

CCHGA MEMBER STATS

PALS – 38 members
PV – 15 members
AC – 45 members
KS – 15 members
AT LARGE – 34 members

CCHGA BYTES

Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association

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

2002 CCHGA Officers

R. D. Huffines, President
Open, Vice President
Mitzie Curtis, Secretary
Betty Cannon, Treasurer

Program Committee

Judy Mayo
Tammy Curtis
June Nixon
Lisa Tinch

Building & Grounds Committee

Betty Cannon
Mitzie Curtis
David Curtis
Don Curtis
Tammy Curtis
Brenda Curtis
Gerald Curtis
Betty McCool
Clayton McCool
June Nixon

New Members/Chapters

At Large:

Linda Lou Gower
Peggy Biggs
Novella Krantz Mayo

PALS:

Donna McCool Rekart

CCHGA BYTE Editors



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GOT IDEAS FOR UPCOMING
CCHGA MEETING PROGRAMS?!
Send email to Judy Mayo at
judimay@att.net or call the
CCHGA office.

TENNESSEE ARCHIVES WEEK
OCTOBER 13 - 19, 2002

AUGUST 2002 MINUTES - Mitzie Curtis

The Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association met on August 22nd, 2002 at the Cheatham County Public Library. There were 36 members and guests present.

This month's program began at 7:00 pm and was presented by guest speaker Karen Glenn from PBS's Frontier House e. Karen is a resident of Pleasant View, Tennessee. Chosen from more than 5,000 applicants, she and her family appeared on Frontier House. Frontier House was a six-part 'hands-on history' series, which documented three families experiencing life in 1883, enduring hunger, fatigue, blistering heat, a blizzard, each other and more. Karen read from her daily journals, discussed the hardships and shared with members and guest some of the items the family made and used during their five months at Frontier House. Over 1,200 hours of film was recorded and only six hours were aired. Karen shared with the club some of 'behind the scenes' of the 1,194 hours that didn't air. R.D. Huffines won the door prize of lye soap from Frontier Home that was given by Karen.

President R.D. Huffines called the meeting to order at 8:37 pm.

Mitzie Curtis read the May minutes. Motion by Suzanne Ash to accept the minutes, seconded by Tammy Curtis and carried by vote.

Betty Cannon read treasury report.

Publications committee discussed their work. A web site has been set up for CCHGA. A draft letter for new members was handed out for comments.

Grounds and Building Committee read their recommendations to members. This committee reported on two sites. One the space in the basement of the new library and the other the Stump House located on River Road. Both positives and negatives were given on both locations. President R. D. Huffines stated the County Executor Bill Orange and the Capitol Improvements Committee of the County had already approved the location in the basement of the library. President R. D. Huffines stated that he needed to research to find the minutes that stated this. Motion by Suzanne Ash for President R.D. Huffines to research the Capitol Improvements Minutes for approval of the library space for CCHGA to report back to the members. Seconded by Mitzie Curtis and carried by vote.

Motion by David Davidson to include a reception for County Officials from 6:30 to 7:00 at our October meeting. Seconded by Tammy Curtis and carried by vote.

Motion by Suzanne Ash not to exceed \$100.00 for the October reception, seconded by Greg Poole and carried by vote.

The Programs Committee was appointed with the following members: Judy Mayo, June Nixon, Tammy Curtis and Lisa Tinch.

Motion by Earl Nixon to spend \$3,000.00 on display cases seconded by Evelyn Tinsley and carried by vote. Motion by Suzanne Ash to adjourn at 10:08 pm, seconded by David Curtis and carried by vote.



**Hale, George W. Jr. 30 years old; 2nd Lieutenant; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; paroled May 20, 1865, place not stated. No further information given.

**Hale, John C. 2nd Lieutenant; enlisted and commissioned May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; March 20, 1862 admitted as a prisoner to the USA hospital at Camp Chase, Ohio; transferred to Johnson's Island at Sandusky, Ohio, April 26, 1862; exchanged to Vicksburg, Sept. 1, 1862. Served to end of war.

**Hall, Elijah J. 19 years old; private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; "was left in hospital at Murfreesboro, or supposed to be, was sent there by Captain Lowe"; deserted from hospital in Murfreesboro, Jan. 2, 1863.

**Harrington, John private; enlisted Dec. 4, 1861 at Fort Donelson. No further information given.

**Harris, Felix A. 44 years old; private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; detailed on duty at bakery at Bowling Green, Kentucky. No further information given.

**Hiland, M.M. 23 years old; sergeant/private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; "listed as "at home sick;" re-enlisted Aug. 7, 1861 at Camp Trousdale. No further information given.

**Hollis, Jonathan 33 years old; private/sergeant; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; sent to prison at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill; took oath of allegiance at Camp Butler, no date given.

**Hooper, W.B. 38 years old; private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; "at home sick;" re-enlisted Aug. 7, 1861 at Camp Trousdale. No further information given.

**Hunt, Green W. 23 years old; corporal/private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; sent to prison at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill.; died June 13, 1862 at Camp Butler.

**Jackson, William 23 years old; private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; brought up from Fort Donelson to Mound City, Illinois, Feb. 19, 1862; on list of sick and wounded prisoners at Simon's General Hospital, Mound City, Ill., Feb. 22, 1862; escaped from prison, date unknown.

**Jent, W.H.H. (Gent) private; enlisted Oct. 28, 1862 at Ashland Qty; captured at Stones River (Murfreesboro) with "gun and accoutrement (sic) in hand, never paid" on Jan. 3, 1863; sent to Camp Morton, Indiana. No further information given.

**Jones, C.A. 19 years old; private; enlisted May 29, 1861 at Cedar Hill; captured at Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862; sent to prison at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill.; exchanged to Vicksburg, Sept. 23, 1862; in hospital by order of surgeon, 18th TN, Jan. 1, 1863; killed at battle of Chickamauga, Sept. 19, 1863.

Continued next issue



At left, Karen Glenn from Frontier House kept the CCHGA members and guests entertained with behind the scenes antics of Frontier House participants and film crew which never made it to TV at the August CCHGA meeting.

CCHGA President RD Huffines won the door prize of the homemade soap chewed on by frontier mice!

The next CCHGA monthly meeting is September 26. Call the office for additional information.

Craggie Hope: Mr. C.A. Desaussure of the Passenger Department of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad returned yesterday from a visit to Craggie Hope, Kingston Springs and the neighboring county. He visited the trout ponds at Craggie Hope, which are doing very well. The fishing in Turnbull Creek and Trainor's mill pond is excellent. Mr. James Wood at whose popular house Mr. Desaussure staid, is a favorite resort of anglers. Kingston Springs has a large number of visitors this year than ever before and is simply booming. Nashville *Daily American*, Aug. 1, 1894.

Pleasant View: The hotel building at Pleasant View caught fire a few days ago but didn't get a good headway before it was extinguished. This is the second time within the last few days that the building has caught fire. Clarksville *Evening Chronicle*, April 23, 1890.

**There will be a meeting at the school house on Friday night for the purpose of organizing a literary and debating society. The public are cordially invited to attend. Professor Judd is the manager and those that come may expect to hear something interesting. Cheatham County *Plain Dealer*, Oct. 9, 1879.

**John Cane and Henry Sanders of Cheap Hill have consolidated and are now the popular fishermen and will be in Pleasant View every Saturday with a full line of fresh river fish.

**E.M. Newton, Brother Wagoner, Amos Felts and Ben Bradley, all of Pleasant View, organized a Sabbath School at Happy Hollow School House, Sunday.

**John D. Nicholson and family was in our town this past week giving our merchants quite a liberal patronage. We are proud to see our merchants keeping such full stores of everything that people need, and that they are doing business on such short margins as enable our people to buy goods at home as cheap as in the distant cities. Springfield *Record*, May 30, 1889.

**Dr. John Petty and family late of Ashland City are now citizens of Pleasant View and are the occupants of Mrs. C.C. Williams' frame house on Mill Street. The doctor has also rented of M.P. Frey an office on Main Street. Springfield *Record*, May 16, 1889.

**We are proud to see the ladies of the village taking so much interest in the cultivation of flowers. Some of them have made their front yards look almost like a solid bouquet of flowers. Springfield *Record*, May 16, 1889.

**Archie Woodson and son attended a log rolling at Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley's last week. Arch is always ready to help his neighbors in time of need. Springfield *Record*, April 4, 1889

Half Pone: The farmers of this vicinity are hard at work planting corn. If it keeps dry for a few more days, they will all finish this part of their work and be ready for tobacco.

**Robert Herald, William S. Nicholson and W.E. Fambrough went up to Nashville on the steamer, *Tennessee* last night. They go on business to sell some stock and buy some goods.

**W.M. Parks is erecting a new stave factory about a mile and a half southeast of here. He expects to get it in operation in about a week or ten days. He has all the machinery here now excepting a few saws. He is working about a dozen hands now in the woods getting out timber for the factory. When the factory starts he expects to employ in the factory and in the woods about 30 men. Clarksville *Leaf Chronicle*, April 28, 1899.

Neptune: Mack Page met with a painful accident the other day. He had got up in his stable loft to feed his mules and fell through the hole he went up through, and struck hard on the floor, breaking a rib in the right side. He is getting along as well as could be expected. Clarksville *Leaf Chronicle*, April 28, 1899.

**The government works at Lock A, near Neptune, are doing a great work now. The superintendent says he wants 100 more men. He is paying \$1.25 a day, and men board themselves. Good board can be had here for \$10 a month. The government boat, *Phoenix* brought down 8,000 barrels of cement a few days ago to be used on the lock. The men are engaged in getting out rock, cutting it and bailing out inside the coffer dam. Clarksville *Leaf Chronicle*, June 8, 1899.

Kingston Springs: Kingston Springs is hard to get to, only by rail as the roads are cut up so badly and we cannot see but little as to how they will be better until the Lord dries them up with sunshine. Bakerville *Review*, Feb. 6, 1902..

**James Fulgham died a few days ago. He was about 80 years old and had been married twice. In digging his grave the box of his first wife was exposed, which had been buried 41 years. It was good and sound. The box was of red cedar. Bakerville *Review*, Feb. 28, 1901.

**We had a good time at an ice cream supper at the Academy a few nights ago given for the benefit of the M.E. church at Kingston Springs. Bakerville *Review*, Sept. 5, 1901.

**William Biggers of Kingston Springs was taken ill on last Saturday at the home of the writer and fell in the floor with a spell of apoplexy and was carried home and only lived 9 hours. He was a true citizen, a Master Mason and belonged to the Missionary Baptist church. Bakerville *Review*, Oct. 10, 1901

**A young man, Offle Fulgham or Top, as we call him, was married a few days ago to Miss Ida Smith of White Bluff. We are expecting more of the young people to be tied up before Christmas is over. Bakerville *Review*, Dec. 19, 1901.

**Way back 40 years ago when I was a boy of 10 years old, our Civil War broke out, and yet I remember it as it was yesterday when the Yankees came to Kingston Springs. My father was an overseer and the Yankees made it hard on him. They took all our corn and hay, skinned our hogs, caught chickens, turkeys and geese and then was the first time I ever heard my mother say any Sunday school words. They put my father in prison. Then came the Rebels and took the mules from the plows and gave \$200 a head for them; paid in Confederate money and we have it yet, I reckon, for we could not spend it. I had a brother shot with General Forrest at Fort Donelson and he came back to Kingston Springs and died. Dr.

Whitfield attended him. He was shot on February 3 and died the 23rd, which the doctor will remember. He was shot in the left arm. One day I found in a thicket at the mouth of our creek a horse that had been tied up 14 days in the month of July without food or drink. The soldier left it there in a fight and told at Nashville that the Rebels captured it. It soon recovered and done good service. *Bakerville Review*, Feb. 6, 1902.

Lockertsville: The oldest living resident of Tennessee is believed to have been discovered. Christmas Day of 1923 will make Fannie Baker, 116 years old. Fannie was born Christmas Day, 1807, coming to her mother, as she expressed it "as a Christmas gift." The plantation where she first saw the light of day was located in Appomattox County, Virginia, on the banks of the Appomattox River. It was owned by Andrew Baker. Before Baker's death, Fannie said that "old master" decreed that all of the "personal and body servants who had served in the household should be given their freedom at his death." His mandate was carried out, and in this manner Fannie's mother was a free woman, and because she was born on Baker's plantation, Fannie has never been a slave.

The only one of her natural senses that has failed her is her eyesight. She can distinguish vivid colors and outlines of faces and can tell white folks from colored, but beyond that she cannot go. Her health is good, and on territory on which she is familiar, Fannie walks with a brisk and even step. While her hair is white as cotton, Fannie has preserved her teeth, which are in good condition. Ninety-seven descendants of this premier pioneer have come into the world, and she has seen four generations of her family. Of this total, 49 of her descendants are still alive. Twice Fannie has entered marriage. in both instances marrying a man who was a slave.

On the Baker plantation, Fannie was "bound out" to labor for Dr. Henry Snell for her keep and education. "I never could learn much," she said. "Dr. Snell's wife was named Mrs. Hope Adelaide Queen Victoria Snell, and she taught me my ABC's, but that is as far as I got." Here Fannie met and married Henry McDearman, who was a slave on a neighborhood plantation. Henry was sold to slave speculators, after his master's death, and word reached Fannie that he had come to Tennessee, having run away from his new master.

A little town, then called Lockertsville, in Cheatham County, was Fannie's destination. She came to Tennessee by way of the famous "underground railroad", which was operated to aid runaway slaves to escape to freedom. Constantly pursued, she tells of having to hide herself and her four children in hollow trees, crawling into them to escape the bloodhounds which were on her trail. Mysterious caverns and unknown "stations" of the railroad were also visited by Fannie in her effort to get away, and in search for her husband. "He was the best man that ever lived," she said, "but I have never seen him since."

Arriving at Lockertsville, Fannie took up her abode at the plantation of Billy Smith. She lived there for an extended period. When Burton Smith, son of Mr. Billy Smith was killed at Fort Donelson, Fannie helped to care for the grief-stricken parents. She became an expert in the art of deceiving Yankees, even though they would "take the keys from their pockets and the clothes from their backs. In those days we wasn't treated neah as good as we is now," she said, "and I wouldn't want to see slavery times again. I worked for my living. I plowed, hoed corn and chopped cotton. They didn't raise much cotton then. Only enough to make the clothes for the slaves, and the slave women had to card and weave the cotton and make it into clothes."

Shortly after the Civil War, Fannie married a second time. Buck Dickerson was the man of her choice and she bore him eight children, two of whom are yet living. She lived with her daughter, Nancy Dickerson. Nancy was getting along in years, and the poor house threatened Fannie. Her granddaughter, Lizzie Rhoades came to her aid on July 4th, so Fanny went with her to her present home.

Fannie is a Methodist. She belongs to the "Old Ashland" flock at the little Negro church near Ashland City. Her faith is sublime, even though her eyesight prevents her from going around the streets. She said that she is not afraid of death, for she knows that it may befall her at any time. Today Fannie is a useful member of the family of her granddaughter, Lizzie Rhoades, and her husband, Henry Rhoades. Henry suffered a severe accident during the past winter, when he was badly scalded and his back was injured. He is not able to work regularly, so Fannie sorts wool for local merchants and does "her bit" about the household. Fannie is content. She does not want to see another 116 years, but she confidently expects to see a number of years come and go following the year 1923. *Nashville Tennessean*, Aug. 11, 1923

Ashland City: "Fiddling Sid," Brunswick Record Artist and WSM Radio favorite accompanied by his partner will appear at CHS on Thursday night, October 21st. They will sing and play many of the old time tunes as well as the newer ones. Two hours of solid fun and amusement is promised, with the assurance that you are to be thoroughly satisfied. Admission .15 and .25 cents." *Nashville Tennessean*, Oct. 15, 1926

**News has reached us by the relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Maxey of Miami, Florida that they were uninjured in the hurricane last week. Mr. and Mrs. Maxey are both from Cheatham County having gone to Florida some months ago to reside. *Ashland City Times*, Sept. 30, 1926. (The hurricane of 1926 was the most destructive in the history of the United States until Hugo. ed.)

**We are surely blest with meetings. The Methodists are holding a meeting at the Tabernacle (Uncle Dave Lockert's barn), and we trust they may do much good. J.R. Gower, J.F. Lockert and W.H. Bigger, who are soliciting subscriptions for a Free Will Baptist church, report about 800 dollars has been collected. *Clarksville Evening Tobacco Leaf Chronicle*, Sept. 5, 1890.

Genealogical Notes - Greg Poole

Tax Releases, 1873

From "Cheatham County Court Minutes," July Term, 1874, pg. 158.

To the Honorable County Court of Cheatham County this is a list of the taxes that I wish to be released of for the year 1873.

District 1

S. Abernathy, no such man \$2.10
Kit Crockett, overage \$2.10
A.F. Carney, out of county \$2.10
John Gallaher, overage, \$2.10
John Bailey, out of county, \$2.10
A.J. Simmons, minister, \$2.10
Jacob Bennett, not taxable, \$2.10
J.B. Cooper, over assessed, \$7.92
Felix Carney, out of county, \$2.10
Henry Hudgens, col. out of county, \$2.10
Jo. T. Binkley, insolvent, \$2.00
John Williams, col. not in county, \$2.10

J.M. Bennett, overage, \$210
D.O. Crane, out of county, \$2.10
Lewis Dickerson, out of county, 2.10
John McCoy, out of county, \$2.10
Jesse Simmons, road overseer, \$2.10
Noah Powers, overage, \$2.10
S.B. Clark, not in county, \$2.10
J.P. Cullum, out of state, \$2.10
J.S. Davis, minister, \$2.10
B.J. Neighbors, could not be found, \$2.10
W.J. Shivers, in 3rd District, \$2.10
W.G. Bright, overseer, \$2.10

District 2

B.F. Binkley, road overseer, \$2.10
A. Bowers, col., out of county, \$2.10
Henry Dowlen, col., could not be found, \$2.10
Granville Burton, col., overage, \$2.10
J.A. Darrow, underage, \$2.10
Mike Krantz, insolvent, \$2.10
L.W. Smith, could not be found, \$2.10
Preston Krantz, dead and no property
James Robb, out of county, \$2.10

F.M. Binkley, insolvent, \$2.10
R. Chambliss, out of county, \$2.10
D.R. Reed, not to be found, \$2.10
E.J. Clark, insolvent, \$2.10
G.R. Felts, insolvent, \$2.10
W.T. Perry, insolvent, \$2.10
H.R. Binkley, could not be found, \$2.10
Henry Ramer, insolvent, \$2.10

CCHGA CALENDAR

- September 17th, 2002 The **Pleasant View Chapter of CCHGA** will meet at the Cheatham County Public Library at 6:30 in the Lindahl Community Room. Greg Poole, PV member and on staff at Tennessee State Library and Archives will speak on: Pleasant View - Cheatham County's Big Town, 1880-1920.
- September 21st, 2002 The **Kingston Springs Historical Association** is pleased to announce a free event at the Kingston Springs historic depot - Fiddlin' With Memories. Fiddlin' With Memories will feature many residents who will share stories of the past, good country and bluegrass music and free hot-dogs, beverages and ice cream. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 21 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Leslie Maxwell at 615/952-3917.
- September 26th, 2002 **CCHGA** monthly meeting 7:00 p.m.
- September 28th, 2002 **PALS** annual cookout and meeting to be held at the home of Brenda and Gerald Curtis. See CCHGA website at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncchga/> for map.
- October 24th, 2002 **CCHGA** monthly meeting with guest speaker Robert E. Lee as our program. See CCHGA website for additional information at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncchga/>.

I, W.L. Robertson, Coroner, in and for the said county, do hereby certify that at an election held August 2nd, 1888, the following persons were duly elected Justices of the Peace, to wit:

- District No. 1: W. Williams, T. Eastridge and Dan Biggs
- District No. 2: J.R. Binkley and J.M. Mayo
- District No. 3: C.N. Herron and G.W. Binkley
- District No. 4: James J. Wilson and Henry J. Pace
- District No. 6: George W. Weakley and Thomas J. Batts
- District No. 7: William L. Robertson and W.H. Plaster
- District No. 8: Samuel W. Patterson
- District No. 9: C.S. Hooper and J.N. Shearon
- District No. 10: S.T. Anderson and L.L. Pack
- District No. 11: J.P. Clark and J.R. Winborn
- District No. 12: George W. Pegram and W.C.R. Green
- District No. 13: T.W. Petway and Saint L. Scott
- District No. 14: J.J. Bradley and W.W. Scott
- District No. 15: Demps. R. Hunter and Wiley Blount Stewart

From "Election Returns," Tennessee Secretary of State Records, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

First Settlement of the Estate of Abner Gupton, 1875 - Continued from last issue - Greg Poole

- IV Polly Hunter, deceased. Children of Polly Hunter.
 - 1. John O. Hunter
 - 2. Judith Hunter
 - 3. Robert Hunter
 - 4. Thomas D. Hunter
 - 5. Winifred Hunter
 - 6. Mary Hunter
- V. Elizabeth Hale
 - 1. John C. Hale
 - 2. S.B. Hale
 - 3. Thomas W. Hale
 - 4. Tennie J. Hale
- VI. Judith Dozier, deceased. Heirs of Judith Dozier.
 - 1. Enoch Dozier
- VII. Jane Gupton, wife of deceased son, Abner Gupton Jr.
 - 1. Francis Gupton
 - 2. John T. Gupton
 - 3. Martha Jane Gupton
- 4. Mary Jane Gupton
- 5. Sarah Ann Gupton
- VIII. Robert Thomas Gupton, deceased, heirs.
 - 1. Abner J. Gupton
 - 2. Cave J. Gupton
 - 3. Henrietta L. Gupton
 - 4. Martha Jane Gupton
 - 5. John Jerome Gupton
- IX. Sarah Pardue. Children of John and Sarah Pardue.
 - 1. Judy Pardue
 - 2. John W. Pardue
 - 3. Thomas B. Pardue
 - 4. Robert C. Pardue
 - 5. James L. Pardue
 - 6. Joseph C. Pardue
 - 7. David C. Pardue
 - 8. Cave J. Pardue
 - 9. Andrew J. Pardue
 - 10. Abner Pardue

The following is a copy of a narrative taken from the Slave Narratives of the 1930's, continued from last month's newsletter. The interviews were done by writers employed by the Library of Congress during the days of Federal Works Programs. This project conducted some 2000 interviews in several states of former slaves who recounted the uncivilized and often savage treatment that slaves lived under during pre-emancipation period in the south. It is hoped that this narrative will be of some interest to those historians that can appreciate the stories of those who suffered greatly but were much less likely to have an accounting of their experiences conveyed in print. Good Reading, Michael L. Holt

Felix Street, Little Rock Arkansas, Age 74

My stepmother said that a gang of these folks put up at Cloverdale once and then went on to Nashville, Tennessee. On the next day a nigger sold the speculator. He was educated and a mulatto, and he sold his master in with a bunch of other

niggers. He was just fixin' to take the money, when his master got aware of it, and come on up just in time, I don't know what happened to the nigger. It was just an accident he got caught. My stepmother said it was true.

My mother had a good master. At least, she said he was good. Slaves from other plantations would run away and come to her master's place to stay. They would stay a good while.

My father said his master was good to him too. My father's young master has come to see us since the War. He got down low and used to come 'round. My father would give him turns of corn. You know when you used to go to the mill, you would carry about two bushels of corn and call it a milling or a turn. My father would let his young master shell a bushel or two of corn and carry it to the mill. He got poor and sure 'nough you see, We had moved away from them then, and he got in real hard luck. He used to come and sit a half day at a time at our house. And father would give him the corn for his family. We were living in Dickson County, Tennessee then. Seems like we was on Frank Hudson's place. We hadn't bought a place for ourselves then.

You know they used to ku klux the niggers. They went to the house after the War of an old man named Hall. They demanded for him to let them in but he wouldn't. They said that they would break open the door if he didn't let them in. He didn't let them in, and they broke it down. When they started in, his wife threw fire brands in amongst 'em and he knicked one down with an ax. Them that wasn't hurt carried the wounded man away and it was reported the next day that he was sick. They never did bother the nigger no more and he never had no charges made against him.

It was over forty years ago. Me and my wife lived at a big saw-mill near Klliott, Arkansas, just ten miles outside of Camden. White folks used to come up there and catch niggers and carry them back to Louisiana with them, claiming that they owed debts. One time two white men came to Klliott looking for a nigger. They came through the Negro quarters and all the men were off that day because it was a holiday. The nigger saw them first and ran to the woods. They ran after him and caught him. They came back through the quarters and tied him to one of the horses and them went on to Louisiana--them ridin' and him walkin' tied up with his arms behind him and roped to the horse like he was some kind of cattle or somethin'. The niggers followed them with guns a little distance, but one nigger telephoned to K! Dorado and the officers there were on the lookout for them. At night, the officers in plain clothes went over and chatted with them white men. When they saw the nigger, they asked what it was they had there. They told the one that asked that it was a damn nigger that owed money back in Louisiana and got smart and run away without paying up. The officers drew their guns and put handcuffs on them and carried them and the nigger away to jail.

They put everybody in jail that night. But the next morning they brought them to trial and fined the white men a hundred and fifty dollars apiece and after the trial they turned the nigger loose. That broke up the stealing of niggers. Before that they would come and take a Negro whenever they wanted to.

Niggers were just beginning to wake up then, and know how to slip away and run off. We had whole families there that had run off one by one. The men would run away and leave his children, and as they got old enough, they would follow him one by one.

Right after the War, my people farmed on shares. We had a place we leased on the Hudson place that we stayed on. We leased it for five years but we stayed there seven or maybe eleven years.

When we left there we bought a place of our own. On the Hudson place we cleared up about thirty acres of land and 'tended it as long as we stayed there. We put out a lot of fruit trees on it. Had lots of peaches, and plums, and quinces---do you know what quinces are?--- and danvils (these danvil plums you know). They are kinds purple looking fruit made in the shape of a prune. They are 'bout two inches through---jus' about half as big as your fist.

When we moved to our own place, we stayed in the same county. It was just about three-fourths of a mile from the Hudson place---west of it.

I came to Arkansas with the intention of going to school. But I just messed myself up. Instead of goin' to school, I went and got married. I was out here just one year before I got married. I married the first time in 1887---February fourteenth, I think. My first wife taken sick with rheumatism and she died in 1908. We were married thirty-one years. I married again about 1913.

When I was able to work, I worked in the railroad shops---boiler maker's helper. Before that I farmed and did other things went from trackman to machinist's helper and boilermaker's helper.

Young folks just need the right handlin. I don't mix in politics.

Encourage your family and friends to join CCHGA!
CHEATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION
P O Box 703
Ashland City, TN 37015
616-792-3623

Individual \$15.00/year Family \$25.00/year

Lifetime \$100.00 80+ Free

Donation Amount _____

NAME: include wife's surname before marriage if applicable. _____

YOUR BIRTHDATE: _____ SPOUSE BIRTHDATE _____

ADDRESS: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE: HOME _____ BUSINESS _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

SPECIFIC CHAPTER DESIRED:

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