was sitting in my office and suddenly it occurred to me that Bro. Hogg is leaving this morning and may need some money. Here is twenty dollars." Mrs. Hogg exclaimed, "Will, our prayer is answered." How wonderful to have such faith.

Pauline Heathman Gunn



**Wrong Colors!** – *submitted by Betty Bowker Cannon*

In the history of Cheatham County Central High School, has there been another senior class who graduated in any other color caps and gowns except maroon and white?

The class of 1951 was forced to use a medium blue for all because of the infamous Blizzard of '51. Schools were closed 2 weeks in February, made up one week on Saturdays then we had to change the graduation date. The caps and gowns were rented back then and the maroon for boys and white for girls were not available. Contact Betty at 615.792.3623 if you know of another class graduating out of color!

Cheatham County High School Graduation  
Betty Bowker Cannon  
May 1951  
Age 17

CHEATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

ENDING FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Balance brought forward	\$1,082.10	Savings Balance	\$21,170.13
Deposits	3,953.85	Deposits	225.21
Membership	\$1,670.00	Interest	\$225.21
Dinner	420.00	Withdrawals	-2,460.00
From Savings	1,500.00	Checking	\$1,500.00
Other income	363.85	Turner Pub	960.00
Disbursements	\$3,788.68	Savings Balance	\$18,935.34
Postage	\$ 650.60	CD# 3674 \$17,403.73 at 3.35%	
Telephone & internet	1,814.27	Interest 2007	\$571.31
Office supplies	379.11	Matures 3-6-08	
Chapter expense	168.75	Southern Company stock as of 12-6-07	
Program expense	120.00	earned 13 shares in '07	
Dinner	420.00	Total shares 321.7	
P.O. Box	40.00	Market Value \$12,467.00	
Charter renewal	20.00		
Chamber of Comm	105.00		
Misc.	70.95		
Checking Balance	\$1,247.27		

CHEATHAM COUNTY MUSEUM, INC.

ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007

CHECKING		SAVINGS	
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$1,291.64	BEGINNING BALANCE	\$19,210.12
DEPOSITS	1,316.26	DEPOSITS	4,481.60
Mdse sold	\$951.00	Interest	\$ 353.55
Donation	200.00	Wal-Mart	750.00
Misc.	165.26	Community B	250.00
DISBURSEMENTS	- 1,938.84	Bank	
Equipment	\$ 184.50	Pals(display case)	980.00
Supplies	1,179.82	Yard sale	1,163.05
Postage	35.77	History books	985.00
Items resale	303.75	DISBURSEMENTS	- 11,400.00
Membership dues	170.00	Display Cases	
Charter renwl	40.00	BALANCE	\$12,291.72
Workshop	25.00		
BALANCE	\$ 669.06		

## Civil War Soldiers and Veterans in Cheatham County— submitted by Greg Poole

**Balthrop, John Hartwell** (August 18, 1841-died 1929). died Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. L.A. Pennebaker on Madison Street, Clarksville. He gave four years of radiant service to the Lost Cause and went through the remainder of his life as a cripple. He was born in Robertson County, but operated a store in Henrietta, Cheatham County for many years. He was the son of John Christian and Nancy White Balthrop. He married Mary Jane Gupton (1855-1894). He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Clarksville. He was one of the most prominent members of Forbes' Bivouac. *Clarksville Star*, February 1, 1929

**Bidwell, J.M.** Private; Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted May 29, 1861, Cedar Hill, Tenn.; Captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; sent to Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill.; exchanged to Vicksburg, Sept. 23, 1862; killed at the Battle of Stones' River, January 2, 1863. (18<sup>th</sup> Tenn. Infantry Service Records)

**Bryan, J.N.** Private; aged 25 years; Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Camp Cheatham; "sent home on sick furlough;" re-enlisted August 7, 1861, Camp Trousdale; killed in action at Stones' River, January 2, 1863. (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Records)

**Cage, James E.** One of the oldest and best known physicians in Montgomery and Cheatham County, died at his home at Carmel last night after a short illness. He served with distinction in the Confederate army, being a member of Company B, 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, and returned home with an honorable discharge. He was the son of a physician who also spent fifty years of his life in the practice of medicine. He was twice married, the second wife surviving him. His first wife was Miss Mattie Pardue. The interment will take place at the home burial lot. *Clarksville Leaf Chronicle*, Sept. 15, 1915.

**Carney, W.W.** Private; Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted November 23, 1862; died of appendicitis in hospital, May 3, 1864 near Atlanta. (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Demonbreun, Samuel W.** Aged 18 years old; Private, Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, February 16, 1862; sent to prison at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill.; exchanged at Vicksburg, September 23, 1862; wounded at Battle of Stones' River; sent to Fort McHenry, Baltimore, May 10, 1863; in hospital at Episcopal Church Hospital, Williamsburg, Va, May 14, 1863; killed at Battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863. (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records).

**Demonbreun, Spencer** Aged 17 years old; Private, Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted August 7, 1861 at Camp Trousdale; captured February 16, 1862 at Fort Donelson; killed at the Battle of Resaca, Georgia, May 15, 1864. (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Denny, J.C.** Private, Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; captured at Fort Donelson, February 16, 1862; sent to prison at Camp Douglass, Ill.; died at Port Hudson, La, February 9, 1863. (49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Denny, John Robert** Private, Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted at Camp Breckenridge, September 20, 1861; died at Adams Station, Tennessee, January 5, 1862; 5 feet, 6 inches; fair complexion; black eyes; black hair; farmer; died of congestion of the brain; aged 18 years. From his mother: "I, Mary Denny of the County of Cheatham, do nominate and appoint Captain William A. Shaw of Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee troops, my true and lawful attorney to collect for me from the Confederate States the amount due my deceased son, Robert Denny of the company and regiment as shown above." Signed January 8, 1861. Mary X Denny. Mary Denny made oath that she is the mother of Robert Denny, Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee and her son died without leaving a wife, child or father and she is therefore entitled to the pay that may be due him from the Confederate States, signed January 8, 1863." (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Douglas, James** Private, Company E, 18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Camp Cheatham; died July 19, 1861. (18<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Duke, John M.** Male; white; married; merchant; born July 1835 in Tennessee; died October 24, 1916, 1<sup>st</sup> District aged 81 years; tuberculosis and cancer; burial Ashland City; father: John Duke; mother: Miss Bobo. (Cheatham County Death Certificate 1916, No. 371) In 1856, he went to Texas, in which state he remained until 1865. He served

in the Civil War as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of a company of Texas Rangers in the command of Col. W.P. Lane and then later as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of S.J. Richardson's company. (*Tennessee and Tennesseans*, pg. 1088)

**Elliott, William** died November 13, 1930, aged 87 years. In 1861, he enlisted in the 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee where he was severely wounded. He married Miss Louisa Gower. (WPA Records, pg. 17)

**Ellis, Robert W.** Private, Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee; enlisted Red River bridge, November 25, 1861; captured at Fort Donelson and exchanged; died October 12, 1862 qat Clinton, Mississippi; aged 35 years, 5 ft., 6 inches; fair complexion; blue eyes; light hair; farmer; died f consumption. From his mother: "I, Sarah White of Cheatham County, do nominate and appoint Captain William A. Shaw of Company K, 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment, my true and lawful attorney to collect for me all pay due my son, Robert W. Ellis, who died without leaving widow, child or father." 49<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Service Records)

**Everett, James J.** Captain J.J. "Jimmie" Everett passed away at his home on Cumberland Avenue. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January 1930 he had celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was a veteran of the Civil War having fought for four years with Company C of the 19<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry. He was the last Confederate in Cheatham County. He was born January 3, 1840 at Cheap Hill and lived all his life in Cheatham County except the years he was in the Confederate Army. Burial will be in the Cheap Hill Cemetery. *Ashland City Times*, February 27, 1930

**If you have articles you would like to submit to be published in future newsletters, please mail to CCHGA office or contact Lisa Walker  
lisaewalker@bellsouth.net**

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## **CCHGA BYTES**

Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association

P. O. Box 703, Ashland City, TN 37015

Phone 615-792-3623

[cchga007@bellsouth.net](mailto:cchga007@bellsouth.net)

<http://www.rootsworld.com/~tncchga/>