

Society News

Wow! Did we have an exciting speaker and program for our November meeting. Linda Moss Mines is the official Hamilton County Historian, taught school at GPS for years, and on every board that has anything to do with historic preservation - and many that have nothing to do with history, just good community organizations. Linda talked about five recipients of the National Medal of Honor during WW II, one of which was the well known hero Alvin York.



Their stories not only make us proud of our soldiers, active and veterans, but

reminds us all over again that "war is hell" in the words of a certain Union General to the Mayor and Councilmen of Atlanta. What our brave soldiers face is nothing less than that!.

Donations Acquisitions

As always, thank you, thank you, to all who are so generous and thoughtful and send donations all along. Martha Love Lillard is always sending donations in memory of her parents, George and Mary Lou Lillard; Kenneth Cloud always remembers his sweet mother, Marchie Cloud, at Christmas, and Mary Kus sent a most generous donation to go toward a new copier and/or repairing our non working microfilm reader/copier. Sweet Patsy McClure Mitch Kinder, Rosemary Rutland and Mark Barker helped with much needed roof repair! Kenny Couch never forgets us, and so many more make regular donations. Thanks to All!

First Families Update

If you had a direct line ancestor who lived in Polk County when it was formed in the fall of 1839 and appears in our 1840 census - and you can prove it, you're eligible to join our prestigious *First Families* program. If accepted, you will receive our beautiful gold certificate suitable for framing, and a personal letter of congratulations. Send a SASE for an application form to PCHGS, P. O. Box 636, Benton, TN 37307

Descendant	Ancestor	Spouse
Eve Rutland Parks	Tinsley Joyce	Parthenia McDonald
Mark Rutland	Tinsley Joyce	Parthenia McDonald
Travis Rutland	Tinsley Joyce	Parthenia McDonald
Liam Rutland	Tinsley Joyce	Parthenia McDonald
Jane Bowman	Jacob Lingerfelt	Peggy Slagle
Jane Bowman	Elijah Mathis	Hulda Morrison
Jane Curbow	Thomas Morrison	Frances Beard

~ **In Memoriam - Ronald Dean Moore, (1954-2017)** ~

Ronald Dean Moore, 63, a lifelong resident of Cleveland, Tennessee, passed December 14, 2017 after a short illness. He was the son of Jay Lake and Faye Epperson Moore, a 1972 graduate of Bradley Central High School and graduated from Cleveland State Community College in 1975. He was of the Methodist faith.

He was a friendly fellow that was known wide and near as “Moore Ron”. Moore was a proud democrat and was active in local elections. He served as chairman of the Bradley County Election Commission in the 1970s. He became involved in community service at an early age, serving as President of the Cleveland Jaycees and Chapter Management Vice President of the Tennessee Jaycees. He served as the chairman of the Cleveland Bicentennial Parade and won The Outstanding Young Businessman of Cleveland in 1978, and as chairman of the Cleveland Jr. Miss Program in 1978.

Ron was a Reserve Officer of the Bradley County Sheriff’s Department in the 1970s where he served as Captain of the Reserves for several years, and was a private investigator with John Cook and Associates. He and Cook developed and offered continuing education classes to private investigators in Tennessee. He was serving as chairman of the Bradley County 911 board when the present facilities were built.

He was presently serving as Vice President of the Bradley County Historical and Genealogical Society. He and his wife, Debbie have co-hosted a local award winning history talk show, “Old Town Cleveland” since 2009 on WOOP fm 99.9 and they have completed six award winning regional history documentaries.

Ron enjoyed working on genealogy and was a member of the Benjamin Cleveland Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. He served as a volunteer for the Hiwassee Heritage Center in Charleston and was an active member of the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association. His favorite past time was Bradley High School sports especially football and wrestling, and he rarely missed a game or match before becoming ill. He served several years as President of the Bradley Wrestling Boosters, and he and Debbie served as photographers for the Bradley Wrestling team for a decade and in 2016 made a documentary about the Bradley High Wrestling Program. He enjoyed mentoring the wrestlers.

He was well known as a historian of local sports, serving for several decades on the football “Panel of Experts” on Mix 104. He hosted the “Wrestling Mat” and often joined in on “Good Sports” on WOOP fm. He played bass in several local bands and had written and recorded several songs with “The Tennessee T” band, and the band played hundreds of shows including the National Jaycees Convention and for the 75th Anniversary of the National Park Service. “The Tennessee T Show” appeared on Channel 53 in the late 1980s.

Ron was the first manager of Telecable, Inc. in Cleveland, Tennessee in 1978, and served for over 20 years. He retired at the age of 47 but returned to work to teach computer classes at Gateway Computers and worked for the State of Tennessee’s Welfare program, “Family’s First”. He retired again in 2015 to take care of his elderly mother. He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Robin Moore Carter; and grandparents Willie and Lissie Moore and Henry and Matilda Hayes Epperson.

Our sincere condolences to Ron's wife Debbie, son Will, daughter, Ashley, and all his family from all of us at PCHGS. He was a valued, very supportive member - we will miss him! (See picture of Ron & Debbie in our August 2016 Quarterly.)

Some Polk Phillips, Ellis, Tillery & Cleveland Families

We had the sweetest 'young' lady to visit us at the library recently, and she and her most loving and caring son were not particularly looking for family, just taking in the historic sites. Her son wrote us that she fell and fractured a hip just a day or two after returning home. So I visited her at the nursing home and took her a little book of family info I had put together for her from the tiny tidbit of info I gleaned from their visit. You know me, even though they weren't doing family research I'm so nosy I had to ask if they had any Polk kin - and they did!

The lady's Ellis family was here in Polk County, married into the Phillips family and lived mostly over in Bradley, but we don't pay a lot of attention to those county lines, and neither did any of our ancestors. Bradley-Polk, same families in both. We were formed from Bradley and a little strip of McMinn, so we're pretty much Polk/Bradley connected.

Fred Ellis and Josephine Phillips married 13 October 1906 and they had a son, James Howard Ellis, born 1909. James married Thelma Eloise Tillery 1 February 1931 and they were parents of the little lady who came to visit. She never knew her father growing up, for her parents divorced within a few years, so if you're related to any of these folks I'll bet she would love to hear from you. Thelma Eloise and baby daughter were back home with her parents in 1940, and I found James in Richmond Naval Yard where he was stationed. He was a WW II Veteran, and a retired Civil Service employee down at the Robbins Air Force base.

It had always bothered our little lady that she didn't know where her father was buried, and after another long search we finally found James Howard Ellis down in Magnolia Park Cemetery in Warner Robins, Georgia, Findagrave memorial #182266239 - in an unmarked grave! However, the nice manager of the cemetery confirmed that he was buried there, and offered to help us get a government marker if I could find his discharge papers, but sadly, so far I haven't. James had married again and had a son who might possibly have kept his father's service papers, but efforts to find him were not successful, either. But we'll keep searching!

Our visitor's mother, Thelma Tillery's parents were Charles Franklin Tillery and Icie H. Hooper, and Franklin's mother was Martha Cleveland married to William B. Tillery. That Cleveland line goes back to Capt. Robert Cleveland, a Revolutionary War Patriot and brother of the Benjamin Cleveland for whom Cleveland, Tennessee is named. I was able to chase those folks all the way to North Carolina and the Revolutionary War - and she and I are related. Yeah, I know we say if we go back far enough we're all related, but I didn't have to go quite back to the Garden of Eden, just to our shared Cleveland ancestor. I think it's always interesting to learn that my Porter and Tipton ancestors fought in the Battle of Kings Mountain with your ancestor - which happens more often than you would think.

So, I suppose the main theme of this article is to persevere, don't give up! Look for a way over that genealogy brick wall, climb over, go around, dig under - whatever it takes to get a little toe hold! I think most of us work on our family research project until we hit a snag, then put it in a box under the bed, and move on to another line - right? Then later, something will turn up that will encourage us to drag it out, dust it off, and start all over again! Sound familiar?

However, with all of the resources available to us today online with the click of a mouse, we can probably find more info about our ancestors than we ever could in those 'olden days' of searching through dusty courthouse boxes, going blind trying to read microfilmed census records, and wading through overgrown cemeteries trying to find grandma's grave maker. Thank goodness for Ancestry, Findagrave, FamilySearch, GenWeb, TEL, TSLA . . . Amen?

"Knock, Knock - Who's There?" The Old "Dutch Settlement" Noccorinas and Gianelleys

Wow! Is this a great find - or what? Woody Hilliard, a descendant of the early Polk settlers, the Noccorina's shared this old picture of who he believes to be his grandmother Mary Ella Noccorina Hilliard's father, Alonz Noccorina, who was born in Genoa, Italy. The census says he and his brother, Benedict, (Alonzo and Benneto in all the Settlement records) came to the US in 1855.

I don't recall ever doing a single article on these early settlers in our county. I think it may be because there has been so much written on the Settlement folks that I just assumed there was nothing left to tell. Wrong! In looking back at many of those articles, the Noccorina and Gianelli families are only mentioned in a 'lump' as being there with other surnames - never a single tidbit of how they may be connected to other settlers or anything.

So, let's kind of track them through the census records to see if we can put the family together. They weren't here in 1840 for the Vineyard, more commonly referred to locally as the Dutch Settlement, back in the Sylco Mountains didn't exist then. We first see Louisa Gianelly, (name totally clobbered, but it's her) in the 1850 Polk census in the household with Framer Gianelly, age 68. I guess the 1860 enumerator didn't even want to attempt the spelling, for in 1860 he just wrote Mrs. Gianelli, 55 and Frederick, 23. The next door neighbors were the 'Bachley'! in 1870 Benedict Noccorina is in her household as a grandson! So that explains a lot - he and Alonz came here because they already had family here, their grandmother.

In 1870 'Loranzie Nocharena' (sic) and Matilda are in the 5th Civil District with children Benedict, Martha M., Mary E. and Matilda's sister, Mary 'McKisiack'. Bet that enumerator didn't bother to ask how to spell their names, don't you? Didn't want to appear ignorant, I guess! The same census shows Louisa 'Gianelley' and Benedict 'Nocarena'

Matilda Noccorini, 76 born August 1823, is still around in Polk County in 1900, but in the household with her daughter Martha Matilda Sis', who has married Nimrod Griffith about 1889 or so, for it says they've been married 11 years had 5 children - all still living in the Old Fort area. Their children were Lillian, Ethel, Otto, Eldon, Dewey and Wallace, the last to pass in 2010. Bandick Noccoroni is also here in 1900 in the Sylco area, as are the Becklers next door. The info given in that census says that he was born April 1835, came to the US in 1855, and that he and both parents were born in Italy.

On the Hilliard side, this note came from Jimmy Hilliard in May 8, 1988, and he says that in writing about our ancestors "some family characteristics may be more favorably reported than is objectively warranted. To provide a balance, I should report some less attractive characteristics. For example, C. L. Hilliard was said to be impatient as a young man and I (Jimmy) have been called argumentative. Some even call all Hilliard men conceited - and claim there is absolutely nothing for them to be conceited about!" Well, how about that! Someone who says we shouldn't report only the good, but a bit of the 'less attractive characteristics' of our ancestors. Bet we won't find many researchers doing that, huh?



LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF B. C. BUMGARNER, 18TH OF JUNE 1908

January Term 1910

Polk County Court

I, B. C. Bumgarner, being of sound, disposing mind and memory, do declare and publish this as my last will and testament, hereby revoking and evoking void all others by me at any time made.

First: I direct my funeral expenses and all my just debts to be paid as soon after my death as possible, out of any money that I may die possessed of, or may first come into the hands of my executrix.

Second: I will and bequeath my farm where I now live, consisting of fifteen acres bound on the north by I. G. Lyle, on the east by G. A. J. Parks, on the south by G. A. J. Parks, on the West by I. G. Lyle, to my daughter, Onie Louisa Massengill charged with the support of my son, Thomas Lake Toomey at Knoxville, provided he should ever become sane, and he returns home, and at the death of my daughter Onie Louisa Massengill, my said farm is to go to my daughter, Cleo Toomey.

Third: What livestock I may die seized and possessed of, and I now have one heifer about 2 years old and six head of hogs, I will to my daughter Onie Louisa Massengill.

Fourth: I will my sewing machine to my daughter, Cleo Toomey.

Fifth: The remainder of my household and kitchen furniture I will and direct that it be equally divided between my two daughters Onie Louisa Massengill and Cleo Toomey, and my husband, L. H. Bumgarner.

Lastly, I do hereby appoint my daughter Onie Louisa Massengill my executrix to execute this my last will and testament, and she is excused from giving bond in witness, whereof I do this my will. I set my hand on this the 18th day of June, 1908.

B. C. Bumgarner

Published in our presence and we have subscribed our name in the presence of the testator and of each other, and at the instance of the testator on this the 18th day of June 1908

A. J. Williams

Note: Why Barshe/Barsha Caroline Toomey Bumgarner went by initials B. C. I have no clue, but that's even what's on her death certificate. But . . . that's not what's engraved on her grave marker, or at least that isn't what is on the 1940 WPA list for Columbiana Cemetery where she's interred. It says 'Darche!' Or that's what it looked like at some point for that's what we put in our Resting Place Cemetery Inscriptions. I think James and I read those stones in 2002, and we very well could have made a transcription error, for we had to dig the markers out of the decayed leaves and fallen trees. I'm going back first chance I get and see if there's anything still legible now. If that 'D' is actually a 'B' then they still sound alike - Darche and Barshe.

Another Side of the Claytons - with Newtons Mixed In

As you all know, we nearly always have another First Families of Polk application through Rev. Elijah Clayton in every Quarterly, but I had never gone this route before. When a gentleman called from over in Murphy and said he didn't know anything at all about his Clayton line and could I please help - well, you know the story! I jumped on it like the proverbial 'chicken on a June bug - right?

So . . . guess what I did instead of shopping, cooking, and cleaning, like I should have been doing the week before Christmas - and all Christmas Day? Yep! Hunted Claytons, Newtons, Tinkers and Wests! I did really extensive research starting with the gentleman's father, William Frank Clayton (1895-1963) Findagrave memorial # 5555902 - no, not the Deputy Robert Frank Clayton who was killed back in 1946 during the political upheaval. This Frank was born here in Greasy Creek to David Clayton and Minerva Newton, daughter of Thomas Newton and Rebecca West. David's parents were James Nelson Clayton, one of the dozen or so children of Rev. Elijah Clayton and Elizabeth 'Betsy' Webb Roach. He's the 18 year old Nelson in that household with his parents in our 1850 census, and by 1860 had married Mariah Tinker, daughter of John and Jane Baker Tinker, who were living right next door to Elijah in 1850.

I don't actually have anything else on the Tinkers, hope some of you do and will share. I'd love to know where they're buried so I can link their Findagrave memorials, but with John being born 1794, he may have died so early there's no record or marked grave. They had a couple of other children, Andrew and Jesse who were still at home in that census, and probably had older ones who were married and out of the house, for the parents were both in their 50s at that time.

Frank's father, David Clayton, married Minerva Newton, daughter of Thomas Newton and Rebecca West. Besides Frank, David and Manerva had children, Ben, Lewis, Mariah, Nelson, Joseph H., Noah, Bessie, and Becky. After David died, Minerva married Frank M. Brock the 7th of March 1919. Frank had been previously married to Matilda Rayburn, who died 1918.

I was so into the Clayton line that I really didn't do much on the Newtons and Wests. I'm thinking Minerva Newton Clayton's mother, Rebecca West is from the Robert West family, but she isn't in the household with them in 1850. However, it wasn't uncommon for a daughter to go live with someone in the neighborhood to help out with a new baby or elderly folks. Becky was born about 1835, died 13 August 1910 and is also buried in an unmarked grave in Greasy Creek, as is spouse Thomas. In 1870 she was living next door to 83 year old Robert West, says both were born in South Carolina. Then she was living with her son Louis and wife Lucy in the 1910 census, and died soon after the census was taken. Louis had been previously married to Nellie Ramsey. (This is our former TN State Representative, Chris Newton's line.) Lucy had also been married before, to an Allen, for an 8 year old stepson, John Allen, is in the household.

Interesting thing found about David Clayton. He and Robert Clayton were both 'unchurched' from Hiwassee Union for dancing! David acknowledged his 'sin' and was reinstated, Robert didn't - and was 'expelled.' When I read about someone being expelled from a church for dancing I think of another David, the biblical King who 'danced with all his might before the Lord' naked in the streets of the City of David when they brought the ark home - at least this David and Robert had on clothes! (I assume!)

William Frank Clayton married Coralena Hancock, daughter of George and Mexico Hancock and ended up just across the NC line in Murphy, North Carolina, and they're buried in Sunset Cemetery there. I don't know for sure which of their children, if any, may still be living, so won't name them all, but I do know Gracie died as a child, son Alvin died in 1995 there in Murphy, as did sister, Betty (Walker), and Woodrow Wilson in 2006 out in St. Louis, MO. He was a career serviceman, having served a couple of stints in the Army, and may have been stationed out there.

And then comes the doggone worst mess you've ever seen, where one person posts a big error - and everyone else just grabs a 'leaf' as they're called on Ancestry and it spreads like wildfire! AARRGH! My often used expression is that it's about like trying to stuff running water back in a faucet to get it stopped! What happened was that 'our' Polk County James Nelson Clayton died 19 October 1902 before death records were formally kept, and was buried in an unmarked grave in Greasy Creek, and was not on any list anyone knew about. Luckily, a little old Bates man here in the Greasy Creek community kept a record of who was born, died, and a few more tidbits of interesting info. I've posted most of it in the Quarterly way back. He wrote in his 'diary' " J. N. Clayton died 19 October 1902 at Isaac Rymer's house."

Well, guess where 66 year old, widowed, James Nelson Clayton was in 1900, two years before he passed - in the home of his daughter, Amanda, wife of Isaac V. Rymer! And he's almost certainly buried right there in Greasy Creek with wife, Mariah, his parents, and many other of his kinfolk, and I made them a memorial there. There are more than a hundred fifty unmarked graves, or no longer legible native markers in that cemetery!

Another reason David and Minerva may have been hard to find is because they were in Texas in 1900! Don't know what possessed them to do that, but they were living next door to his brother Henderson Clayton, wife and children there in Fannin County, Texas. Guess Henderson talked him into coming out there, but they must not have liked it too well, for they were back home safe 'n sound in Polk County by 1910. By the way, that census has a puzzling bit of info in that it says David had been married twice, and to Manerva for 24 years. They had 9 children, 6 still living at that time. Does anyone know to whom David was first married?

Anyway, since James Newton Clayton of Polk County couldn't be found easily, someone discovered a James Nelson Clayton of about the same age, a Civil War Veteran, over in Murfreesboro, and plugged him right into Elijah's family! Never mind that he was in the census there the same time 'our' James Nelson was in the census here - but who bothered to look? I can guarantee you that the Polk County James Nelson Clayton did not die in Murfreesboro - and probably never set foot there in his life.

Folks, whether you're a new researcher or have many years experience, if all of a sudden someone who has lived in the same spot all their life, none of his kids left the area and are all still living right around him, and as a tottering old man you see some researcher has him dying in 'Outer Mongolia', RED FLAG! Stop and question it. Now if one of the parents died, and you find all the kids in Texas in the next census, it is possible that the living parent did, under pressure, up and move with them. But please don't just accept anyone's 'leaf' without checking it out carefully. It will make life miserable for a whole lot of researchers down the line if you post it without absolute proof. Document your source, and again I say, document your source! Off my soapbox now! Sermon over (for now!)

Taylor A. Kimsey Homeplace in Benton Station

I can't think of any pictures I like better than an old homeplace or a large family group with full identity. That's Taylor A. Kimsey, far right, wife Essie Evans, far left, and your guess is as good as mine on the others.



Bob Kimsey and his wife from Virginia dropped by the library recently and brought some pictures of his ancestors. Taylor Alloway Kimsey (1879-1945) was the son of Baxter Kimsey and Caladonia D. Vinnie Yates, both buried down in Cumberland Shed Cemetery in South Polk. Taylor was 21 when he married 15 year old Essie Lura Evans in 1901 here in Polk County. Some of their children in the 1910-'20 census were Lucy, Jewell, Pauline, Velma, Herbert, and Fred. I just saw a death certificate for one of their babies, Daisy Mae, a year and a half old who fell into a pot of boiling water and was scalded to death the 18th of July 1920. How sad! But I have heard of that tragic event happening several times in my own extended family and neighbors, as I'm sure it did in some of yours. I always think of wash pots of hot water being outside with a big fire going around it, wonder what they were doing with tubs of boiling water to where a child could fall in?

This is another one of those numerous families with a really big mess in online posts about Taylor's wife, Essie Evans that have her connected to someone of the same name in Giles County, but that is just not true. Essie was the daughter of Alexander Evans, born right here in Polk County, but since she was born 1886 and he died in 1896 or so, they are never seen together in a census. Then by 1900 her mother, Mirnda Sprinkles, had remarried to Joseph H. Blankinship, and had children Luta Jo and Chassie. The problem may be that most researchers just look at the transcribed version of that census and see that the enumerator just dittoed the whole family as the same Blankenship surname. However, if anyone had bothered to look at relationships it is easily seen they are Joe's step children - same names as appear in several of their obituaries as siblings, and children of Alexander Evans and Miranda Sprinkles.

Six Kimseys are buried in Benton Station Cemetery where they lived for so long. However, a least one of them did leave the area, for son, Charles Fred, Sr., served in the US Navy from 1937 to 1941, and ended up at the Yorktown Naval Weapons Station as Supervisor of the Mine and Torpedo Department. That sure sounds impressive, doesn't it? But then Polk County does have an astronaut, Roger Crouch, and all kinds of folks with impressive titles and positions over these many years. Sure does make us proud, doesn't it!

Treaty of Removal

From the "History of Polk County 1839-1999 by Roy Lillard,
Formatted & edited by Marian Bailey Presswood

The Treaty of Removal (Treaty of New Echota) was signed December 29, 1835. Of the 300 Indians who signed, only 79 were legal voters. The treaty has been called the "Ocoee Steal" by Uncle Jack Hildebrand. Although the treaty was repudiated by all but a small minority of Cherokees, the U. S. Senate approved it on May 23, 1836, by a one-vote margin. With this treaty, the Cherokees ceded all of their lands east of the Mississippi in exchange for \$5 million and the right to occupy land in modern Oklahoma, agreeing to move west within two years. On February 22, 1838, the John Ross party countered with a protest reputedly signed by 15,665 Cherokees. When we think of the great beauty of Polk County with its numerous streams and beautiful mountains, it is easily understood why the Cherokees did not want to leave their homes and land.

The roundup of Indians began on May 26, 1838, under the direction of General Winfield Scott. The Cherokee agency at Charleston was the headquarters of General Scott and his army. Possibly as many as 29 detention camps or stockades were located at many large springs in this vicinity, with Rattlesnake Springs, located in the northeastern part of Bradley County, being the major camp. The Old Fort, located near present-day Old Fort, was used as one of the stockades, after three other small forts were added. Some 13,000 Cherokees were encamped under the supervision of U. S. troops prior to their trek west in the autumn of 1838.

By resolution of the council, Chief John Ross was made superintendent of emigration. Thirteen detachments of about equal size were organized along lines of family ties and kinship, and each group was placed in the custody of two qualified Cherokee officers. In this way the Cherokees, including black slaves, were readied for the long overland journey. Chief Ross began the final removal on October 1, 1838, by leading the first detachment in prayer; a bugle sounded, and the wagons started rolling. Peter Hildebrand led the last group to arrive in the west on March 25, 1839.

Few Cherokees were adequately prepared for the trip. Most needed clothes, many were sick, and others became ill along the way. Although there is some disagreement on mortality figures, apparently almost 4,000 died during capture, detention, and removal, or as a result of removal. On the trip, Quatie, wife of Chief John Ross, contracted pneumonia and died; her uncoffined body was buried in a shallow grave as the remaining members of the party continued. There can be little doubt of the injustice in the Cherokee removal. The journey is known as the Trail of Tears. The unfortunate combination of circumstances made the removal inevitable, with annihilation the only apparent alternative.

Approximately 1,400 Cherokees avoided removal either by hiding out in the mountains or by taking advantage of a provision in the treaty which permitted a few Cherokees to remain. In 1841, it was proposed that the remaining Cherokees be removed to the west, but nothing came of the attempt. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians now living in North Carolina number 8,381. The lands now held in trust by the U. S. Government for these Cherokees comprises 56,572 acres and is scattered over five counties. Today, the headquarters of the Western Band of the Cherokee Nation is located near Tahlequah, in Northeastern Oklahoma. The area includes nine counties, and parts of five other counties with 4,420,000 contiguous acres or approximately 6,900 square miles. As of 1983, there were 53,097 Cherokees living

in Oklahoma.

A few Cherokees continued to linger in Polk County, as in 1851 there were twelve families that included forty-four people living within the county. In 1855, seventy Polk County citizens signed a petition presented to the Tennessee General Assembly asking that all Cherokees be removed from Polk County, as they were becoming “very troublesome.” The recently established Indian Affairs Commission for the State of Tennessee reported that at present there are thirteen Cherokees living in Polk County, 168 in Bradley County, eleven in Monroe County, nine in Meigs County, and 104 in Blount County.

Of the thousands of Cherokees who lived and died in what is now Polk County, there are only a few graves that can be definitely located and they include: David and Delilah McNair near Conasauga; Nancy Ward, Five Killer, and Longfellow, near Benton, and Esi Caloneheiske, who is buried in Stephens cemetery near Reliance.

John Hildebrand & Sons, Peter and Michael

From the "History of Polk County, 1839-1999 by Roy Lillard
Edited and formatted by Marian Bailey Presswood

An early treaty with the Cherokee Indians provided “that a grist mill shall . . . be built in the Cherokee country, for the Nation.” To fulfill this provision of the treaty, John Hildebrand, a tavern keeper of Knoxville and a widower with five children, settled on the Hiwassee River, constructed and operated the mill for the Cherokees. He was probably the first white man to settle permanently in what is now Polk County. Hildebrand was a Pennsylvania German, and his children were Michael, Peter, George, John, and Sarah. The mill was the nucleus of Columbus, the only town within the county when it was created in 1839.

The mill was built in the Nation at the town of Hiwassee, where the Great War Path and the Trading Path crossed the Hiwassee River. Later, the Old Federal Road crossed at the same site. When Col. Return Meigs assumed his duties as agent to the Cherokees in 1801, John Hildebrand was already on the payroll. The Moravian missionaries reported that Hildebrand was living at Hiwassee Old Town as early as 1798. John Hildebrand, after he came among the Cherokees, married his second wife, a Cherokee woman whose name was Susannah Woman Catcher or Woman Holder, and by her he had four children, Nannie, David, Mary and Elizabeth. Because of his marriage to a Cherokee woman, John Hildebrand was entitled under Cherokee treaties to 640 acres of land on the north side of the Hiwassee River. Following the Treaty of 1819, he was forced to move south of the Hiwassee River, and later went west. The history of the Hildebrand family is varied and interesting because of their extensive involvement of the settlement of Polk County. Two of John Hildebrand’s sons, Michael and Peter, married granddaughters of Nancy Ward.

Hildebrand House

About three miles south of Benton on the Old Federal road was the Hildebrand House, undisputedly the most distinctive architectural feat in Polk County. It stands today as the oldest structure in Polk County, although it has been moved south approximately one-quarter of a mile and renovated. Among the many structures in the area, there is no building which is comparable to it in Gothic splendor. Remembering the Germanic origin of its builder,

Professor George Mellen wrote that, "There must have been intended some suggestion of baronial life along the Rhine."

This house was located on the south bank of the Ocoee River facing east. It was the site of a boatyard and was a public stand in the days when people traveled by coach. The architect was James Killian, who is buried in the private cemetery behind the house. The front rooms of the frame structure were made of walnut planks two and a half feet wide; the mantle of the great fireplace in the main room downstairs is decorated with a series of intricately carved "H's," and this motif is repeated around the eaves of the building. The kitchen was a marvelous place containing an eight-foot-wide fireplace and a hidden passageway to a place of safe concealment under the house. From the kitchen, food was moved to the dining room on a dumb waiter. The massive stones of the foundation and rafters pinned together by wooden pegs testify to the expertness of the builders of this monumental building. It is said that this house was more than seven years in the building. The masonry in this home was done by Robert Howell, the man who built both the Vann and McNair homes.

Peter Hildebrand, son of the man who had established the mill at Columbus, first settled in a log cabin at the Old Federal Road ford. Hildebrand thrived financially throughout his tenure on the Ocoee, and it is known that he owned a considerable amount of property. Sometime around 1830, he had work started on the big house which bears his name. Approximately seven years later, after its completion, he moved in with his Indian wife and their children, but they remained there only a short time. "Those damned Cherokees," as he described his sons, were unaccustomed to glass windows and such innovations of civilization and created havoc in the beautiful building. In desperation, Hildebrand moved his family back to the old log cabin where they lived until 1838 when most of them went west. In 1835, there were seven persons in the family, including one farmer, one mechanic, one weaver, three spinners, and seven read English. He owned a farm, eight slaves, a mill, and a ferryboat. Peter served as one of the conductors for a group during the Removal of the Cherokees to the west.

Perhaps he sold his land and home to his brother, Michael. Michael's family, in 1835, was composed of nine persons; two farmers, one mechanic, five weavers, five spinners, six read English, and two read Cherokee. He owned five slaves, two mills, and a ferry boat. W. H. Williamson wrote that Michael Hildebrand, in the late 1850s, sold the Hildebrand farm to Zachariah Rose, Baldwin Cate, and Harvey Fry. The Porter Kimbrough family occupied this house for twenty-one years at the turn of the century, and later the John Gilbert family made it their home for twenty years.

A very interesting project, the portage between the Ocoee River and the Conasauga River operated from the Hildebrand boatyard on the Ocoee to the McNair boatyard on the Conasauga River. Perhaps both Peter and Michael Hildebrand were associated with this operation. The portage proved to be very beneficial to both families as well as for boat operators. In the prosperous period, both boatyard owners built fine homes, each within sight of his business.

Historic Hildebrand House Sold December 2017

We were surprised to learn the old Hildebrand house went on the market back in December, sold at auction for only \$66,000 with not much land with it. It had been deeded to the Tennessee Historic Society by a previous owner but since it had been moved about a quarter of a mile away from its original setting, had been bricked and white porch columns added, the

state apparently didn't think it was of much historic value, and first sold it to some family of the last owners. There were many lots of farmland also sold at the same time, which, according to the auction company, brought nearly two million dollars. You can see pictures and more about the sale on the PCHGS Facebook page.

Early Description of What Would Become Polk County

Hop in your time machine and let's go back to November 1799 with two Moravian Missionaries, Abraham Steiner and Frederick De Schweinitz, and hear what they had to say about our little neck of the woods. The account was written by Judge Samuel Williams in his "Early Travels in Tennessee Country." The area visited was along the Hiwassee and Ocoee Rivers. He wrote:

"In the afternoon we again crossed flat country, and toward evening we came at the Hiwassee River to a town (Cherokee, Hiwassee Old Town) by the same name lying on both sides of the river. On the other side of the river, south side, a great treeless plain appeared, with several houses; on this, or the north side, the valleys were narrow and the houses built on the near lying hills. We came to the western end of the Town Hiwassee, where our guide stopped at the house of Friderici, the Seventh Day Baptist. Our host invited us to supper. In a very large, deep, Indian earthen vessel he set before us something that he called pumpkin soup. He had neither cleaned nor peeled the pumpkins! He thanked the Creator of all creatures that he had boiled so much even before he had known the pilgrims would come

Friderici accompanied us a quarter of a mile through beautiful country, covered with heavy timber, to a rocky creek, which has considerable fall (Conasauga Creek), to a place where Mr. John Hildebrand intends to build the mill, and whose house is on an elevation about three quarters of a mile from here (near Hiwassee Old Town, built in compliance with a treaty between the U.S. Govt. and the Cherokees.) While riding toward Burgess' place, past large level corn fields, through broken land and partly past large stretches of enclosed cane. The children talk both English and the Indian language very well.

The house is like that of other white people and everything was in good order, as might be the case in the home of any well circumstanced plantation people; they have a milk house at a spring. The plantation lies entirely on high land; is in good order and is fenced in. We found very fine green wheat fields and a large cotton field. There are some other plantations in the neighborhood. In the matter of a school, she (name not given) thought that this would be very acceptable to the Indians. She herself knew of forty children of school age in the immediate neighborhood. She told us too, that the neighboring town of Chestowee had from forty to fifty houses; and that the Hiwassee River from its source to its mouth was thickly settled."

So, how was your trip around the old town of Columbus - did you enjoy the pumpkin soup?

Hop out, you're back home - it's 2018 again!

Picture: 2nd Old Columbus Mill on same site.



Excerpts From Rev. Jasper Woody's Book "Know That He Is"

Back in 2003 Preacher Jasper Woody, who just lived across the fence from the PCHGS Library, stopped by with a yellow legal pad in his hand, and an anxious look on his face, and asked if I could read the penciled handwriting? I began reading without a minute's hesitation and saw his face break into a great big smile. "Praise the Lord, I can't believe it! You're the only person I've asked who not only could read it - but didn't miss a single word!"

And with that, I began my journey of several weeks transcribing Jasper's book about his bi-vocational journey of preaching the Gospel and working at different positions around the country. I did the transcribing, formatting, added the pictures and had it camera ready for the printer. In the end I think we were both pleased with the finished work.

Now, the reason I tell you all this is because of the recent purchase, by a local beauty shop owner, of the building that was home to our little local newspaper, *The Polk County News*. It was necessary to clean out all the boxes of things that collected during their long tenure in that old building - and a box of Jasper's books was one of the things I ended up with. I'm offering several things for sale that were found here and there, and I just thought if you read even this short section of his book you will want one. The title may be a bit misleading for it isn't all 'preachy' - it's just a collection of great true stories about good old Polk folks who Jasper met in the several churches in which he pastored over the years. Antioch, Wetmore, Pleasant Grove Shiloh, Old Clear Springs are just some of the churches included in the book. Some stories are so funny you will find yourself laughing often. It's a really enjoyable read - see if you don't agree!

My Time at Shiloh Church by Rev. Jasper Woody

Now, this is one of the many highlights I noticed as I walked down the aisle the first time as pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church in Ocoee. There was a reverence for the church building they assembled in. Even when you walked in alone, you knew that there was someone present other than yourself. Praise the Lord!

In my day, every Southern Baptist church was basically very similar in faith and practice. But there can be many differences in personality, outlook, attitude and response to the congregation, to their pastor and church activities in general.

Shiloh had high respect for the pastor and church leaders, yet each one was just part of a team. One of these teams was an outstanding group of deacons and their families. They were Charles Williams, Jane and Sara; George and Lillie Mae Snyder, Pamela and Darlene; Sam and Betty Curbow, Freeman and Jane; Bill and Cleo Poston, Patsy and Sue; Stanley and Louise Elrod, Claudia, Dale and Belinda; Richard and Velma Massengill, Barry was born while we were there. Leonard and Della Foster came a little later and they had two sons. At this writing, only one of those men is still among us, Richard 'Dickie' Massengill. All of the other men are in heaven.

Among the others of that day greeting their new pastor were Alvin and Maxine Dixon and family; Walter and Willie Moore; Luther and Arlee Moore; Wallace and Edna Arms and family; A. J. and Billie Arthur and family; J. D. and McElvia Harrison and family; Horace and Maggie Snyder; Luther Snyder family; Willie Mae Cross and family; John Snyder and Lillie Fortner.

Others were Ollie Snyder; Jimmie Cate and family; Bobby and Jeannie Rogers and family; John and Rose Kimbrough; Brad and Vivian Kimbrough and family; Mary Jane Williams; Lura Blankenship; Norman and Lola Dunn; Paul and Mattie Prichard, Clarence and Geraldine Swafford and family; Adam and Emma Gould Adams; Mabel Lowery; Doll and Kate Copeland and family.

We also were greeted by the Robert Copeland family; Edison and Lorene Alloway; the Alma Rose family; Sam, Frank and Ronnie Lowery; Kirby Brock; Eddie Howard; Wilma and Joe Hatcher; Charles and Joe Edwards; the John Moss family; the Newton Crumley family; the Mary Hilliard family; Kate Westmoreland and Johnny Hutchins. Many others were added as time went by, but these are among those greeting us upon our arrival.

Little Johnny Dixon Sings

One of my first impressions of talent at Shiloh was a little chubby boy who sang and led the choir, and his sister played the piano and sang. They were Johnny and Linda Dixon and they were a delight - and still are. I can still see the glint in Alvin's eye when his children sang in church.

Johnny never saw a stranger, had a great personality, and went on to high places in the field of education and sports and as a sports announcer. I still have the recording of the Polk County girls 1981 championship basketball game. John and Steve Newman were the play-by-play announcers. I had the privilege of taking John to his first varsity football game when he was a small boy. The UT Vols defeated Alabama that day.

I found at Shiloh a dedicated and faithful people and the church seemed to claim first place in their lives. A. J. Arthur was the music director and Jane Williams was the pianist. The people heard their pastor and remembered what he said. For example, one Sunday near Christmas, I made a point that we really didn't know whether there were just three wise men or not. The next Sunday I had a sketch of the three wise men on the front of the bulletin. I heard from that!

Another person that stood out in our Shiloh ministry was Julian Snyder, a former pastor there, who had become the Georgia Baptist State Director of Training over all the state of Georgia. Julian came home quite often and we were always glad to have him in church. He was a scholar and a good speaker and an excellent entertainer. On Christmas, the Fourth of July or any other special event, we could always count on Julian to be involved.

Do you recall the pretty little black headed girl, 5' 2", turned up nose? Well, by this time I had summoned up the courage to ask Frances Rose to walk down the aisle with me, and on February 16, 1957, we were married at the church. Julian Snyder performed the ceremony. Remember the guy who gave me the blue suit? Mack Thomas was my best man. They estimated that about 200 people were present and 125 attended the reception at the parsonage. The congregation was excited, and, of course, we were, too. J. E. Firestone filled in for me the following Sunday and used the subject, "Why gaddest thou about?"

We wanted to do things right that summer, so Fran and I decided to make some strawberry preserves. I bought a whole crate and we put that whole crate on to cook - all at the same time. You know what happened, of course. We had more strawberry preserves than we could handle, and for some reason I have never cared much for strawberry preserves since that day.

Our first garden must have been a half-acre, but with a borrowed tiller I plowed it all up. The tiller threw me all over the garden, and that evening I could barely walk into the house.

At fruit bearing time George Snyder teased me about the weeds. In his familiar words he said, "Law, Preacher you won't have any tomatoes!"

Later George came by telling his pastor, "Law, the sun has burned up all my tomatoes!" I took him out to my garden 'weed patch' and pulled back the weeds and showed him my red ripe tomatoes underneath. His reaction was, "Law, Preacher, I guess weeds do pay off." My, what a precious soul was George Snyder, one of our beloved deacons. He loved his pastor and his church.

God bless the WMU ladies in all of our churches. At Shiloh, any special event in the church or that was church related, you could always count on Willie Moore, Louise Elrod, Edna Arms, Lille Mae Snyder, Christine Lyons, Cleo Poston, Rose Kimbrough, Maxine Dixon and many others who would always respond. They always wanted everything done first class, in fact, cooperation from everyone was first class.



Vacation Bible School teachers in 1959 at Shiloh Baptist Church: l-r: Vivian Kimbrough, Mary Alice Henry, Mattie Prichard, Edna Daugherty, Geraldine Swafford, Christine Lyons, Velma Massengill, Back: Herlene McCamy, Mary Jane Williams, Cleo Poston and Louise Elrod.

The old Shiloh church building was an old fashioned, tall frame building with a high ceiling. Wonder why church houses are always so high? As we began to grow, we found ourselves in need of more space for Sunday School and a fellowship hall. We soon adopted a program we called "operation work-a-plenty" and most all were volunteers and we divided into groups.

"Jasper, Do You Know How?"

Edison Alloway and I worked during the day and we began to put up the studding. I laid the studding on the floor, nailing them together in proper sections. We cut out the window spaces and was about ready to stand them up in their places when Edison said very slowly, "Brother Jasper, do you know how to do this?" I must have told him, "No, but I stayed at the Holiday Inn Express last night."

His suspicions were right, I had never laid it out and put them up before in my life, but I had watched others do it. We put it together with every door and window coming out in the right place. Other groups of two and three worked at night and we had a great time in the process.

We had one big problem! I had forgotten the delivery date for the concrete to pour the flooring for the fellowship hall. Anyway, the trucks rolled up one morning and asked where we wanted the concrete. I was the only one there and I had never finished concrete before in my life! Later that day Leonard Foster found me 'buried in fresh concrete' and we finished up about 1:00 p.m. the next day.

The next Sunday I delivered the sermon with both hands in bandages. The finished product was great, at least no one ever complained about the few rough spots on the floor.

John Kimbrough and I had several discussions about the fellowship hall, but he was gracious about it. Soon after that, we had our first Training Union banquet. Oh, how beautiful it was, all decorated out in red and white. You know, the first two people I saw were John and Rose Kimbrough, just as proud as they could be of our new facility.

A Special Weekend

On one occasion, Frances and I took a carload of junior age children to Ridgecrest, North Carolina and we were all excited about the event. We had daily classes and in the evenings special events were in a large auditorium. On one particular evening it was for appointments to the Foreign Mission field and a beautiful young lady walked on the stage and I heard the announcer say, "Ladies and gentlemen, meet Miss Ruth Dotson, appointee to Africa." I have related this incidence earlier in this book, but it was such a thrill as we were able to share the story with the children.

A Moment of Reflection

As I walked down the aisle of the beautiful Shiloh Church my first Sunday, my mind went back to chapter one and a shy little boy who would hide his face behind his mother's apron. Is this really me, Lord? Here I was among one of the finest groups of Christians to be found anywhere. I asked the Lord to help me lead this group and add to the love and desire to serve Him that they already had in their heart. Dedication on the part of every member was so evident.

I remember one Sunday morning we looked out on a big snow. I wondered if anyone would be at church that day and decided to walk, it was uphill either way. No one was there when I arrived, but I soon heard the crunching of snow and here came Clarence Swafford. "If I could get here, I thought I should come," he said, brushing snow off his clothes. Until his recent passing, Clarence was faithful to the Shiloh Church. Two of his sons, David and Tommy, are faithful deacons today to the growing church on U. S. 64.

A Moment of Delight

A. J. Arthur and Billie, our choir director, had moved to Cleveland and we asked Alvin Dixon to fill his job for a while. Alvin and Maxine were two of the most humble, congenial and loving people we have ever met. One Sunday morning, the invitation was about to be given and the pianist, Jane, played the introduction, but Alvin just stood there for a moment.

I looked around with a grin as Alvin swallowed real big and shouted out big and loud, "**Just As I Am!**" Everyone smiled a big smile of encouragement and then we went on with the song. I always admired Alvin and his willingness to try. I had rather try for the Lord and make a mistake, than make the mistake of not even trying. Alvin did a great job.

*Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His, and give thanks.
~ Psalms 30:4*

Almsgiving

In reference to almsgiving the Bible is very clear that we are not to let our right hand know what the left hand does. For a while at Shiloh, we became aware that someone was doing a lot of needed repair jobs, but no one knew who was doing them. Someone was responding to family needs in the community. We soon discovered that it was one of our deacons, Leonard Foster. The Bible tells us not to proclaim our deeds in almsgiving, and Leonard taught us all a great Bible lesson at Shiloh. He is still well remembered.

Revivals

Sam Byler, then pastor of the First Baptist Church in Benton, came to us in sermon and song and led us in a great spiritual awakening. In recent years I have tried to trace Sam down, but to no avail.

Church leaders at Shiloh didn't wait for a revival time to do soul winning. At one time or another, we were able to win all of the R. A. boys to the Lord, those who were not already Christians. We did most of our baptisms in the Ocoee River at Reynolds Bridge.

I have always maintained that the invitation period of our church service is one of the most important. All week long the pastor and all of us have been about our Father's business. We have passed out tracts, made telephone calls and then had our Sunday School lesson and the sermon. That leads us then, by all means, to give an invitation. The pastor and the congregation are urging you to make a public profession, a re-commitment to service, or to answer publicly a call from God to unite with that particular church. The invitation is important in the life of a New Testament Church and we should be careful to never cut that part of the service short. We never know when someone is just waiting to make a move.

Of course, Fran and I both were young then, and it was such a blessing how other young parents responded to our needs and fellowship during our ministry at Shiloh.

Stanley and Louise Elrod were so gracious. Often times, Stanley, who was a hydro operator with TVA would drop by, leave his truck and take my car, clean it up, and bring it back the next day. Louise was a great cook.

Now hear this! In all of the five years, plus, that I served at Shiloh, I never had one single member come to me criticizing or downing a fellow member of Shiloh Church. That, my friend, is simply amazing! Why? Because they each had respect and love for the other. That is simply following the scripture in John 13 when Jesus said, "*As I have loved you, I want you to love one another.*"

Marian's note: And there are 175 pages in all that you can enjoy when you purchase the book. See the back page of this issue of the Quarterly for ordering info.

Polk County Death Records For the 12 months from July 1, 1911 through June 10, 1912

These death records were in the same official county ledger as the births that were published in the November 2017 Quarterly. They give several great bits of info, including place of birth and death. Unlike some lists we've seen that excluded children under 2 years of age, these include everyone.

RECORD OF DEATHS - POLK COUNTY, TENNESSEE
For the 12 months July 1, 1911 thru June 30, 1912

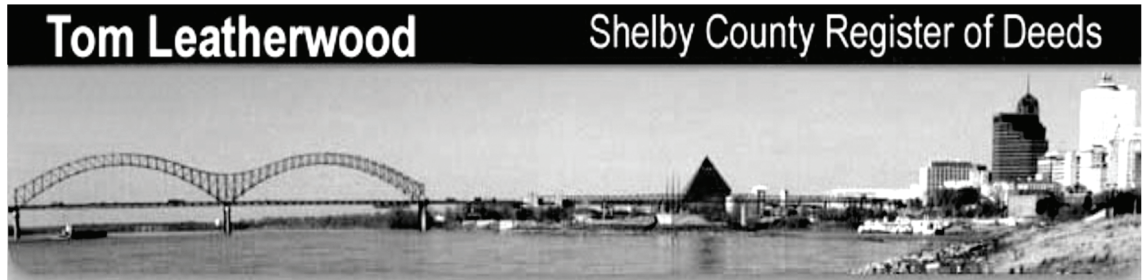
Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age At Death	Marital Status	Place of	
		Month	Day	Year				Death	Birth
8	Allen, Ione	July	6	1911	F	2 Mos.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Allen, Jesse	Jan.	12	1912	M	77 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	Tennessee
8	Allen, Lester	Jan.	15	1912	M	2 Yrs.	S	Isabella	Isabella
6	Armstrong, Henry	Oct.	6	1911	M	4 Mos.	S	Reliance, Tenn.	Reliance, T
3	Bain, Ezra	July	31	1911	M	23 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Polk Co., T
3	Barker, Roy	June	30	1912	M	2 Yrs. 6 Mos.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Polk Co., T
8	Barnes, Mary Ethel	June	29	1912	F	5 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Bates, Buef	Jan.	15	1912	M	40 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	Georgia
9	Bates, G. M.	Feb.	14	1912	M	81 Yrs.	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
6	Bates, Mandanie	Nov.	21	1911	F	36 Yrs.	M	Servilla, Tenn.	Servilla,
2	Bates, May	May	31	1912	F	3 Yrs.	S	Benton	Copperhill,
3	Black, Lizzie	May	6	1912	F	65 Yrs.	M	Ocoee, Tenn.	McMinn Co.,
6	Blackwell, Bettie J.	June	27	1912	F	75 Yrs.	M	Servilla, Tenn.	N. C.
7	Blackwell, Elisha	June		1912	M	84 Yrs.	M	Farner, Tenn.	Buncomb Co.
4	Blankenship, Drew	Nov.	23	1911	M	45		Tennessee	Tennessee
4	Brewer, Otto	June	12	1912	M			Tennessee	Tennessee
2	Bumgarner, L. H.	July	29	1911	M	70 Yrs.	M	Poor House	----
2	Burnett, John	Oct.	22	1911	M	66 Yrs.	M	Benton	North Carol
8	Byrd, Fennie	Oct.	14	1911	F	38 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	N. C.
8	Callis, Monroe	Dec.	2	1911	M	2 Mos.	S	Isabella	Isabella
8	Cantrell, Clifford	Apr.		1912	M	14 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Tennessee
9	Cantrell, Clifford	Apr.	11	1912	M	14 Yrs.	S	Polk Co.	Georgia
1	Carter,	Dec.	22	1911	F	3 Yrs. 1 Mo.	S	Patty	Old Patty
8	Chancey, James	Jan.	11	1912	M	42 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Tennessee
9	Cheek, M. J.	Sept.	12	1911	F	64 Yrs.	M	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
10	Coble, H. D.	Jan.	19	1912	M	22 Yrs.	M	Hyatt	Frytown
3	Copeland, Iona	Apr.	7	1912	F	79 Yrs.	M	Ocoee, Tenn.	McMinn Co.,
3	Copeland, Rebecca	Jan.	14	1912	F	75 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	McMinn Co.,
1	Corn, Ivy Lee	June	15	1912	F	2 Yrs.	S	Prendergast	Prendergast

Editor's Note:

My sincere apologies for the poor formatting of these vital stats records, but I haven't made the transition from my old cut 'n paste method I've used for the past 22 years to the new 'put it on a thumb drive' thing! The original pages were landscape and I've tried to avoid that all these years, so I cut them to fit portrait - and this is the sad results. Thank you Helen for your patience and kindness in putting up with my mess! But I doubt you could teach this old dog any new tricks!

Marian

Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age At Death	Marital Status	Place of Death	Place of Birth
8	Cornett, Infant John	Feb.	10	1912	M	3 Mos.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
7	Craig, May	June	15	1912	F	2 Yrs.	S	Turtletown, Tenn.	Cherokee Co.,
7	Craig, William	May	30	1912	M	10 Yrs.	S	Turtletown, Tenn.	Cherokee Co.,
7	Cross, Elmer W.			1912	M	6 Wks.	S	Farner, Tenn.	Farner, Tenn
2	Crox, Ella Sue	Apr.	7	1912	F	17 Mos.	S	Benton	Benton
2	Crox, H. A.	May	30	1912	M	76 Yrs.	M	Benton	Philadelphia,
8	Culberson, Mrs. Alice	Apr.	8	1912	F	35 Yrs.	M	Isabella	Isabella
4	Darnell, E. L.	Apr.	20	1912	M	57		Tennessee	Tennessee
9	Davenport, Harley	June	9	1912	M	20 Days	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
1	Dean, Otos	Mar.	19	1912	M	19 Yrs.	S	Prendergast	Blount Co. Te
4	Dockery, Emery	Mar.	15	1912	M	13		Tennessee	Tennessee
8	Downing, Robert, Jr.	Nov.	18	1911	M	10 Days	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
4	Dunn, Lizzie	Jan.	1	1912	F	54		Tennessee	Tennessee
8	Dyke, Edith	Nov.	10	1911	F	15 Mos.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
10	Earwood, Grace	Aug.	30	1911	F	3 Mos.	S	Copperhill	Copperhill
6	Eaton, Rebecca	July	20	1911	F	79	M	Servilla, Tenn.	McMinn Co.
6	Ellis, Not Named	Apr.	24	1912	M	1 Day	S	Servilla, Tenn.	Servilla, Ten
8	Fisher, L.	Nov.	29	1911	M	20 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	N. C.
8	Foreigner	Mar.		1912	F	Infant		Ducktown	Ducktown
6	Forster, Not Named	Aug.	5	1911	M	Born Dead		Servilla, Tenn.	Servilla, Ten
8	Fraday, Infant John	Apr.	27	1912	M	5 Mos.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
10	Franklin, T. T.	June	21	1912	M	48 Yrs.	M	Stafford Town	Blue Ridge, G
4	Fritts, Maggie	May	23	1912	F	3		Tennessee	Tennessee
10	Galloway, Lennis	Feb.	19	1912	F	4 Days	S	Grassy Creek	Grassy Creek
3	Garrett, John	Mar.	24	1912	M	39 Yrs.	S	Benton, Tenn.	Not Known
8	Gladson, Pauline	Feb.	5	1912	F	3 Mos.	S	Isabella	Isabella
10	Goff, Thomas	Sept.	3	1911	M	1 Day	S	Stafford Town	Staffordtown
9	Goforth, N. P.	May	1	1912	M	36 Yrs.	M	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
3	Gullage, Joseph	Nov.	15	1911	M	35 Yrs.	M	Old Fort, Tenn.	Bradley Co., T
4	Gullege, Joe	Oct.	26	1911	M	40		Tennessee	Tennessee
2	Gwinn, Carmelia P.	Feb.	28	1912	F	84 Yr. 5 Mo.	M	Benton	Monroe Co., Te
4	Hall, Bill	May	29	1912	M	49	M	Tennessee	Tennessee
9	Hall, Charley	May	5	1912	M	12 Yrs.	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co., Ten



Tom Leatherwood

Tennessee Vital Records

→ **Death Records Index 1949-2014**

Divorce Records Index 1980-2014

Marriage Records Index 1980-2014

"The only reason we are here is to serve you, the customer."

Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age	Marital Status	Place of	
		Month	Day	Year		At Death		Death	Birth
10	Hamby, Edna	July	14	1911	F	5 Mos.	S	Copperhill	Cherokee Co., N.C
6	Hammons, Ella	Jan.	13	1912	F	30 Yrs.	M	Servilla, Tenn.	Wetmore, Tenn.
7	Hanely, Kelles	Feb.	4	1912	M	83 Yrs.	M	Apalachia, Tenn.	Wilks Co., N.C.
2	Harper, George	July	16	1911	M	34 Yrs.	M	Benton	Bradley Co., Tenn.
10	Harrison, John	Feb.	4	1912	M	4 Yrs.	M	Copperhill	Pickens Co., Ga.
10	Hawkins, Alice	Sept.	15	1911	F	19 Yrs.	S	Hyatt	Pleasant Hill
3	Hawkins, Pinkney	July	24	1911	M	4 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Ocoee, Tenn.
4	Hayse, Willie May	May	27	1912	F	3		Tennessee	Tennessee
1	Hennegar, Martha	June		1912	F	52 Yrs	M	Prendergast	Polk County, Tenn
8	Hoballa, Holyolma	Aug.	14	1911	M	20 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Finland
7	Horten, Mahalia	Feb.	23	1912	F	55 Yrs.	M	Turtletown, Tenn.	Cherokee Co., N.C.
3	Howard, Stella	Sept.	6	1911	F	6 Yrs.	S	Cleveland	Sevier Co., Tenn.
6	Jenkins, Taylor	Feb.	4	1912	M	30 Yrs.	M	Reliance, Tenn.	Servilla, Tenn.
3	Jones, Mary Jane	July	10	1911	F	8 Hrs.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Parksville, Tenn.
3	Jones, Will	Aug.	30	1911	M	44 Yrs.	M	Parksville, Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
6	Kelley, Daniel M.	Dec.	29	1911	M	72	M	Reliance, Tenn.	Hawkins Co.
7	Kilpatrick, Nora Irene	Aug.	20	1911	F	4 Yrs.	S	Fannin Co., Ga.	Ducktown, Tenn.
7	Kimsey,	May	1	1912	F	1 Hour	S	Turtletown, Tenn.	
7	Kimsey, Mary	Mar.	31	1912	F	61 Yrs.	M	Turtletown, Tenn.	Sweetwater, Tenn.
7	Kimsey, Mollie	Dec.	11	1911	F	35 Yrs.	M	Ducktown, Tenn.	Turtletown, Tenn.
8	Kimsey, Mrs. James	Dec.	11	1911	F	34 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	N. C.
8	Kincade, Irene	Mar.	24	1912	F	5 Yrs.	S	Isabella	Isabella
9	Kincaid, John	Aug.	3	1911	M	2 1/4 Yrs.	S	Polk Co.	Fannin Co., Ga.
3	Kinser, Larance	Nov.	8	1911	M	2 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn	Bradley Co., Tenn.
3	Lillard, J. N.	Jan.	7	1912	M	6 Days	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Parksville, Tenn.
8	Long, H.	Oct.		1911	M	46 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	N. C.
8	Long, M. A.	Mar.	18	1912	M	28 Yrs	M	Ducktown	Georgia
8	Long, Mary Ann	Nov.	11	1911	F	28 Yrs	S	Ducktown	Georgia
8	Loudermilk, Floybell	Nov.	14	1912	F	2 Mos.	S	Isabella	Isabella
1	Lovingood, Nancy	Oct.	16	1911	F	53 Yrs.	M	Old Patty	Cherokee Co. N.C.
4	Mantooth, Hellie	Feb.	2	1912	F	86		Tennessee	Tennessee
10	Mason, Ethel	Mar.	13	1912	F	3 Yrs.	S	Farner, Tenn.	Shay Hollow
4	Mason, Luke	Apr.	23	1912	M	3		Tennessee	Tennessee

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<https://www.familysearch.org/search>

Search Historical Records

Search for a deceased ancestor in historical records to uncover vital information from their life.

Deceased Ancestor's Name

First Names

Last Names

Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age At Death	Marital Status	Place of	
		Month	Day	Year				Death	Birth
8	Massengale, Pearl	May	27	1912	F	5 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
1	McClure, Tomey	Mar.	11	1912	M	2 Yr. 10 Mos.	S	Prendergast	Benton, Tenn.
7	McJunkins, Caroline	Apr.		1912	F	Unknown	M	Farner, Tenn.	Polk Co.,Tenn.
3	McKissick, Minnie	Dec.	19	1911	F	35 Yrs.	M	Parksville,Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
2	Merriett, Mell	Feb.	3	1912	M	25 Yrs.	M	Austrell, Tenn	Macon Co., N.C.
3	Metcalfe, A.	Mar.	16	1912	M	45 Yrs.	M	Conasauga,Tenn.	N. C.
10	Miolen, Fred	May	19	1912	M	9 Days	S	Cole Town	Cole town
1	Moats, Bessie	Aug.	23	1911	F	35 Yrs.	M	Prendergast	Murray Co.,Ga.
4	Moore, Gertrude	Jan.	10	1912	F	18		Tennessee	Tennessee
2	Moorhouse, John Henry	June			M	2 Mos.	S	Benton, Tenn.	Benton
10	Morris, Bill	July	21	1912	M	50 Yrs.	M	Newtown, Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
9	Newton, Manson	May	20	1912	M	4 Hours	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
4	Nichols, Lillie	May	3	1912	F	45		Tennessee	Tennessee
10	Nix, Fredalee	Feb.	24	1912	M	3 Mos.	S	Pleasant Hill	Pleasant Hill
2	Norton, Martha	Nov.	12	1911	F	49 Yrs.	M	Polk Co.,Tenn	Blount
3	Not Known	Mar.		1912	M	About 35 Yrs.		Parksville,Tenn.	Not Known
3	Not Named	Mar.	5	1912	M	Born Dead		Ocoee, Tenn.	Ocoee, Tenn.
3	Not Named	Oct.	24	1911	M	6 Days	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Ocoee, Tenn.
3	Not Named	Nov.	25	1911	F	Born Dead	S	Polk Co., Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
8	Not Named	Dec.	6	1911	F	3 Day	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Not Named	June	2	1912	M	3 Days	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Not Named	Apr.	17	1912	F	3 Hrs.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Not Named	Sept.	15	1911	M	1 Day	S	Postelle	Postelle
3	Orr, Lane	Mar.	19	1912	M	18 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
8	Owensbey, Mrs.	Dec.	20	1911	F	74 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	N. C.
10	Palmer, S. A.	June	13	1912	M	56 Yrs.	M	Cole Town	Coletown
3	Patterson, Irahinar	Aug.	28	1911	F	15 Mos.	S	Murphy, N. C.	Murphy
6	Peran, Sarah	Jan.	15	1912	F	43 Yrs.	M	Reliance, Tenn.	Servilla, Tenn.
7	Perron, John	June	7	1912	M		M	Polk Co., Tenn.	Polk Co.,Tenn.
7	Pike, Wesley	Mar.		1912	M		M	Polk Co., Tenn.	McMinn Co.,Tenn.
8	Pinkerton, Mrs. Boyd	Dec.	19	1911	F	40 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	
10	Raredon, John	July	5	1911	M	28 Yrs.	S	Hyatt	Isabella
8	Roberts, Arthur	Apr.	6	1912	M	1 Day	S	Ducktown	Ducktown



Tennessee Secretary of State

Tre Hargett

Index to Tennessee Death Records 1908-1912

(/products/tsla/index-tennessee-death-records-1908-1912)

This page is an introduction to index of death certificates issued through 1912.

Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age At Death	Marital Status	Place of	
		Month	Day	Year				Death	Birth
9	Runnions, Edna	July	1	1911	F	4 1/2 Mos.	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
2	Runnions, Stuart	July	29	1911	M	75 Yrs	M	Poor House	Polk Co., Tenn.
4	Rush, Madline	May	27	1912	F	60 Yrs.	M	Tennessee	Tennessee
9	Rymer, Bessie	Sept.	4	1911	F	8 Mos.	S	Polk Co.	Polk Co.
2	Rymer, Melvin	Apr.	22	1912	M	---	S	Benton	Benton
8	Simonds, Posey	Dec.	11	1911	M	33 Yrs.	M	Burra Mine	Miner
10	Simons, Posie	Oct.	15	1911	M	31 Yrs.	M	Ducktown	Ducktown
10	Smith,	Nov.	9	1911	M	21 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Fannin Co., Ga.
10	Smith,	Sept.	10	1911	M	28 Yrs.	S	Copperhill	Fannin Co., Ga.
8	Smith, Francis Willard	Dec.	18	1911	F	2 Mos.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
8	Smith, Fred	May	15	1912	M	20 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	N. C.
1	Spearinan, Gordon	Nov.	14	1911	M	6 Wks.	S	Prendergast	Prendergast
10	Stolner, Febie	Nov.	24	1911	F	44 Yrs.	M	Hyatt	Fannin Co., Ga.
3	Stovell, Albert	Feb.	9	1912	M	7 Mos.	S	Polk Co., Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
7	Taylor, Floyd	Nov.	1	1911	M	3 Mos.	S	Turtletown, Tenn.	Turtletown, Tenn.
10	Thomas, Everett	Dec.	2	1911	M	24 Yrs.	S	Oklahoma	Copperhill
10	Thomas, Ollie	Nov.	7	1911	F	22 Yrs.	M	Polk Co., Tenn.	Cherokee Co., N.C.
7	Trantham, May	Aug.		1911	F	2 Yrs.	S	Farner, Tenn.	Cherokee Co., N.C.
3	Unknown Italian	Apr.		1912	M	About 40 Yrs.	M	Parksville, Tenn.	Italy
3	Unknown Italian	Apr.		1912	M	About 35 Yrs.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Italy
3	Unknown Italian	Apr.		1912	M	About 30 Yrs.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Italy
3	Unknown Negro	Aug.		1911	M	About 30 Yrs.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Georgia
7	Vaughn,	June	3	1912	F	2 Hrs.	S	Farner, Tenn.	Farner, Tenn
1	Waldrop, Bilie	Mar.	23	1912	M	63 Yrs.	M	Prendergast	Polk County, Tenn
1	Waller, T. B.	May	17	1912	M	59 Yrs.	M	Calhoun, R 2	Polk
3	Watson, Annie	Feb.	8	1912	F	2 Yrs.	S	Parksville, Tenn.	Parksville, Tenn.
3	Wattenbarger, Jessie	Dec.	27	1911	F	2 Mos.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Ocoee, Tenn.
10	Weese, Thomas	Aug.	15	1911	M	25 Yrs.	M	Isabella, Tenn	Epworth, Ga.
8	Wertheim, Sarah	Oct.	27	1911	F	4 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Ducktown
3	White, Bula V.	Apr.	6	1912	F	2 Yrs.	S	Ocoee, Tenn.	Ocoee, Tenn.
10	Willy, Henry	Sept.	10	1911	M	26 Yrs.	S	Copperhill	Fannin Co., Ga.
4	Wilson, Allen	July	1	1911	M			Tennessee	Tennessee
4	Wilson, Arthur	Nov.	25	1911	M			Tennessee	Tennessee

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Civil Dist.	Name	Date of Death			Sex	Age At Death	Marital Status	Death	Place of Birth
		Month	Day	Year					
10	Wilson, Jennie	Jan.	17	1912	F	4 Yrs.	S	Copperhill	Jackson Co., Ga.
8	Wilson, Kate	Sept.	30	1911	F	3 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	Georgia
10	Wilson, Regenie	Dec.	20	1911	F	3 Mos.	S	Copperhill	Copperhill
3	Wimberly, Susan	Apr.	15	1912	F	84 Yrs.	M	Ocoee, Tenn	Hall Co., Georgia
2	Witt, Mary M.	Jan.	1	1912	F	76 Yrs.	M	Benton, Tenn.	Polk Co.
1	Wolf, Lillian Nadeen	July	15	1911	F	10 Mo.	S	Ironton, Ohio	Prendergast
8	Wood, D. M.	May	27	1912	M	18 Yrs.	S	Ducktown	N. C.
9	Woods, Bessie	Nov.	15	1911	F	5 Yrs.	S	Polk Co.	Bradley Co., Tenn.
6	Woody, Coker H.	Mar.	12	1912	M	3 Wks.	S	Servilla, Tenn.	Servilla, Tenn.
3	Wootten, Will	Mar.	5	1912	M	30 Yr. 6 Mos.	M	Ocoee, Tenn.	Polk Co., Tenn.
10		Dec.	13	1911	M	3 Hrs.	S	Cole Town	Cole town
10		Apr.	25	1912	M	7 Mos.	S	Copperhill	Copperhill

Where to Find Polk Folk Death Records Online - and Off!

Most seasoned researchers pretty well know where to look for death certificates, obituaries, social security benefit records etc., but just in case we have a few 'newbies' around it might be worthwhile to run them by you again.

I usually check online sites first, just because I'm lazy and do what I can without going out. Most of us have the paid Ancestry and can see the SSDI, but free sites like FamilySearch often have the actual death certificate you can just print out. Not a lot of people know about Tom Leatherwood, the Shelby County Register of Deeds site that has death dates from 1949 - 2014 for the whole state of Tennessee. Yes, that's correct, the whole state, not just Shelby County. Another go-to place is the Tennessee State Library and Archives who has the death index from 1908 to 1933, and they are still adding more. I especially like this one since it sometimes gives Mrs. John Whatever, and you can find someone that has escaped all the other search engines trying to use her given name. I finally solved a biggie brick wall with TSLA recently because the lady was listed with initials B. C. - and who knew to search for her with those initials. I had tried ever spelling of Barshe there was. If you live in Tennessee, TEL, Tennessee Electronic Library also has vital stats.

The site I find myself turning to more than ever is Findgrave, and I'm surprised to run into someone desperately searching for their Grandpa's burial place and didn't even know about it. It's a free site, just Google Findagrave, and when it comes up I go way up to the top where the yellow line goes across it says you can still go back to the old format for now, that new format is awful. Warning, if you don't know the full name that might be listed on a marker, forget the first name and just put a surname, and it will bring up every one of those surnames in that cemetery - or county. I seldom do that for a whole state, but have done so if the surname is unusual and there won't be very many. I wouldn't try it with Smith or Jones!

If the person you're researching died locally and if you're not successful with an online search, you can also run over to the local library where they have the old papers on microfilm and look it up in no time. All the surrounding county libraries around Polk County have the death records from 1914 - 1964 in print done by Edith Wieferring several years ago, and they have a full name index. I've also been very successful in calling or e-mailing a library and asking for a look up, too. I even got one this week from Brooklyn, NY - nicest lady ever! She just scanned and e-mailed me the whole thing from the paper! Good Luck!

Lindner Birth - Death Records

Frederic Edward Lindner and Caroline Beckler married August 1850 by A. McKissack J. P. of Polk County, Tennessee

Just now ran across these pages that we may have done at some time over the past 22 years, but I don't remember it. Won't hurt to rerun.

Births

Frederic E. Lindner, born 15 March 1826
Caroline, wife of F. E. Lindner
Charles Edward Lindner, January 12, 1854
Ellen E. Lindner, August 26 1857
Frank Lee Lindner, August 8, 1860
Mary Geneva Lindner, February 5, 1864
Fred Bismark Lindner, February 5, 1868
Henry Benedic Lindner, November 26, 1871
Crrie Jane Lindner, January 10, 1874
Amie Louise Lindner, August 28, 1876

Children of Fred B. and Amanda Gurley Lindner

Chester Lindner, born 18 August 1902
Ulesses Lindner, born 22 February 1904, died 21 January, 1921
Arless Lindner, born 20 November 1906, died 12 June 1966.

Deaths

Frederic E. Lindner, died 29 April, 1908 age 79 years, 1 month
Caroline, wife of F. E. Lindner, died 17 October 1897 age 61 years, 6 months
F. L. Lindner, died 19 April 1891
Ellen E. Lingerfelt, died 1 February 1932
Henry B. Lindner, died 6 November 1934
Carrie L. Waldrop, died 19 October 1943
Fredric B. Lindner, died 3 June 1948

Children of Ellen Lindner Lingerfelt

Donna Lingerfelt, born 19 October 1884
Calia Lingerfelt, born 4 February 1885
Carie Lingerfelt, born 2 November 1887
Grover Lingerfelt, born 28 July 1889

Perseverance Pays Off! A Twenty-Two Year Old "CASE (almost) CLOSED!"

I doubt there's a soul out there who remembers the article about the lost parents that appeared in our very first Quarterly way back in August 1995. Since the scenario played out in the Parksville area during the building of the Parksville Lake and Dam, I guess I thought there might be someone locally who had heard the story, especially since Mrs. Gertrude Matlock had written a little booklet about her stay at Parksville while her husband worked there at that same time, and she recalled the story in her book. I knew the Bakers were from Canada, then came to New York before coming here with the construction crew to build the dam. A young couple, Lawrence and Kitty Green Hicks, took the baby to raise, he was from North Georgia, she was from the Doc Green family of Etowah. They didn't know anything about the Bakers, just that Mr. Baker was gone when they returned after a trip somewhere, taking the baby with them - and he was never heard from again! Mr. Baker did not stay here after the construction was finished, and there were no other relatives here.

Then years later, when our membership had grown so much that we had members all over the country, I tried again to see if anyone had ever heard about a baby born late May 1911, to a Mr. and Mrs. Baker, and the mother died soon after delivering a sweet little baby girl, Patricia Edna Baker. Mrs. Matlock knew the mother was buried in Zion, for she had attended the funeral and burial service there, and had shown Edna and her son where the unmarked burial plot was. I later made her a Findagrave memorial there (# 130401950.)

Then in 1997, the 'baby', now 86 years old, who had married and raised 4 children, died up in Maryville. We again made contact with her son out in Aurora, Colorado, and added a few more details and posted our update again - still with no luck! So every few years since, we've checked in to see if anything new had come up, and an occasional memory would be added to the 'pot'. A visit to Mrs. Matlock down in Chattanooga was recalled with fond memories that added a tidbit here and there.

But just this week I was surprised to see the familiar e-mail address, and after reading it was absolutely floored! Through DNA, the parents have been found! And not only that, but Ancestry and Findagrave had grandparents, and all kinds of other relatives. We proceeded with caution at first, for all of us know how wild the info can get on some of those sites. As it turned out, it was just like finding long lost pieces of a puzzle, people puzzle, that just went click, click, click they fit in so well! Cross your fingers and hope most of it turns out right!

Now equipped with names, Morley Frederick Baker and Mary Denzer, I easily found the couple in Brooklyn, NY in 1900, saying they were both from Canada, his parents came from Germany, hers from France. They had been married since 1891, Mary had a child that was not living. Mr. Baker was a 'RR engineer (streetcar) as was Mary's brother John Denzer, who was boarding with them. John was also a 'RR motorman.' Ta da! It just hit me why Mr. Baker was at Parksville. They built a spur railroad from Ocoee to the work site to bring in supplies - and I'll bet he was the engineer!

Several things sort of verified the accuracy of the info, and one was when Mr. Mason's daughter saw Morley Baker's picture she exclaimed, "Dad, that's you!" Another thing was Morley's obituary that stated that he had spent his career working for the railroad, and when he remarried, the record said he was a widower.

So . . . the moral of this story is that you should never give up trying to find your long lost grandpa, grandma - whatever! With so many resources available at the click of a mouse these

days the inability to find your ancestor may be less than the possibility that you can. Eventually, the right piece will show up and fit right in with a solid, 'click'!

Here's little baby Patsy, her parents Morley and Mary Baker as a young couple, made in Brooklyn before they left there in 1910 or so, and Morley in his later years.



As the Crowe Flies, There Are Panters!

Yeah, pretty silly isn't it? Got your attention though, I bet. A lady from Oklahoma called me and said she had no clue where her grandfather was buried (WHAT?) Well it's a long 'soap opera' kind of story, and I have no space to tell it all, but to make a long story short - I finally found him! Kimsey Bartlett Panter is buried right here in the old Benton Town Cemetery in an unmarked grave - right beside his brother Kenneth and mother, Estella (Davis.) Kimsey was the son of Francis Marion Panter and Estella Crowe, (daughter of Laura Brock.) He was married first to Ebba Fulbright, and they had 3 daughters. He married 2nd Edith Cowden and they had a daughter, Billie and a son, Corky. The Kimseys were back and forth between Polk, Bradley and Fannin Counties, and the Crowes came out of Pickens County, Georgia. Estella had sisters Hattie Harbison and Addie Lou Witt of Benton.

Basically, what seemed to have happened is that Kimsey was in an accident while a bricklayer for the Copper Co. and suffered a brain injury that caused him to have seizures. During those times he was very abusive, so his wives had to leave him. In the end he was in a nursing home in Bradley County with no close family to see about him, as far as we can tell. One of his granddaughters from out west had found out where he was and visited him a short while before he passed the 15th of December 1997. But she couldn't come back for the funeral (if there was one.) Apparently few, if any, of his other family came either, so no one knew, or remembered where he was buried. We have ordered Kimsey a marker and soon everyone will know where he is buried, and they can visit his mother and brother at the same time! He's Findagave memorial # 185362603, section 4, near the trees that divide Benton Town from Benton Memorial.

Complete Genealogical List of Mayflower Passengers (1620)

Are any of you descendants of the elite group of people who came to this country on the Mayflower? There are several online sites with this list, and I 'borrowed' this one from It is said to have been taken directly from the original handwritten copy by Gov. William Bradford, written up about 1651. Below is a complete list of all Mayflower passengers, and some sites have clickable links to each name so you can see more on each family. I think there are about 50 passengers from whom descent can be proven, and 54 that cannot be proven.

John Alden

Isaac and Mary (Norris) Allerton, and children Bartholomew, Remember, and Mary

John Allerton

John and Eleanor Billington, and sons John and Francis.

William and Dorothy (May) Bradford

William and Mary Brewster, and children Love and Wrestling

Richard Britteridge

Peter Browne

William Batten

Robert Carter

John and Katherine (White) Carver

James and Mrs. Chilton, and daughter Mary

Richard Clarke

Francis Cooke, and son John

Humility Cooper

John Crackstone, and son John

Edward Doty

Francis and Sarah Eaton, and son Samuel

Thomas English

Moses Fletcher

Edward and Mrs. Fuller, and son Samuel

Samuel Fuller

Richard Gardiner

John Goodman

William Holbeck

John Hooke

Stephen and Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins, and children Constance, Giles and Damaris; son

Oceanus was born during the voyage.

John Howland

John Langmore

William Latham

Edward Leister

Edmund Margesson

Christopher and Mary (Prower) Martin

Desire Minter

Ellen, Jasper, Richard, and Mary More

Mayflower Passengers cont'd

William and Alice Mullins and children Priscilla and Joseph
Degory Priest
Solomon Prower
John and Alice Rigsdale
Thomas Rogers and son Joseph
Henry Samson
George Soule
Myles and Rose Standish
Elias Story
Edward Thompson
Edward and Agnes (Cooper) Tilley
John and Joan (Hurst) Tilley and daughter Elizabeth
Thomas and Mrs. Tinker, and a son
William Trevore
John Turner, and two sons
Richard Warren
William and Susanna (Jackson) White, and son Resolved (son Peregrine was born
shipboard in Provincetown Harbor after arrival.)
Roger Wilder
Thomas Williams
Edward and Elizabeth (Barker) Winslow
Gilbert Winslow
"Mr. Ely"
Dorothy (John Carver's maidservant)

Queries cont'd from p. 32

KIMSEY, SIMONDS

A researcher from Englewood, TN wrote." My grandmother was Emma Jane Kimsey, and about all I know of her is that she was married twice. First to a McNabb, and after he passed she married my paternal grandfather, William Sherman Simonds (1866-1937.) Ed. Note: There's much info online on this family, and she's from the Kimsey family of Turtletown and related to the Kimsey Farm folks. But if you have pictures you'd be willing to share, or more info on Emma Jane Kimsey (daughter of Julius Rickman 'Doc' Kimsey and Mary Ann Hensley contact me and I'll pass on to her and she can contact you. Thanks!
<presswood@comcast.net>

HILDEBRAND, Michael

Nancy Allen of Claremore, Oklaoma was a visitor to the PCHGS Library, and is a Michael Hildebrand descendant. Michael married Nancy Martin, a granddaughter of Cherokee Peacemaker, Nancy Ward. His brother, Peter, married Elizabeth Harlan, also a granddaughter of Nancy Ward. I didn't make a note as to what, in particular, she might have been researching, but if you want to contact her to share same line family info she's at
<nancyjallen@mac.com>

Upcoming WWI Programs at East Tennessee History Center
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ETHS is pleased to partner to host the series "WWI In America" presented by the University of Tennessee Center for the Study of War and Society.

The Path to War: How the First World War Created Modern America | A lecture with Michael Neiberg, PhD Sunday, February 11, at noon.

Only after lengthy debate and soul-searching about national identity did America enter the Great War. In the special Sunday lecture, Michael Neiberg, PhD, will track American responses to the 1914 outbreak of the war, the sinking of the Lusitania in 1915, and debates on national preparedness in 1916. By 1917, most Americans, even those who opposed the war, came to see belligerence as America's only option. Neiberg is a professor of history at the United States Army War College.

Sergeant York | Film Screening Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Enjoy this movie classic on the History Center big screen about the WWI Medal of Honor recipient from Pall Mall, Tennessee, with commentary by Dr. Michael Birdwell, professor of history at Tennessee Tech University, curator of Alvin C. York's Papers, and the chair of the Tennessee Great War Commission.

The programs are sponsored by the Library of America's World War I and American Grant, received by CSWS in conjunction with the State of Tennessee World War I Commission.

Lecture: **The Path To War** with Michael Neiberg Sunday, February 11, at noon.

Film: Sergeant York
Sunday, February 18, at 2 p.m.

While attending the lectures, please take a moment to enjoy **In the Footsteps of Sergeant York**, a traveling exhibition from the Museum of the American Military Experience on display at the Museum of ETHS through July 8, 2018.



? ? ? QUERIES ? ? ?

We love to post queries to help with your Polk Folk research, and will do so for members and non-members alike, as long as we have available space in the issue. Just contact us at PCHGS, P. O. Box 636, Benton, TN 37307 or via e-mail at <presswood@comcast.net>

STUART, CROSS

I think we've been through some of this family before, but a recent inquiry was about Ellie Ann Cross, thought to be a Stuart/Stewart, who married Joe Daniel Cross. Most researchers have Ellie Ann as the daughter of Francis Marion and Elizabeth Canup Stuart, saying she is the Anna in their household in 1880 Polk census. But if she is, she's listed as 8 years old, which probably is more accurate than the 1878 date, for it makes her a bit older when having her first child in 1892.

Ellie and Daniel's children in the 1900 Polk Census were Charlie, Mindie, Lou and Carry. Then apparently Ellie Ann died in 1901, for Daniel is in the 1910 census with a new wife, Sallie Helton, his children with Ellie, and two more children with Sallie - Myrtle and George.

So . . . if Ellie Ann really does belong to Francis Marion and Elizabeth Canup, what in the world happened to Francis M. that he is not recorded in any of our death or cemetery records? Elizabeth 'Lizzie' died June 22, 1909 in Farners, but no record of where she's buried. And no sign of Francis M. after that. Did he die between the 1900 - 1910 census, too? Did he leave the country - what? If you will, please, do let us know if you have additional info or proof that Ellie Ann was the daughter of Francis Marion and Lizzie Stuart. Thanks! <presswood@comcast.net>

BEDWELL. OGLE (any spelling Bidwell, Birdwell, etc.)

John Bedwell, age 80, a wheelwright, born NC was here in the 1850 Polk County census with daughter, Malvina, 23, and daughter, Rebecca Barksdale and her children Andrew J., Armenia A., Martha L. and William H. 4. They were in the Bradley County 1840 census, but Polk had just been formed in late November 1839 from Bradley, and I doubt the boundary lines were very well defined by census taking time in '40, so they may have been in the same place as the 1850. Nearly every online researcher has that poor wife, said to be Sarah Ogle, with fifteen or more children! If that is true, no wonder she's gone by 1850!

So here's the problem everyone is trying to solve: Where are Sarah and John buried? Most, myself included, think it must be here in Polk County - Sarah about 1841, and John soon after 1850. There were only a couple of cemeteries established at that time here, Ocoee (Four Mile) and Cumberland Shed near where they lived. Some of their children did relocate over to Bledsoe County, and Findgrave contributor # 46502238 has made John and Sarah a 'virtual' Findgrave memorial (158639687) and linked to the children in Wesley's Chapel. But still, the family would really love to know where they really are interred. Unless there's a family Bible or family lore handed down, I doubt we will ever know, but again, who knows? If you have Bedwell family info to share please contact Steve Bennett <sbennett1382@comcast.net>

GOFORTH, HALL, CONNOR, PATTERSON

There are a lot of Goforth, Hall kin out there, and I've seen several pictures of the family posted on different sites online. In fact, I just posted one on the South Polk Facebook page you might want to check out. Darlene McClendon recently asked for more info on her Daniel Boone Goforth and Nancy Carline Hall ancestors, and I just thought some of you might want to contact her to share info. Her Margaret Goforth, daughter of Daniel Boone Goforth married Andrew Connor and they lived down in the Soddy Daisy area. <bernicelmcl@bellsouth.net> Thanks!

GREENLEE, BEDINGFIELD

The Bedingfields came from Heber City, Utah to visit us back in July, but I neglected to mention their Polk folk research in previous issues. Amanda Greenlee married James M. Bedingfield and their lineage is from James and Amanda's son, Ransom, to James Bastan, then Floyd Arthur to our visitor, Doug. As we were on our way to Cookson Creek Church and Cemetery where their folks lived, we stopped by the old Copeland-Cloud house and just then the owner, Kenneth Cloud drove up. We asked if he knew where the Greelee place was and he said, 'Follow me!' We walked around to the back of the house and he said, "You're standing on it!" We later looked at the 1850 Rosine Parmetier diary and she described the exact scene we saw while standing there! Talk about standing on Holy Ground - they were!

James M. and Amanda Bedingfield are in our 1850 Polk census with children Cynthia E., Frances Ann, Sarah P., Ransom K. D., and William H. Amanda's Louis and Elizabeth Greenlee are also here in 1850 with children Willis, Benjamin, Thomas and Julia Ann.

Most of these two families left here and went west, for they were in Arkansas by 1870 and '80 and buried in Missouri.

If you are also a Bedingfield or Greenlee researcher you might want to contact Doug at <douglasbedingfield68@gmail.com>

ADDISON, GOSS,

We have recently had people who wanted us to change the maiden name of Stella Maye Crumley (1901-1967) to Talley, Garrison, Goss - and who knows what all else (Findagrave memorial # 10380979.) I pretty well know that family, and if I don't know the answer I know a close relative who does. And we can both tell you that Maye's mother, Sena Goss Talley Hyde, did have children by several men, some to whom she was married, some not. But Sena was up front about their surnames in the census records and says Maye was a Crumley, as was her brother, John. The father not being in the picture. Maye first married 1919 at the age of 18 to John A. Addison, they had a son Lowell, divorced, and Maye married Audie Presswood, She and Audie, first spouse John Addison, and son Lowell, are all buried in the Hyde Cemetery in the Grassy Creek area of Polk County. Dave Talley has written a couple of good articles on his grandmother Sena Goss Talley and her children. We will be glad to share if you're related and want a copy. <presswood@comcast.net>

CHILDERS, CHILDRESS

Wilma Cofer is looking to share info with any Josiah Childers researchers. Would love to know his parents. Born ca. 1777, Prince Edward Co. VA; died between 1860-'70 maybe Carroll Co. AR. Was m. to Martha Susanna Woodrum of MD. <coferwilma@hotmail.com>

Beautiful Unknown Families - Do You Know Them?

Does it drive you nutty to run across a great family picture and not have a clue where it came from, or who it is? It sure does me! Hope some of you will recognize a member of either of these lovely families and let us know! They sure do look familiar!



We have partial ID of the W. A. Clayton Family (first wife, Rebecca Malinda 'Linnie' Cheek 1866-1915.) That's W. A. and his 3rd (?) wife, Etta Brinson front. Violet 'Lett' Clayton Raines, far right, standing; Tom Clayton suit and tie, standing next to man in the hat. See 1900 Polk census for Will's children: Chloe L. , Donnie, Eunice A., Thomas A., Donnie, Vinett, Ida M.

Books For Sale

We have a very limited number of the following books for sale, and when they're gone, as far as we know, there are no others to be purchased anywhere. (Possible exception is Little Murray, but you probably won't find it at that price!) All prices include postage!

***The Old Homeplace* by Thurman Parish**

One of the best books ever written on Polk County and its people, especially the ones who lived back in the mountains that are mostly now Cherokee National Forest. Written by someone who knows the mountains better than just about anyone I know - Thurman worked for the Forest Service for many years and has seen most all of those old homeplaces first hand. And you won't find a better price than this - I saw one on Ebay for \$199 - saying it was 'rare'. Not rare yet, but may be when these are gone. **\$20**

***Know That He Is!* by Rev. Jasper Woody, edited by Marian Presswood, 2004**

Don't be put off by the title, this is an interesting account of Jasper's fifty plus years in the ministry, and is just full of anecdotes about Polk folks in several churches around Polk County where he pastored. . . . **\$12**

***Little Murray, Memories in Stories and Pictures of the Way We Were,* by Betty Bryant Brandy, 2008**

If you have South Polk area and Murray County, Georgia roots this book is for you! It has beautiful pictures and family history of just about anyone who ever lived in that little Tenth District section of northwest Murray County between the Conasauga River and Sugar Creek. Many Polk folks moved back and forth across the GA/TN line right there. Surnames include the Webers, Hoyles, Randolphs, Bandys, Criders, Mathis, McKissack, Petty, Foster, Headrick and more.

Note: This is a beautiful hardbound 208 page book, but .. many of these books had a flawed binding for some reason, and look great at first, but separate from the spine with use. They are rock-bottom priced because of that flaw. You will get your money's worth just one time through. 'As is' . . . **\$15**

***Nancy Ward* booklet by Ben Harris McClary**

This is an article that was done by the late Dr. Ben Harris McClary for the East TN Historical Society's Journal. Due to constant request for info about Cherokee Peacemaker, Nancy Ward, who is buried on a hill just outside of Benton, The *Polk News* reprinted a few copies of this well researched article. **\$8**

***Confederate History of Polk County 1860-1866* by A. J. Williams in 1923**

Twenty-six spiral bound pages, includes full name index, of what was happening in Polk County before the war, names of the companies who went, who was killed in action and who came home. Not all inclusive, of course, but plenty of names and great info on Polk's involvement in the War Between the States. **\$6**

Makes checks payable to PCHGS and send to PCHGS, P.O. Box 636, Benton, TN 37307

Welcome New Members ~

Jack Callahan, 3621 Crestwood Dr. NW, Cleveland, TN 37312

We had several members renew their membership after letting it lapse for a while - welcome back Mitch Kinder and Boyd Gatlin, If we have extras of the issues you missed, just ask and we'll find a couple of 'freebies' for you.

Change of address, Errors or Corrections:

Don't forget to let us know if you move or have a change of address, please and thank you! If your Quarterly is returned we have to pay return postage - and then pay more postage to have it sent to your new address.

Thanks so much to those of you who take the time to call or write to let us know your lifetime member parents are no longer mentally able to enjoy the Quarterly, and requested we no longer send them. Some have even offered to mail their archived issues back to us. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated! If any of you are wondering what to do with stored back issues and want to donate them back to us, I will be glad to pick them up if within driving range, say Knoxville, Chattanooga, or even Nashville, when I go there for a Doc appt. or Retired Teachers' meeting. I pass those on to new members who enjoy 'catching up.'

~ MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM for May 2018 through April 30, 2019 ~

All memberships begin with the May issue and expire the following April. Anyone joining after May will receive all back issues for that year. PLEASE NOTE! If your renewal dues come in late, your back issues of the Quarterly will only be sent with the NEXT bulk mailings unless extra postage is sent with your membership. It costs approximately \$1.75 to send a single issue.

Date: _____

Type of membership: Annual - \$20 _____ (Lifetime no longer available)

Name: _____ Telephone: ____ - ____ - _____

Address: _____

e-mail _____ I am researching the following surnames:

Please make checks payable to PCHGS and mail to P. O. Box 636, Benton, TN 37307. **THANKS!**

Did you break through a genealogical 'brick wall'? PCHGS would love to hear of your success and get copies of any new info on your Polk Folk for our family files. **Thank you for sharing!** Still stuck? Let us know how we can help. Contact us at <presswood@comcast.net>

MOVING? PLEASE remember to let us know if you have a change of address, for the USPS will not forward bulk mail. And it costs us when they send it back to us. **THANKS!**

~ INDEX ~

Please note that this is not a full index, and does not contain every surname in the book. We apologize for any inconvenience, but time and space do not permit us to do otherwise. The vital stats section is in alphabetical order, so will be easy to check.

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