

CCHGA Bytes

September 2015

The newsletter of the Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association

History Center Office Hours

(please call before traveling many miles due to volunteer staff schedules)

Tuesday: 12:00 – 4:00
Wednesday: 10:00 – 4:00
Friday: 10:00 – 12:00
Saturday: 10:00 – 12:00

By appointment – call 615.792.3623

Upcoming CCHGA Events Call the office 615.792.3623 for more info!

September 10 – FamilySearch Program - 6:30
Cheatham County Public Library

September 26 – Cheatham County Public
Library Fall Festival – Visit the History Center!

October, November & December – CCHGA
membership drive months! Thank you for
renewing your membership! See page 6 for
renewal application!

October 8 – Business Meeting - 6:30
Cheatham County Public Library Community
Room

October 10 – Visit the CCHGA booth at
Ashland City's Music on Main event held in
front of the Cheatham County Courthouse

November 21 – Hollerin' For History Auction
and Bake Sale – 1:00 Cheatham County Public
Library

December 12 – Look for CCHGA entry in the
Ashland City and Pleasant View Christmas
parades!

Email: cchga007@bellsouth.net

September 10, 2015 Program Meeting 6:30 - Cheatham County Public Library How to Use FamilySearch



Have you ever wondered why you have certain characteristics or why you look the way you do? Tying yourself to your progenitors may answer these and other questions you have about yourself. Linking to your ancestors connects you to those who came before and paved the way for you to be where you are today.

FamilySearch is the largest genealogical and family history organization in the world, housing billions of records, and they are all free for your use. At CCHGA's September program, family history consultants will be there to teach you how to register on FamilySearch.org and how to navigate through the entire website. They will help get you started on discovering your roots. If you have already started researching your genealogy, these consultants will assist you in how to dig deeper and broaden your connections through links to other genealogical sites and records.

If you have a laptop computer, bring it with you so you can register on your own computer and work at your own pace. If you don't have a laptop, you will receive detailed instructions that you can use at home or at a local Family History Center where you can go to receive one-on-one help.

Please join us for an evening of fun and learning!! You'll be glad you did!!

Contact the CCHGA office at 615.792.3623 with questions!

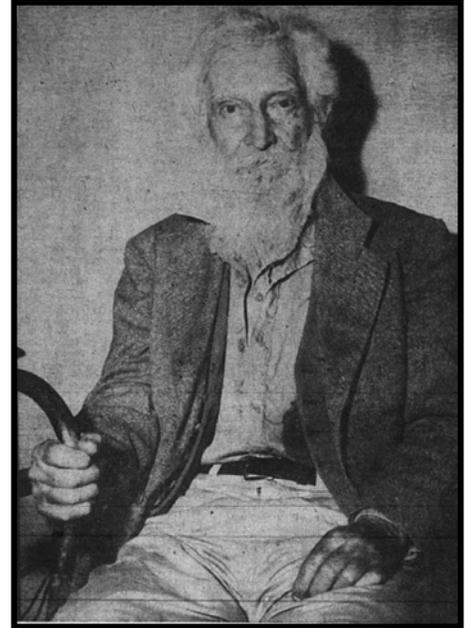
Thomas H. Campbell – *Ashland City Times April 30, 1958*

Thomas H. Campbell, better known as "Uncle Tom" celebrated his 100th birthday Monday April 28th at the Nelson Home for the Aged, near Ashland City.

Uncle Tom who says he has never retired, scoffs at folk who say they are tired from over work these days. He says, "You should have come up in my day, folks didn't turn on a button then for everything and at the end of a good honest day's work a fellow didn't have to take a sleeping pill to put him to sleep."

He is also interested in what's going on today and asked what about the many unemployed people we have in the country now. That question we couldn't answer but he said that he could always find a job and that he dug some in the ground most every day.

When asked to what he attributed his long life, he stated, why to the will of God of course, and then with a sly grin, and I never married.



Uncle Tom says he was born in Louisville, Ky., but that he had lived most of his life in Nashville. He has lived in Williamson and Cheatham Counties and for the past four years has been living in Mrs. William Nelson's home for the aged.

He has an alert memory, good eyesight and hearing, and says he never misses a meal although right now his appetite is not so good. He still has a few of his own teeth and gives them plenty workouts eating leafy greens, raw vegetables and roots, which he thinks are good medicine, better than vitamin tablets. He states that he has never had a serious illness, just the usual childhood diseases. He has a clear ruddy complexion without many wrinkles and keen blue eyes. He can walk as straight as anyone and at a good pace. He wanted to race with the writer's car but was persuaded to put it off for a foot race another day.

Uncle Tom recalls helping to build the Tennessee Central Railway through Davidson and Cheatham Counties and says that he has worked as a carpenter and plasterer for many years in and around Nashville.

He stated that he is not a veteran although he counted six wars without hesitation during his lifetime. Asked how he missed being active in any of the wars he said, "They knew where I was, they just didn't get me". We figure he was too young for the Civil War being only two years old then, too old, maybe for the others.

He states that his parents were George and Mary Campbell and that he has a sister, Mrs. Hattie Morris, who lives at Bordeaux and a brother, Ben Campbell who lives in Williamson County. He gave his weight as 135, his height as 5 ft. 4 inches.

He stated that he is a member of the Church of Christ.

Hollerin' For History Auction and Bake Sale "A fundraiser to benefit CCHGA"
November 21, 2015 - 1:00 Cheatham County Public Library Community Room

A fundraising auction combined with a bake sale is being planned for November 21, 2015. CCHGA supporters and local businesses will donate their time, talent and treasures to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Baked goods (get ready for Thanksgiving!) will also be sold on site as well as auctioned.

CCHGA members are challenged to donate up to 5 or more items for the auction. The items may be brought to the CCHGA office by Friday, November 6 in order for the items to be cataloged and publicized on CCHGA's Facebook page. CCHGA will except gently used items and has the right to turn down any item submitted.

Not local? CCHGA will gladly accept monetary donations! Our goal is to raise enough money to replace outdated equipment in the office and help pay next year's bills!

Please contact Lisa Walker (615.202.5369 or lisaewalker@bellsouth.net) with any questions or to make arrangements after hours to drop off items for auction. Judy Mayo will be calling local members for back sale donations.



Beware of Solicitations to Provide Copies of Deeds

One of the hallmarks of "open government" is the right to attend meetings of public bodies (boards, commissions, councils, etc.) and the right to inspect most public records. Both of these are embodied in state law and are intended to ensure that the public has a right to know what our government is doing. Unfortunately, access to public records can also have unintended consequences when a few commercial entities seek to capitalize on this right.

Recently, at the Cheatham County Register of Deeds office we have had several citizens seeking information about letters they received which asked them to send in excess of \$80.00 to obtain a copy of their current deed. These letters are very plain in appearance with black type on white paper and look as if they could be a government form. These solicitations are technically lawful, and they do contain language indicating the solicitation is not endorsed by or sent on behalf of any government agency. Nevertheless, it is easy to see how someone could mistake these solicitations for some official government notice or directive.

Typically, when someone buys real property, a copy of the deed granting title to the land is given to the buyer at the closing. The entity handling the transaction (a bank, a title company or an attorney's office for example) usually handles the process of recording the original deed in the Register of Deeds office and ultimately sends the original to the buyer after it has been recorded. The deed will show recording information on its face including the date, time, book, and page number of recording. Sometimes in a straight purchase transaction the buyer may bring the deed directly to the Register of Deeds office for recording. Regardless of who submits the deed for recording, the Register's office creates an electronic copy and image of the deed when it is recorded, and returns the original to the submitter.

These electronic copies are securely filed at the Register's office, are backed up electronically every 15 minutes, and multiple electronic copies exist in multiple places.

If you have misplaced your original deed, our office can provide a copy for 15¢ per page or \$1.00 per page should you need a certified copy. Please call our office at 615-792-4317 if you need more information or link to our website at www.cheathamcountyttn.gov.

Patrick Smith currently serves as Cheatham County Register of Deeds and took office September 1, 2014

The Gabriel Allen Family by Debie Oeser Cox

In 1790, Gabriel Allen was living in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. His household consisted of one white male over the age of 16, three white males under the age of 16, and six white females. Gabriel owned seven slaves. Gabriel's wife is believed to be Anne McKinney.

Gabriel's mother was Priscilla Sugg, the daughter of George Sugg and Sarah Ives of Norfolk County, Virginia and also of Pitt County, N.C. Gabriel named a son George Sugg Allen, and the Sugg family of Edgecombe County moved to middle Tennessee about the same time that Gabriel Allen did. Contact was maintained between the two families after moving to Tennessee, as Gabriel and his son, George Sugg Allen, witnessed the will of Noah Sugg in Robertson County, Tennessee in 1800.

In February of 1797 Gabriel Allen sold land in Anson Co., NC to Richard Russell. In November of 1797 he purchased 220 acres of land on Pigeon Creek, west of the Harpeth River in Montgomery County, Tennessee. The deed was registered in Davidson County, Tennessee probably because that land had been originally included in the borders of that county. In July, 1799 Gabriel bought 20 acres in Montgomery County, TN on Pigeon Creek. This deed was also registered in Davidson County.

Gabriel came to Tennessee with his wife and eight children. The girls were Elizabeth who married in 1799 Cornelius McGraw; Mary who married Spillsbury Tribble; Ester who married Henry Raglin; and Sally who married Daniel Magee. The boys were George Sugg Allen born in 1776 who remained in Middle Tennessee when the rest of the family moved to Mississippi; Felix who married three times and had numerous children; Barnabas who raised a family in Copiah County, Mississippi; and Garret McKinney Allen who married Nancy Halsy Gatlin.

About 1810 Gabriel decided to move to Mississippi and advertised his land for sale. He gave power of attorney to his son George Sugg Allen in February 1811. In the same month he sold to William Speight for 4,000 dollars, 228 acres on Pigeon Creek, west side of Harpeth River about two miles above the mouth.

Soon after, Gabriel Allen and his wife, Anne McKinney, and several of his children and their families, moved to the Territory of Mississippi and settled on Bogue Chitto several miles below Holmesville, Pike County. A few years after that move, Gabriel Allen died and is said to be buried near his home site. His wife, Anne, is listed as a widow on the 1820 Census of Pike County, Mississippi. She is believed to have died about 1833.

George Sugg Allen, oldest son of Gabriel, was born October 03, 1776. He was married November 21, 1803 in Davidson County, TN to Pharaba Russell who was born October 10, 1786. Pharaba was a daughter of James and Elizabeth Gower Russell. Her father James Russell and grandfather Abel Gower were both signers of the Cumberland Compact in 1780. George lived in Davidson County. His old home, now in Cheatham County, is still standing on River Road about two miles north of the Davidson County line at the entrance of the Lost Hollow Subdivision. George died July 23, 1853 and is buried in the family cemetery on a hill above the house.

His wife Pharaba was still living when Cheatham County was formed and took in the land where she and George had raised their family. Pharaba died September 26, 1866. She and George were parents of eleven children. The oldest Polly 1804-1864, married Alston Hooper in 1821. The next James "Jimmy" Russell Allen 1806-1884, married Mary "Polly" White Patterson in 1828. The third child Barnabas M. Allen 1808-1850, married Temperance Cullen in 1838. The fourth child Felix Augustus Allen 1811-1878, married Elizabeth Levy in 1838. The fifth child Anna Allen 1812-1886 married Brinkley Hows in 1838. The sixth child Elizabeth 1814-? married her cousin Joseph Gower in 1833. Child seven Thursa 1817-? married Joseph Work. The eighth child Arnold M. Allen was born in 1818. The ninth child Robert Heaton Allen 1821-1898 married Elizabeth Harriett Turner and raised his family in Kentucky. Child ten was Elbert Carroll Allen 1826-1896 who married Tennessee Watkins. George Washington Allen 1831-1905, the youngest child, married Sarah Elizabeth Richardson of Dickson County.

Published in December 2006 in "Life on the Creeks" - A collection from the PALS Chapter of CCHGA

Cheatham County This and That

Man Drowns In Harpeth Saturday

Leo Meadows, about 21 years of age, drowned in the Harpeth River Saturday afternoon at 4 p. m. The accident happened near the river bridge on highway 49.

The body was brought to Lockert and Shearon Funeral home here, where very little information was available as it was turned over to the Taylor Funeral home at Dickson.

Meadows was said to be assisting in putting out a trot line and was under water only a short time.

Artificial respiration was applied for quite sometime but Meadows failed to respond, it was stated.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Meadows of Greenbrier and husband of Christine Meadows. Also three brothers and two sisters survive.

Funeral services were held Sunday morning and burial was in the Pardue Cemetery near Lillaway.

Ashland City Times, July 27, 1955

Do you want to see the CCHGA Bytes in color and help save printing costs?

Let us know and we will send the next quarterly newsletter to your email address!

Send an email to [cchga007@bellsouth.net!](mailto:cchga007@bellsouth.net)



WAR OF 1812.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

State of Tennessee County of Cheatham ss.

On this 11 day of May A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy Co personally appeared before me Wm. H. Clark Clerk of the County Court a court of record within and for the county and State aforesaid Leopold Hunter aged seventy seven years, a resident of Thomsville County of Union State of Tennessee, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is married; that his wife's name was Lucy Ann Nicholson to whom he was married at Lawrence in the county on the 11 day of September 1816 that he served the full period of sixty days in the Volunteer service of the United States in the war of 1812; that he is the identical Leopold Hunter who participated in Captain James Harrell's company, First regiment, Br. Halls brigade, Gen Jackson's division, at Spotsville on the 26 day of September 1813, and was honorably discharged at Spotsville on the 27 day of December 1815; that

that he, at no time during the late rebellion against the authority of the United States, adhered to the cause of the enemies of the Government, giving them aid or comfort, or exercised the functions of any office whatever under any authority, or pretended authority, in hostility to the United States; and that he will support the Constitution of the United States; that he is not in receipt of a pension under any previous Act; that he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States, under the provision of the Act approved February 14, 1871; and he hereby constitutes and appoints, with full power of substitution and revocation P. W. Magee, Isaac Miller & Nashville, T. his true and lawful attorney, to prosecute his claim and obtain the pension certificate that may be issued; that his post-office is at Thomsville, County of Cheatham, State of Tennessee; that his domicile or place of abode is Thomsville

ATTEST:
Leopold Hunter Applicant.
Wm. H. Clark
Wm. H. Clark

*****The CCHGA newsletter will be published in the months of March, June, September, and December*****
Past newsletters can be found at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tnccgha/bytes.htm>



Encourage your family and friends to join CCHGA!



CHEATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

PO Box 703, Ashland City, TN 37015

615-792-3623

cchga007@bellsouth.net

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

Date of application: _____

I am a new member for 2016

I am renewing my membership for 2016

The months of October, November, December and January are designated membership drive months. All renewals should be turned in no later than January 31.

Individual \$20.00/year Family \$35.00/year Donation _____

Lifetime under 60 years \$300.00 Lifetime 60 – 70 years \$200.00

Lifetime 70 – 80 years \$100.00 80+ Free

YOUR NAME: (If Family membership, please include wife's surname before marriage if applicable)

BIRTHDATE: _____ SPOUSE BIRTHDATE _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP Code: _____

PHONE: HOME _____ BUSINESS _____

CELL _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please send my quarterly newsletter to my email address: _____

SPECIFIC CHAPTER DESIRED:

Pond Creek & Lillamay/SamsCreek (PALS) At Large Member

Make checks payable to CCHGA

Comments: _____

JOSEPH BINKLEY DIES FROM AN ELECTRIC SHOCK

The Nashville American (1894-1910); Mar 7, 1897; The Nashville Tennessean pg 5

Joseph Binkley, an employee in W. A. Wynne's saloon and grocery, on Line Street between Cherry and Summer streets, was killed yesterday morning by an electric shock.

The accident occurred at the store about 5 o'clock. Binkley opened up the place at 4 o'clock and attended to numerous duties which occupied about an hour. By that time a beer wagon drove up and the driver remarked as he rolled in a keg that he smelled something burning.

An investigation by Binkley developed the fact that an old sack lying against the gas pipe behind the counter and near the front window was on fire. The sack was also touching the oil tank.

Binkley secured a copper cup used at the bar, which he filled with water. He then went to put out the fire. In order to reach the burning sack, Binkley placed his right hand on the pipe and stooping intended throwing the water at short range with his left hand. The spot where Binkley stood was damp. The pipe which he touched was charged with electricity, which had been communicated from electric wires in the house. When he began throwing water from a copper cup filled with water in his left hand, while he stood on a damp spot, a circuit was established and the entire charge of electricity entered his body.

John Binkley, who was asleep over the grocery, was aroused by cries for help. He rushed down the steps and found the place in utter darkness. This was caused by the electric light, which burned all night, being interrupted by the contact with Binkley's hand. John Binkley lighted a lamp and discovered Joseph Binkley lying prostrate behind the counter. Capt. Carell drove up about this time in response to a fire alarm from box 18.

He assisted in moving Binkley to a table, where he expired about five minutes later. Dr. J. Crum Epler was called but immediately pronounced Binkley beyond his aid.

Binkley was the son of Squire J. R. Binkley, formerly Chairman of Cheatham County Court. He was raised near Sycamore Powder Mills and was about 21 years old. He was unmarried and bore an excellent reputation. The remains were shipped at noon yesterday by boat to Ashland City.

The electric current which caused his death was communicated to the gas pipe as a result of the fact that some of the occupants of the house had wound the electric light wire around the gas pipe to get it out of the way.

Lenox Family Visit Ashland City, Cheatham County, TN

From CA, FL and AL, direct descendants of prominent citizen J. J. Lenox, recently visited Cheatham County to film their family's history in Ashland City. They learned how to grave dowse, visited the County Courthouse and other local landmarks where their ancestors once walked and even met some kissing cousins. Although he didn't make the trip, the family patriarch James "Jim" Lenox (shown in the photo), is the major instigator for his son and grandson's visit to Cheatham County. He is proudly displaying the print of the Lenox Hotel given to him by Elsa Lockert and wearing his Cheatham County shirt purchased at the CCHGA office.



Four Fatalities Have Attended the Building of the Baxter Road Through Cheatham County

The Nashville American (1894-1910); Aug 27, 1902; pg.3

Ashland City, Tenn., Aug. 26 – (Special) – Since work commenced on the Tennessee Central Railway in this county here have occurred four accidents, resulting in the loss of as many lives.

Mr. Brown was killed some time ago while clearing off the right of way of the road by a tree striking him and breaking his neck.

Demps Bell, colored, was killed by falling off a bluff near Cheap Hill while blasting for the road.

Tom Ross, colored, was killed while at work clearing the right of way near Neptune.

Homer Mays, the 9-year-old son of Jeff Mays, was burned to death by an explosion of powder which was left by the railroad hands where the little fellow could easily get it. Misfortune seems to be attending the building of the road in this county.

Websites of Interest

CCHGA Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/cheathamcountyhistory>

Tennessee Archives Directory: <http://tnsos.net/TSLA/archives/index.php>

CCHGA BYTES

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