

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
cchgaooffice@gmail.com
and leave a message if
needed!

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
[cheathamcountyhistory@
gmail.com](mailto:cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com).

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

Office Hours

Volunteers staff the
office, call 615.792.3623
to make sure someone is
there!

By Appointment
W-10:00-2:00
Th-1:00-4:00

CCHGA Notes:

- If you would like to assist in the office and museum in 2023 or help with the quarterly CCHGA newsletter, please email cchgaooffice@gmail.com
- If you have had a change in email address or physical address, please call the office at 615.792.3623 or email cchgaooffice@gmail.com so we can update our records.

2022 CCHGA Officers

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

CCHGA 2022 Meeting and Other Dates

- October 13 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room/
William Parker-The Role of Fort Defiance and Clarksville
in Civil War
- October 15 - James Teasley Memorial Throwback Classic
at CCCHS @ 11:00
- November 10 @ 6:30 McCullough Community Room
- November 22 9:00 - Bake Sale @ Sycamore Square
- December - No Meeting

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

**Volunteers and Bakers needed for Bake
sale on November 22!**



CCHGA's October 13 Program

Time: 6:30 pm

Place: David McCullough Community Room at Sycamore Square

William Parker, Historical Interpreter at Fort Defiance and Adjunct, Professor in History at Austin Peay State University will discuss the role of Fort Defiance and Clarksville in the Civil War



Millwood Female Institute

The Tennessean September 6, 1854

The REV. A. R. ERWIN, President of the Female Academy Tennessee, in Clarksville, Tenn., finding it difficult to break off his connection with that institution, the directors of Millwood Female Institute have released him from his engagement to them, and are now desirous to receive proposals from a gentleman every way worthy and well qualified to take charge of a Female Boarding School. Applications must be accompanied with references.

The situation of the Millwood Institution offers many advantages for a successful school. It is retired, upon a healthy and beautiful sight, has very spacious and commodious buildings. is about equally distant from Nashville, Clarksville, and Springfield, and 5 miles north of Cumberland River, and 1 mile from Sycamore Mills, Davidson County, Tennessee.

REFER TO

S. WATSON
J.J HOOPER
A. LOWE

Aug. 31, 1954

James Teasley Memorial Throwback Basketball Classic

CCHGA will hold a silent auction on October 15 at the James Teasley Memorial Throwback Basketball Classic. We need donated items and volunteers to work the event! Email cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com.

Teams from Cheatham Middle, Harpeth Middle, Sycamore Middle and Coopertown Middle will play boys and girls representing schools from Cheatham County's past. The event will be held at Cheatham County High School. All proceeds will benefit the Cheatham County Sports Hall of Fame.



Odessie Harper and ladies who worked at the Fresh Air Camp (Orphan Home) late 1930s and 40s. Contributed by Kerry Lynn Uhles

Lake Boaters Give Engineer Corps Fits

August 27, 1986 The Tennessean, Warren Duzak

The one big problem with all dams is that they block the passage of boats.

When Old Hickory and Cheatham Dams were constructed, the US Army Corps of Engineers built locks to eliminate that problem.

After years of service, you would think that pleasure boaters would have learned how to use them correctly, but Corps officials said otherwise last week.

"You tell them to tie up and they untie, you tell them to stay in the boat and they jump out, and you tell them to go slow and they'll go 90 miles an hour", said Old Hickory Dam electrician and lock operator John (Sam) Ashworth. "It happens all the time."

At Cheatham Dam, lock master Harold Hooper tells of one boater running a red light and racing through the locked gates as they were closing, a maneuver that could lead to a "very dead in."

"The gates could have crush the pleasure craft," he said. "Also, the lock operator, who though the lock was empty, was feeling the lock faster than is safe when a craft is in the lock."

And Hooper noted that just because the boater cheated injury and death in the lock there was no guarantee that he wouldn't face big problems on the other side.

"The tow and barges waiting on the other side to lock through could have also crushed the small craft he noted.

"Anytime you deal with the general public you are going to have problems," Ashworth added noting, that problem boaters were very often drinking boaters who would often deny any wrongdoing when they "sobered up."

"If you do you take their boat number when they sober up they'll deny that they did anything," he said. "Some of the time there will be five people in the boat and they will all stick together."

"The problem is we don't have much authority," Ashworth added "Sometimes it is like us against the world."

And that is not a good way for the man who controls tons of concrete and metal and thousands of gallons of water to feel.

Pleasure craft are as fragile as matchsticks when these kinds of forces are involved, and boaters had best learn the proper procedure and follow the lockmaster's instructions, both Ashworth and Hooper said

And that procedure is virtually identical for both dams.

"Within a mile of the lock, boat operators should contact the lock operator on (CB) channel 16 to indicate their desire for lockage and their direction of travel," Hooper explained. "After contact on channel 16, then they should switch to channel 14 for further Conversation."

Ashworth said the reason from switching from channel 16 is it is the emergency channel. He added that channels 12, 13 and 14 are also open at Old Hickory Dam for communication with the lock operator.

Not every body owns a boat big enough to warrant a CB radio. If that's the case, there is a simple manual notification system available at both dams.

"If you don't have a radio, pull a cord in the ladder access near the end of the long approach wall." Hooper said. "That will signal the lock master that you will want to lock through."

Ashworth said that the cord at Old Hickory Dam will sound a horn on the outside and inside as well as activate lights on the lockmaster's control panel.

"Follow the lock operators' instructions and tie off to one of the 10 floating bits that the operator indicates," Hooper explained. "Stay tied until the operator gives you a horn signal to depart."

At Cheatham Dam the maximum wait for passing through the lock is one hour while average time to "lock through" is 20 minutes. At Od Hickory the weight is about 40 minutes.

Although the times seem short, one of the reasons boaters take chances is they are in a hurry said Cheatham Lake Ranger Joanna Patton.

"The problem is people are impatient," she said.

The boater who chose to run the Old Hickory Dam red light like an impatient motorist running a traffic light received a citation from Patton.

Hooper, who controls the 110 foot by 800 foot long Cheatham Dam lock, noted that impatient boaters who violate lock regulations indirectly affect others.

“662 pleasure craft have gone through Cheatham lock to date,” he said. “Most boaters are safety conscious but some do not give proper consideration to other traffic on the lake.”

The Tennessean, February 28, 1954



—Staff photo by Bill Preston
Bruce Bradley, left, Cheatham county sheriff, and Warren O. Hill, Dickson county sheriff, inspect clothes worn by Hall when he said he was attacked yesterday morning. Hall said the coat and mackinaw held by Bradley were cut by his assailant. Hill is looking at underclothing worn by Hall to see if it was also damaged in the alleged fight.

Pleasant View 1996

Pleasant View’s newest batch of elected officials will be sworn in during a public ceremony Thursday night. The area reincorporated in early August. Last Tuesday, David R. Davis edged out his six opponents to win the mayoral race capturing 34% of the votes cast. Morris Bidwell and Don Worrell were chosen as the city’s Aldermen. The swearing in ceremony will take place at 7 PM p.m. on October 10 at Pleasant view Elementary School 2625 Church St. - Aissatou Sidime, The Tennessean, 05 Oct 1996

2023 Membership Form

CHEATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

PO Box 703, Ashland City, TN 37015
615-792-3623 / cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Birthday: _____

E-mail: _____

As part of membership communications, CCHGA will keep you informed on the latest news from the Association, upcoming programs, and volunteer opportunities by sending out electronic notices a few times each month. This helps to reduce our postage costs.

I am a new member for 2023 I am renewing my membership for 2023

I would like to receive the quarterly newsletter "CCHGA Bytes" in email

Membership Dues

Individual \$20.00/year Family \$35.00/year
 Lifetime under 60 years \$300.00 Lifetime 60 - 70 years \$200.00
 Lifetime 70 - 80 years \$100.00 80+ Free Donation

SPECIFIC CHAPTER DESIRED:

Pond Creek & Lillamay/SamsCreek At Large Member

I would like to serve on the following committees in 2023

_____ Program _____ Building & Grounds _____ Museum & Artifacts _____ Membership
_____ Genealogical _____ Historical

Please make check payable to "CCHGA"

Comments: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____

Cash Amount: _____ Check Amount and #: _____

Why Join CCHGA?

Small historical societies/associations play an important role in protecting and preserving the historical record and also interpret the past to the public.

Sadly, our staff resources are stretched thin. The efforts of a few people genuinely infatuated with our local history benefit everyone.

We need resources (monetary & human) to keep us going. We have been asked to move out of current location and need a place to move to. Our building and grounds committee has been searching but so far no luck and we also need to raise some money! One of the ways we raise money is through our membership.

So please rejoin CCHGA in 2023 and invite your friends to do the same!

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