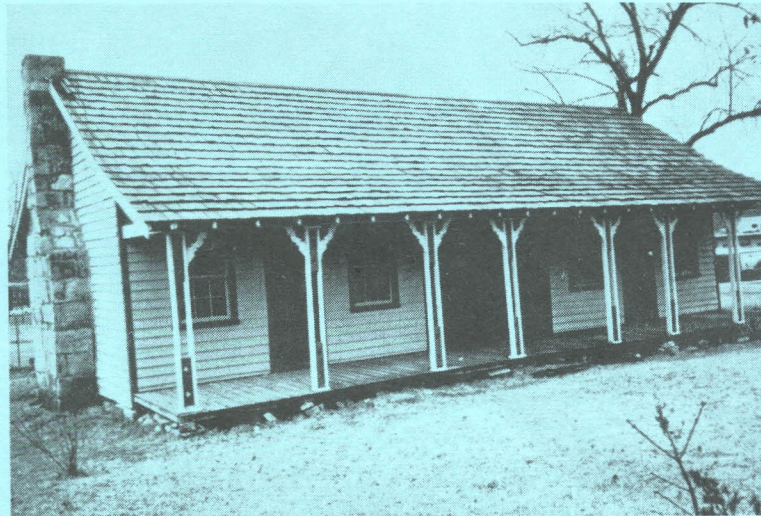


# Baxter County History



The Casey House – Built 1858  
The Historic Home of Col. Randolph D. Casey  
Mountain Home, Baxter County, Arkansas

VOLUME 24-2  
April, May & June 1998

**FEATURING:**  
Eight Generations of Ancestors  
of Ralph Earl Orsburn

Descendants of William Henry Douglas

Published by  
The Baxter County Historical  
& Genealogical Society, Inc.

**VOLUME 24 NO. 2**

**"The Baxter County History"**

Published by

**The Baxter County Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc.**  
**Mountain Home, Arkansas**

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**Membership rate is \$10.00 per member, \$12.50 Member and Spouse.**

**Membership dues are due on anniversary of joining the Society**

**Correspondence concerning membership dues, orders for the "History"  
and other business matter should be sent to the Treasurer.**

**Contributions of material for the "History" are always urgently needed  
and should be sent to the Editor.**

**The Society or the Editor does not assume responsibility  
for statements made by contributors**

**The Society meets every fourth Tuesday of the month. As meetings are  
scheduled for various parts of the County, check the local papers for location or  
call one of the above board members.**

## THE SOCIETY MEETINGS

### **The April Meeting**

The April 1998 meeting of the Baxter County Historical Society was held at the Entergy Building in Mountain Home. After the business meeting was completed, President Charles Blackburn introduced our speaker for the evening, Captain Paul Krabel. Capt. Krabel is a retired sea captain and ship pilot at the Panama Canal. Capt Krabel presented a very interesting slide show of the operation of the Canal and related some very interesting incidents of his career.

### **The May Meeting**

#### **Historical Society Meets in Whiteville**

By Sunny Sharp

The May, 1998, meeting of the Baxter County Historical and Genealogical Society was held in Whiteville at the Baptist Church. A large crowd of members and guests were treated to a unique evening of historical entertainment capped off by a sizeable potluck dinner.

The program included a group from the high school who had just won a statewide historical competition. They performed a modified version of their winning program that traced the migration of the bubonic plague in Europe in the 14th Century. The historical accuracy of the play was complimented by the skill of the students who did a wonderful job in performing such a difficult subject.

Several Whiteville residents shared their experiences in their community and spoke with great affection about their church, built around 1891. Jeanetta Grigg mentioned that she and her husband, Ralph, moved to Whiteville in 1945. Ralph has led singing at the church since 1946. They talked about the influence of the church over the years. Baptising was done frequently in local creeks and even at Pigeon Creek on the lake. Evelyn Denton talked about the Whiteville school that had classes through the eighth grade until consolidation with Cotter in the early 60s.

Mary Ann Messick presented the featured program of the evening, a delightful discussion of her great-great-grandfather, James "Jacob" Mooney. Jacob was a genuine character of the times. He established a trading post near the current

Valley Fly-In subdivision north of Cotter. He fought at the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812 and traveled extensively throughout the region. He was very mistreat any man; he may be your brother." Unfortunately, this was based on his reputation with the ladies and many allegations of subsequent fatherhood. He was to some "bigger than life." He proved to others he was also "bigger than death." He is buried at the cemetery, just a few steps away from this very Baptist Church. Mary Ann related that proper folks did not want him buried there so his grave is just outside the fence. Stories abound that Jacob haunts the Cemetery. A tree near his grave has repeatedly been struck by lightning. A prominent tale is that of an inexplicable green mist that rises above his grave and reports of folks that claim to have seen his ghost. Mary Ann then led a visit to his gravesite. The thunder and lightning in the area was enough to give one pause, but nothing was seen (or at least reported) by any of the membership.

### **The June Meeting:**

#### **The Society Meets at Hickory Park**

On June 23, the Society held its regular meeting at the Pavilion in Hickory Park in Mountain Home. Another of the Society's great pot luck dinners was held before the regular meeting began. After the committee reports were heard, Mayor Joe Dillard greeted the members and gave the Society a report of the City's plans for the West Side of the Square. The City has completed the demolition of the buildings on the site and is now formulating its plans to construct a park setting on the site. The City has received a grant of \$250,000 for work on the Square and a major part of the grant will be spent on the West Side.

Robert Bounds, curator of the Wolf House and a member of the Wolf House Foundation, presented a program on the history of the Court that was held in the Wolf House. He traced the history of the court and told of its activity through the year. He also told of the Foundation's plans to rehabilitate the Wolf House.

Member Henry Schol, told of his activity with the Friends of the Park and asked for

the Society's help in assembling the History of the Park's in Mountain Home.

The membership voted to recess the July meeting and will hold it's August meeting at the historical Arkana School Building. This will also be a Pot Luck dinner and will begin at 6 PM.



**WHAT YOU PREVENT  
REQUIRES NO CURE**



**THE HISTORY OF THE MOUNTAIN  
HOME FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

From: "The Baxter Bulletin" June 26, 1998 Edition

First Baptist Church of Mountain Home was organized on June 28, 1868, and was originally named Mountain Home Missionary Baptist Church with 10 charter members.

Those members were: M. J. Wolf, John H. B. Wolf, J. M. Casey, B. M. Clark, Mollie C. Casey, Tabitha Russell, Sarah Jane Wallis, Polly Ann Meredith, Mahaley Crownover and Melinda Crownover. The church had a total membership of 1,327

The first church building was a one-room frame structure built at the corner of Hickory and Seventh Streets. In 1935, a new frame building was constructed in the 200 block on the north side of Sixth Street.

In 1946, the church purchased a parsonage at the corner of College and Third Streets. In 1965, this was sold and a new parsonage constructed in Broadmoor Addition. The Rev. Harold Elmore was the first pastor to occupy the new parsonage with his family.

The church later built a much larger worship center on the lot at Sixth Street in 1953 and in 1970 added a two-story educational facility. During the ensuing years the church purchased three full blocks and used all the buildings now occupied and used by Arkansas State University Mountain Home.

In 1984, when 31 acres became available on Club Boulevard and Spring Street, the church voted to purchase the land and construct an entirely new complex. These facilities were occupied on June 29, 1986, after the congregation completed a two-mile walk from the downtown location. The church is presently completing a two-

story Christian Life Center, which will accommodate a wide variety of services and ministries to the community.

The congregation has had 33 pastors during its 130 year history and has a strong record of missionary support around the world and has established a number of missions in this area, many of which are now self-supporting Churches. These include Midway, Three Brothers, Eastside, Bull Shoals, Hilltop and Big Flat.

Many are familiar with First Baptist Church through ministries such as Local Missions, First Place and most recently Upward Basketball. The church has a long history of service to the people in this community and was in existence five years before Baxter County was officially incorporated and 20 years before Mountain Home was incorporated.



**Arkansas's star on the American Flag is the 25th star, located third from the left in the center row.**



**FLAG POLE AND FLAG INSTALLED  
AT RAPPS BARREN PIONEER  
SETTLEMENT**

On July 3, 1998, the Ozark VFW Post #3246 of Mountain Home, in honor of the Fourth of July celebration, installed a flag pole and raised a flag ceremony, both the American Flag and a MIA Flag. The post's honor guard was present and participated in the ceremony. The flag was installed at the "Shady Grove School Museum" in Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement in Cooper Park in Mountain Home.

The recently renovated School was open during the ceremony for inspection. Only a handicap ramp remains to be completed and is scheduled for completion at the end of July



**WHEN YOU TELL THE TRUTH  
YOU NEVER HAVE TO  
REMEMER WHAT YOU SAID**

**THE 1954 DEVELOPMENT OF OLD HICKORY PARK-1957**

From text in a ledger (prepared by someone unknown at this time)  
of Mountain Home's Centennial Celebration in 1988

Furnished by Judy Sharp

At a meeting of the City Council on August 3, 1954, a Parks & Playgrounds Commission to formulate plans for a municipal park was appointed by Mayor Wade Lahar and approved by the City Council. They were - Five years, Loyd Fisk, Chairman; four years, Jewell Cooper; three years, Reba Dearmore; two years, Max Nusch; and one year, Bryan Joyce.

On Sept. 24, 1954, the city ordinance creating the commission and outlining its duties and powers was passed. In the ordinance, the commission is called the "Mountain Home Parks & Recreation Commission." The ordinance states the commissioners shall submit quarterly reports of operations, including an accounting of receipts and disbursements to the Mayor and City Council and shall furnish any other information as requested. Each commissioner was bonded the first year. As each new member would be appointed in the future, he or she would serve a five-year term. The commissioners voted against being able to succeed oneself after having served five years or in the first case one, two, three, or four years.

The Rotary Club, which had bought the four-acre park site for the City, held a chicken barbecue to benefit the park fund Oct. 12. About 800 attended. Frank Wallick, President, had purchased the land and funds raised at the barbecue helped to pay for the purchase.

Meetings of the Commission were held in member's homes at the call of the Chairman.

March 1, 1955. The City Council voted to purchase approximately an additional acre of land from the late Elizabeth Baker estate for \$750 and to use part of it for the extension of Hickory Street north along the east border of the land.

The commission held several meetings with C. E. Forbes of the University of Arkansas Planning Center who drew up plans for the park. Mr. Forbes received \$1,000 for his services.

On May 31, a Rotary chicken barbecue was held to raise more funds. Around 900

attended to hear Governor Faubus, who was introduced by President Frank Wallick. Loyd Fisk, Chairman, explained the drawing of the park plans.

On the morning of June 17, a breakfast was held at the Cedar Grill as a kick-off for the park drive. Here Frank Wallick presented the deed to the city. Fisk explained the plans to around 35 people representing organizations.

On July 12 a special City election on a proposed bond issue of \$60,000 for development of a municipal park was held. There were 329 votes for the proposal and 96 opposing votes.

At various times the park board met with representatives from five different park building firms. C. E. O'Keefe presented his plans for the pool at a meeting in the Cedar Grill July 23. Mr. O'Keefe represented the Paddock Pool & Equipment Company. The Commission, Council, and Mr. O'Keefe met at the Grill Aug. 22 to discuss the plans O'Keefe's firm had prepared at no obligation. At a meeting at Jewell Cooper's home on Sunday, Sept. 3, the Commission decided that Mr. O'Keefe's company would be retained for the engineering work.

Bryan Joyce's term on the board had expired, and Kenneth Trammell was named by the council to replace him in September, 1955. The board continued to meet with Mr. O'Keefe to discuss pool plans. On Oct. 31, the group met with O'Keefe who showed new drawings to include some requested alterations.

At a meeting Dec. 6, the commission voted to approve the plans as presented by Mr. O'Keefe. That night the City Council voted to advertise for bids. On Dec. 13, the city voted to set Jan. 10 as a tentative date

for opening of bids. Dec. 21 the council voted to postpone opening bids due to engineering delays.

Mayor Lahar & Attorney Curlee met with Engineer O'Keefe to make preparations for advertising.

Jan. 31, 1956, the council voted to open bids Feb. 21. The State Board of Health had approved the plans. The successful bidder was to enter into a contract with the city

within ten days following the award and complete the job within 100 days. On Feb. 21 the council voted to postpone opening of bids until Mar. 6 since no bids were received Feb. 21. Bids were opened Mar. 8 with four bidders. A disagreement arose over moving the solid rock at the site.

March 20, the council voted to reject all bids and advertise for bids to be opened April 6, 1956.

April 10, the city awarded a contract to Carl's Electric & Plumbing Co. of Harrison for \$51,940.60. Mr. Orndorff said he'd award a subcontract to Herman Langston of Mountain Home for general construction work. The bid was \$240 more than the engineer's estimate of \$51,700.

June 6, 1956, Mrs. Tom Dearmore (Reba) was elected Chairman of the commission. She had already been appointed by Mr. Fisk to be chairman of the dedication ceremony. The new chairman designated each member to be in charge of developing a different area. Ken Trammell - bathhouse and pool accessories; Max Nusch - softball, tennis, shuffleboard, horseshoes, quoits, etc.; Loyd Fisk - small children's area; Jewell Cooper, picnic and rest areas. The commission decided upon a definite regular meeting date.

City and county machinery began working grading Mr. Nusch's areas. Joe Stiles & R. M. Ruthven, Jr., donated services as surveyors. Maurice Sharp, John Simmons, Jody Jones, F.F.A. & baseball team members, disced and sodded the area. Ted Rogers helped lay out the diamond.

Season tickets went on sale in July, 1956: \$2.50 through age 15, \$5.00,

16 and up. Individual admission: \$.25 for youngsters through 15, \$.40 for 16 and up.

Junior deputies planted zoysia grass on the softball field.

The Mountain Home Rotary began pouring a tennis court.

The pool officially opened at 10 o'clock Aug. 22 with the chairman turning on the faucet to fill the pool. Clifford Mason, Booth, Texas, new member of the high school faculty, was employed as director of pool and park activities.

Sept. 1 the dedication ceremony was held with Rotary preceding it the night before with a barbecue after which the Tau

Gamma Club sponsored a bathing beauty revue. Awards went to Kathy Hackler, Miss Floater; Carolyn Kent, Miss Wader; Diane Nystrom, Miss Mermaid; Betty Nystrom, Miss City Park. Over 800 persons attended the barbecue. Loyd Fisk was M.C. for that night and the next days. Members of the Arkansas Publicity & Parks Commission and wives were special guests. Bill Amo of Little

Rock City Park represented the capital city. Rev. Dan Zeluff (Presbyterian Church) gave the invocation at the dedication ceremony. The welcome address was given by Mayor Lahar and the dedicatory address by Congressman Jim Trimble. Mrs. Dearmore gave a tribute to those assisting with the park and pool development. Colors were presented by the U. S. Marine Color Guard from Little Rock and an aquatic performance by a team from Springdale.

Shortly after the dedication, Bill Wiseman was appointed to replace Loyd Fisk, who resigned, and R. M. Ruthven, Jr., was appointed for a five-year term to replace Max Nusch, whose term had expired.

The Chairman wrote to the President or leader in each organization in and around Mountain Home asking that such organization give something to the park. Suggestions were made in the letters. Those contributing were: jungle gym by Tau Gamma and tennis courts by Rotary (before the letter, I think); back stops for tennis courts, Lions Club; 10 tables, shuffleboard, Ben Weinstein; 300 plants, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Nevius; umbrella table & chairs, Sam Powell; backboards for tennis instruction, Keeter Lumber Co. (promised);

2 trash cans, picking up rocks, setting flowers, Coterie; swings, 20th Century, Mrs. R. D. English, Mrs. Florence Westbrook, Miss Dolores Stankus; clock with waterproof case, Gen. & Mrs. George Keyser; memorial water fountain, Class of '44; flagpole, American Legion & Legion Auxiliary; labor in building flagpole, Lex McCracken; sand and trash cans, Guy King; roses, Glad Garden Club; flat, Mrs. B. B. Foster; sandbox, Girl Scouts; making sandbox and landscaping, Maurice Sharp & F.F.A.; fencing, Soil Conservation Department; grading, hauling dirt, rolling and blacktopping, City Street Department; merry-go-round, Mountain Home Schools; bird houses, Presbyterian Church School; setting

jungle gym in concrete, Bill Dickerson, setting swings & merry-go-round, Carl Vanzant; tennis lessons, Helmut Nusch and Don Dempsey; sodding, Boy Scouts; \$73 or \$74 check to be used for barbecue grills, First Mother's Club. Coterie operated stands at the R. E. A. Convention in the park in August, proceeds from which were given in the amount of \$75 in September.

The park board's big project for the summer was arranging the R. E. A. Convention. Boys picked up rocks, dug, cut weeds, etc., for season tickets.

In August, a suit for \$15, 872 was filed by the city against the contractors for failure to meet all specifications in the pool construction. (The pool had cracked, restroom roof caved in, etc.)

The badminton and volleyball court was completed August 14, and Pa and Ma night was begun on Thursday nights. Horseshoe and shuffleboard courts were finished, the tennis courts having been finished in July with mesh nets because of a three-month delay in the wire mesh net order. Mr. Mason erected a horizontal bar for exercising.

In August, Mrs. J. Y. Phinney was appointed to the board to replace Mrs. Tom Dearmore, whose term would expire in September.

Admission to the pool was the same in '57 ad in '56 except \$.50 for adults instead of \$.40.

Pete Shiras had become Mayor in January 1957. The council voted to give \$600 that year to the commission in addition to \$1100 worth of street department services and material which had already been donated.

In September, Joel Cooper became Chairman of the commission.

#### THE SOCIETY'S COMING EVENTS

Mark your calender so you won't miss the following important Society events:

**August 25<sup>th</sup>:** The regular meeting will be held at the restored Historic Old Arkana School. This will also be another of our Pot Luck dinners, so bring a dish and come. Dinner begins at 6:PM. Come enjoy a great meal, good fellowship and hear a lot of history of the Arkana area!

**October 10<sup>th</sup>:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Luncheon at the Rollins Hospital Museum at Gassville, to benefit the restoration of the museum. Lunch begins at 11am. Come, eat and see the progress of the restoration!

**October 24<sup>th</sup>:** "Living History" at Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement in Cooper Park in Mountain Home. This is an all day event beginning with the set-up of the encampment of the Civil War Confederate Re-enactors. Many events are planned during the day. Watch for announcements of the program.

#### Items Donated for use in the Shady Grove School Building in Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement

From **Ellen Elumbaugh**, 2069 Old Tracy Ferry Rd, Mountain Home, AR:

- 1-ea Wood burning stove "JUMBO"  
"General Wesco Stove Co.
- 1-Stove floor mat 3'x2'6"
- 3 Lengths 6" diameter stove pipe.

From: **Mrs. Annamae Lawson Britt**, 1249 CR 126, Calico Rock, AR

- 1-homemade teachers desk (original from the school)
- 7-books, all previously used in the Shady Grove School:
  - "The Child Word" Fourth Reader (used by Annamae's father in the School)
  - "Heidi" by Johanna Spyri
  - "Building Citizenship" by Hughes
  - "Adventure" by Peete Cross
  - "English in Action" by Tressler Christ
  - "Webster's New World Dictionary" school and Office Edition
  - "The Red Badge of Courage" by Stephen Crane
- 1-Oil Painting of the Shady Grove School

From: **Jay and Kitty Baker**, 312 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653

- 1-14" dia. School Bell

From **Mr. and Mrs. Larry Golden** Family in memory of his parents, and **Mr. and Mrs. Gene Garr** in memory of Hazen Bonow:

- 1-"Standard" 31 day School House Clock

From **Mr. and Mrs. Truman Smith**,  
Mountain Home, AR:

1-Teachers Desk (original from school)  
1-Water Bucket Stand

From: **Robert and Becky Baker**, Mountain  
Home, AR:

1-lot misc. desk accessories  
1-Holy Bible

*Special Thanks to Becky for painting the  
desk, water stand and water bucket.*

All Gifts to the Settlement are greatly  
appreciated!



### **EARTH DAY CELEBRATED IN RAPPS BARREN PIONEER SETTLEMENT**

On Saturday, April 18, 1998, a large group descended on Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement in Cooper Park to cleanup, paint-up and plant-up!. People from the Baxter Laboratory, several from the Master Gardeners Club, The Historical Society and the City Park crew were in the group. Those from the Historical Society were Stella Jackson, Vanita Jones, Juanita Stower, Joe O'Halloran and Gene Garr. Becky Baker and Jim and Imogene Lowe had previously went down to the Shady Grove School site and dug up many of the old Iris plants. The entire force, under the direction of Park Superintendent Jackie Leatherman, divided up into several groups. One group of the workers spaded, prepared the ground, and planted the Iris around the Old Shady Grove School building. Another group tackled the job of painting the latticework around the bottom of the school building. Still another group performed cleaning work on the Talburt/Leonard Cabin and Shot-gun house, another cleaned up the windows in the schoolhouse and another group policed the grounds. All debris from the reconstruction activities was cleaned up. By noon Saturday, the area was spick and span and the Settlement is ready for another summer.



### **SCHOOL CHILDREN CELEBRATE EARTH DAY**

On Thursday, April 23, the third grade from Nelson-Wilks school in Mountain Home descended on the Parks in Mountain Home to celebrate Earth Day. Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement in Cooper Park was the scene of a visit during the day by the students and their teachers.

The students, in small groups, toured the buildings in the park under the guidance of Society member Gene Garr. They spent much of the time in the buildings trying to figure how people could have lived in them. The children asked many questions. One of the questions asked the most was "where did they sleep in the houses? How did the teacher in the school teach so many classes? Where did they play? Did they have Inside Recess? Where were the bathrooms".

While each group was touring the buildings, another group was engaged in a nature scavenger hunt.

Before each group departed, a ceremony honoring earth day was performed. The Science class of the third grade had raised butterflies from cocoons to release in honor of Earth Day. They began the ceremony by singing "Happy Birthday to the Earth" and by releasing the Monarch butterflies.

*It was a joy to see the Settlement used for this celebration. This is exactly what the whole idea of a pioneer settlement was for.*



### **THERE IS A MIGHTY BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD SOUND FACTS AND FACTS THAT SOUND GOOD**



#### **CORRECTION**

#### **HOWARD KNIGHT REMEMBERED**

Services for Howard Murl Knight of Mountain Home were held on January 5 at the Kirby Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was private.

Howard died February 2, **1998** at his residence. He was 97 years of age. He was born October 2, 1900 at Portage, Ohio, to Dr. Thomas and Maude Book Knight.





**CORRECTION**

**HAZEN BONOW REMEMBERED**

Services for Hazen E. Bonow of Mountain Home were held on Saturday, February 14, 1998 in Mountain Home, Arkansas. Burial was in the Mountain Home Cemetery beside her husband on the family plot.

Hazen died Saturday, **February 3, 1998** at the Flippo's Rehabilitation Facility in Mountain Home. She was 95.



**THE SQUEAKING WHEEL MAY GET  
THE GREASE, OR IT MAY BE THE FIRST  
TO GET REPLACED.**



**NEW BUILDING CAPS HISTORY OF  
AREA CHURCH**

*Baxter Bulletin, May 8 1998*  
By Chryl Ripple, Bulletin Staff Writer

The history of the Mountain Home Christian Church, which was organized over a century ago, is wound into the history of the Twin Lakes Area. The church is now adding the finishing touches to a new building on Highway 62 just west of Mountain Home.

The new steeple of the building, which took approximately four hours to install, came from a company in Kentucky. The steeple itself is 42 feet high. From the ground level the total height of the church is 92 feet.

This may be the tallest structure in the area besides the Bull Shoals Dam, which is 258 feet, and the tower on Bull Shoals which is 140 feet.

The Steeple has faceted stained glass on eight sides and will be lighted at night.

**CHURCH HISTORY**

In 1953, Irene Morris compiled a history of the Mountain Home Christian Church when the members were building a new church building. Part of the following history is the beginning of this church was taken from her research.

The first services of a number of congregations were held in the Mountain Home Male and Female Academy, which

opened in 1853. The Christian, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches each had a Sunday. The city that was to become Mountain Home was built around this school before the Civil War. When the war began, Professor Howard joined the Confederate army and his family moved back to Wisconsin. The school was destroyed by fire and in 1868 the citizens of this area knew they had to have a school and began building another academy. At that time school started every morning with worship.

In 1884 or earlier, the organized Christian Church was meeting in the courthouse. Professor A. J. Truman from New York was superintendent of the Sunday school and Professor J. S. Howard preached. Each Sunday a melodeon belonging to Bell Bodenhamer, the daughter of Professor Howard, was carried up the stairs to be used in the services. Mrs. Bodenhamer and Ada Truman were the first organists.

John T. Baker deeded the land to the church near his store on May 12, 1892, erected a building around 1893 and the congregation occupied this building until 1953.

**DORCAS SOCIETY**

Mrs. John T. Baker was often called the "Mother of the Church." The women organized a missionary society which they called the Dorcas Society in the 1890s. In 1910, the ladies of the church bought a piano through the Baker Brothers Store, from the Bollian Brothers Piano Company at St. Louis, Missouri for \$225.

Some of the families who were charter members were the Trumans, the Searlds, the Schoggens, the Souths, the Cowans, the Copelands, the Bakers, The Simpsons, the Wilks, the Talberts, the John Curlees, the Hulls, the Gills and the Masseys.

The first minister of the First Christian Church was T. T. Davis and these are the ones that followed him: F. A. Lovell in 1914, Earl R. Peters in 1922, Brother Russell from 1925-1926, H. A. Colman served for one year and three months in 1928-1929.

In the early years there were many times when there was no pastor to shepherd the flock. The group had Sunday school and communion each Lord's Day and sometimes women would have to preside at the Communion table. About once a year there

would be a revival meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Jay Baker (parents of Effie Mooney) would usually entertain the visiting evangelist in their home.

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Jay Baker was superintendent of the Sunday school and taught the adult class for 25 years or more. At the same time, Belle Copeland, having come back to Mountain Home from Texas in 1919, was made a deaconess. She prepared the Communion for the next sixteen years until her death.

The following is a list of Sunday school superintendents who have served the church: Rose Simpson, Dick Cowan, Ray Baker, Belle Copeland, Robin Norris, Mrs. Robin Norris, Dick Foree, Mrs. Max Adamson, Brother and Mrs. Allen Nance, Brother Herbert Bass, Mrs. F. L. Pettit, Don Jordan, Bernard Smith, Pat Ernest and Harvey McGuire.

In 1926, when Jay Baker's health failed, Brewer Robertson was elected teacher of the Bible class and in 1953 was still teaching the men's class.

The cradle roll was organized in January of 1922 while Mr. and Mrs. Earl Peters, a young couple from West Plains, lived here for a short time. She was the first superintendent and he was the minister. Helen Hutcheson and Louise Robertson were her assistants. Mrs. Brewer Robertson was later a superintendent as well.

#### **THE MINISTRY**

Alfred Brunk began serving the church in 1931-1934 (*the note says he died here*) R. O. Brewer was the minister beginning in 1934 and the Christian Endeavor was organized under his ministry, which ended in 1936; J. W. Jadwin from 1936 to 1937 and resigned because of his wife's health. Albert Jones served from 1937-1939.

Allen Nance served from 1939-1942. During his ministry, the pulpit was changed from one end of the church to the other, the incline floor was lowered and four Sunday school rooms were built. The youth went to camp for the first time including Maxine Wolf, Bobby Baker and Jimmy Morris. Daisy Bryant gave venetian blinds for the auditorium windows in 1942.

Herbert Bass began serving in September of 1942, overseeing redecoration with individuals buying pews and chairs and

Daisy Bryant donating a communion table. He moved in December to a larger church.

F. L. Pettit served from 1944-1947, organized the Laymen's League with 28 men as members. He resigned because of ill health.

William Cook served from 1947-1949. During his ministry the church had the largest average in Sunday school up until 1953 and talk began about building an additional building. He resigned and moved to Kansas.

G. O. McMillan served from 1950-1953. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer Robertson gave the church a lot on which to build a new church and the blueprints were purchased and plans began.

Jack Matthews began serving in July of 1953. For the first time the church had a minister on the new radio station for morning devotions. On August 2, 1953, the group held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new building at the corner of Dryer and Eighth Streets. He left the church in 1956.

James Morgan served from 1956 to October 1, 1960.

On May 7, 1961, the Mountain Home Church called its first full time minister. That minister was Ira Kirk who served until his retirement on December 31, 1964. Harold O. Whitwell was called to the ministry of the church on April 1, 1965, but his promising ministry was terminated by illness in September of 1965.

In 1966, a group left the First Christian Church and formed an independent church now known as Memorial Christian Church.

W. Robert Bell served the First Christian Church as minister from 1965 to 1981. Dr. Dan Kenner served as an interim minister twice, the first time in 1981; Dennis F. Pendleton was called and began serving on January 1, 1982. John Stewart served from 1985 to 1990 and Lee Nirschl served from 1990 to 1998.

■  
**REMEMBER WHEN THINGS WERE  
PRICED "AT" INSTEAD OF "FROM"**  
■

*The Baxter County Historical Society, April, May & June 1998*  
*Volume 24-2*

Another Baxter County Family

**ANCESTORS OF Ralph Earl**  
**FIRST GENERATION**

- (1) **Ralph Earl ORSBURN**, son of Alfred Homer ORSBURN and Lucinda Mariah JAMES, was born 14 November 1911 in Wetumka, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA.

**SECOND GENERATION**

(2) **Alfred Homer ORSBURN**, son of Calvin Hodge ORSBURN and Sarah Jane "Rose" TALBERT, was born 12 September 1887 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS, and on 2 September 1906 in Gassville, Baxter County, ARKANSAS, married **Lucinda Masiah JAMES**. Alfred Homer died on 17 January 1917 in Wetumka, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA. in a hunting accident. He was a farmer and was a Baptist.

Children:

- + 1 1 **Ralph Earl ORSBURN** was born on 14 November 1911.

**THIRD GENERATION**

(3) **Calvin Hodge ORSBURN**, son of William H. ORSBURN and Maranda Elizabeth Jane HART, was born 16 March 1862 in ILLINOIS and in May 1884 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS, married **Sarah Jane "Rose" TALBERT**, daughter of Frederick Benton TALBERT, Jr. and Nancy Elizabeth WOODS, who was born 17 August 1869 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS. Calvin Hodge died on 12 November 1943 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA. Sarah Jane "Rose" died on 29 June 1935 in Wewoka, Seminole County, OKLAHOMA. Calvin worked for the railroad because he had a horse drawn freight wagon. About September 1906 they moved from Baxter County, Arkansas, to Hughes County, Oklahoma.

Children:

- + 4 1 **William ORSBURN** was born 16 January 1885 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS. William died in infancy on 20 January 1885 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS.
- 2 2 **Alfred Homer ORSBURN** was born on 12 September 1887.
- 5 3 **James Elbert Monroe ORSBURN** was born 13 October 1889 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS, and on 2 May 1914 in Platter, OKLAHOMA, married **Emmer MEEK**. James Elbert Monroe died on 3 October 1988 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA.
- 6 4 **Noah Adam ORSBURN** was born 27 September 1891 in Mountain Home, Baxter County, ARKANSAS, and on 17 March 1912, married **Lottie Viola BLACK**. Noah Adam died of heart problems on 18 January 1955 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA. And was buried in the Holdenville City Cemetery.
- 7 5 **Charles Walter ORSBURN** was born 19 November 1893 in Mountain Home, Baxter County, ARKANSAS, and on 8 May 1919 in Wewoka, Seminole County, OKLAHOMA, married **Lucinda Mariah JAMES**. **Charles Walter** died on 27 December 1975 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA.  
Charles W. was in US Army during World WAR I and served in France in 1918 & 1919. He enlisted at age 23. He was a farmer and was a Baptist.
- 8 6 **Nellie Mae ORSBURN** was born 18 June 1896 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS, and married **Harvey M. BURROWS**. Nellie Mae died on 22 June 1981 in CALIFORNIA.
- 9 7 **Lillie ORSBURN** was born 6 May 1900 in Bennett Bayou, Fulton County, ARKANSAS. Lillie died on 4 October 1902.
- 10 8 **Myrtle Elsie ORSBURN** was born 9 June 1905 in Mountain Home, Baxter County, ARKANSAS, and about 1928 in Holdenville, Seminole County, OKLAHOMA, married **John S. COLLIS**. Myrtle Elsie died on 17 July 1935 in Wewoka, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA.
- 11 9 **Bessie Ann ORSBURN** was born 18 July 1907 in Wetumka, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA, and married **Lee BRANNON**. Bessie Ann died on 29 June 1989.
- 12 10 **Mable Veda ORSBURN** was born 9 September 1908 in Rainford, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA, and on 19 September 1927 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA, married **Harry ETCHISON**. Mable Veda died on 8 October 1993 in Tulsa, OKLAHOMA. They never had children but raised a child of her sister, Myrtle Collis.
- 13 11 **Pearl Hazel ORSBURN** was born 21 May 1910 in Hanna, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA. Pearl Hazel died on 25 July 1935 in Wewoka, Seminole County, OKLAHOMA.

**FOURTH GENERATION**

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(14) **William H. ORSBURN** was born in December 1822 in Bedford County, TENNESSEE, and on 9 June 1847 in Marshall County, TENNESSEE, married **Maranda Elizabeth Jane HART** who was born in June 1824 in Bedford County, TENNESSEE. William H. died on 5 October 1905 in Bayou Township, Fulton County, ARKANSAS. Maranda Elizabeth died on 2 December 1904 in Bennett Bayou, Fulton County, ARKANSAS. Maranda Elizabeth was a invalid for 15 years prior to her death.

William was a freight hauler. He had came to Arkansas in 1872. He made trips from southern Missouri to North Central Arkansas. He became blind sometime before his death. William and Maranda Elizabeth were Missionary Baptist and he was a deacon for over 40 years.

Children:

- 15 1 **Sarah Elizabeth ORSBURN** was born 16 July 1847 in TENNESSEE, and about 1874 in Baxter County, Arkansas married **Peter BEAN**. Sarah Elizabeth died on 8 May 1927 in Baxter County, ARKANSAS and was buried in the Bean Cemetery at Gamaliel, Baxter County, ARKANSAS
- 16 2 **Millie ORSBURN** was born in 1850 in TENNESSEE.
- 17 3 **Emeline "Emmie" ORSBURN** was born February 1853 in IL, and on 24 October 1897 in Baxter County, MISSOURI, married **James L. DUNCAN**. Emeline "Emmie" died after 1930 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA.
- 18 4 **Jasper N. ORSBURN** was born in May 1855 in ILLINOIS, and on 12 January 1879 in Ozark County, ARKANSAS, married **Mary Ann E. CAIN**.
- 19 5 **James Henry ORSBURN** was born in 1857 in Illinois. In 1880 in Baxter County, ARKANSAS, he married Louise Jane Standadge. James Henry died in 1880 in Muskogee, Muskogee Co, OKLAHOMA. He was buried in Muskogee. James Henry was a "Concreter". Before moving to Oklahoma, they had lived in West Plains, MISSOURI
- 20 6 **William H. ORSBURN** was born in April 1860 in Perry County, Illinois William H. died on 27 December 1872 in Baxter County, ARKANSAS and was buried in the Bean Cemetery at Gamaliel, Baxter County, ARKANSAS.
- + 3 7 **Calvin Hodge ORSBURN** was born on 16 March 1862 in ILLINOIS..
- 21 8 **George Nathan ORSBURN** was born 2 June 1865 in Illinois. George Nathan died on 24 September 1942 in Holdenville, Hughes County, OKLAHOMA. George "Nathe" was never married. He is buried in the Holdenville City Cemetery. He was a farmer and a Missionary Baptist.
- 22 9 **Charles ORSBURN** was born in 1867 in ILLINOIS, and married **Mattie Ellen SMITH**. Charles died after 1920.

(23) **Frederick Benton TALBERT, Jr.**, son of Frederick Benton TALBERT and Elizabeth WILHOIT, was born in 1795 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, and married **Sarah Amanda "Kitty" WELLS** who was born in 1790. Frederick Benton died after 1880 in Baxter County, ARKANSAS and was buried in Athens Cemetery. Frederick, Jr., served in the Arkansas House of Representatives in 1831. They lived in Bennetts Bayou area at the time of 1860, 1870, & 1880 Federal census

Children:

- 24 1 **Samuel H. TALBERT** was born in 1816, and married **Marget** who was born about 1826 in Iowa.
- 25 2 **John Jackson TALBERT** was born in 1818, and married **Sarah "Sallie" McCURRY** who was born in 1827. John Jackson died in 1869.
- 26 3 **Nancy TALBERT** was born in 1823, and married **Lewis WELLS**.
- 27 4 **Mary TALBERT** was born in 1827.
- 28 5 **Thomas Simeon TALBERT** was born 17 November 1835, and married **Elizabeth LAW**. Thomas Simeon died on 25 July 1910 in ARKANSAS and was buried in Athens Cemetery, Baxter County, ARKANSAS.  
**Thomas Simeon** also married **Malinda SHRABLE**.

**Frederick Benton Jr.**, also married in 1863 in Fulton County, ARKANSAS, **Nancy Elizabeth WOODS** who was born in 1834.

Children:

- 29 1 **William David "Bill" TALBERT** was born in 1864.
- + 30 2 **Sarah Jane "Rose" TALBERT** was born on 17 August 1869.
- 31 3 **Annie E. TALBERT** was born in 1872.
- 32 4 **Walter E. TALBERT** was born in 1872.

FIFTH GENERATION

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**(33) Frederick Benton TALBERT, Sr.** was born in 12 mar 1772 in Orange Co., VIRGINIA, and on 30 August 1790 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, married **Elizabeth WILHOIT**, daughter of Conrad WILHITE and Elizabeth BROYLES, who was born in 1772 in Culpepper County, VIRGINIA. Frederick Benton died on 22 January 1842 in Marion County, ARKANSAS. Elizabeth died in 1811 in Illinois  
Frederick Sr. and his family migrated from Tennessee to North Central Arkansas in 1814. They settled on a homestead in Izard Co at what is now Norfolk, later to become Baxter County. To register his homestead land, he left his family with friendly Indians and walked to the nearest Land Office in St. Louis, Missouri.

Children:

- + 23 1 **Frederick Benton TALBERT, Jr.** was born in 1795.
- 34 2 **Nancy TALBERT** was born in 1797 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, and married **John HARGRAVE** who was born in 1797 in NC.
- 35 3 **Simeon Wilhite TALBERT** was born in 1799 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, and married **Fanny** \_\_\_ who was born in 1807. Simeon W. died on 4 November 1852 in Rapps Barren, Baxter County, ARKANSAS and was buried in Casey/Talbert Cemetery, Rapps Barren, ARKANSAS. (The town of Mountain Home, Arkansas, was originally known as "Rapps Barren" and was so named from Simeon who was also known as "Rapp". Simeon had home-steaded much of what is now Mountain Home)
- 36 4 **Walter Matthew TALBERT** was born 14 May 1802 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, and on 15 August 1824 in Big North Fork, Fulton County, ARKANSAS, married **Polly HIGHTOWER** who was born in 1810. Walter M. died in 1904 in Baxter County, ARKANSAS.
- 37 5 **Basil TALBERT** was born in 1807 in IL, and married **Louisa** \_\_\_ who was born in 1813 in MO.

SIXTH GENERATION

**(38) Conrad WILHITE**, son of Tobias WILHOIT and Catherine, was born about 1739 in Orange County, VIRGINIA, and married **Elizabeth BROYLES**, daughter of Jacob BROYLES and Catherine FLEISHMAN, who was born about 1740 in Orange County, VIRGINIA. Conrad died on 17 February 1809 in Campbell County, TENNESSEE.

Children:

- 39 1 **Adam WILHITE** was born about 1760 in Culpepper County, VIRGINIA, and in 1780, married \_\_\_ **BATTY**.
- 40 2 **Solomon WILHITE** was born about 1762 in Culpepper County, VIRGINIA, and married \_\_\_ **RIDENHOUSE**.  
**Solomon** also married on 13 June 1808, **Catherine MCGEE**.
- 41 3 **Julius WILHITE** was born 25 April 1764, and on 23 April 1787 in Greene County, TENNESSEE, married **Maret HISE/HISO**.
- 42 4 **Matthias WILHITE** was born about 1766 in Culpepper County, VIRGINIA.
- + 43 5 **Elizabeth WILHOIT** was born in 1772.

SEVENTH GENERATION

**(44) Tobias WILHOIT**, son of Michael WILHOIT and married \_\_\_ **BLANKENBAKER**, was born about 1715 in Siegon, Germany, and married **Catherine**. Tobias died in May 1762 in Orange County, VIRGINIA.

Children:

- + 38 1 **Conrad WILHITE** was born about 1739.

**(45) Jacob BROYLES** married **Catherine FLEISHMAN**.

Children:

- + 46 1 **Elizabeth BROYLES** was born about 1740.

EIGHTH GENERATION

**(47) Michael WILHOIT** was born about 1685 in Watersbach, Germany, and in 1710 in Germany, married **Mary BLANKENBAKER** who was born about 1690 in Germany. Michael died in June 1746 in Orange County, VIRGINIA. Mary died in 1746 in Orange County, VIRGINIA.

Children:

- + 44 1 **Tobias WILHOIT** (p. 42) was born about 1715.

EDITOR: This Family history has been submitted by member Carol Orsburn, Rt 2 Box 195, Wewoka, OKLAHOMA 74884-9640 Phone (405) 257-5929. Carol is seeking other researchers of the Orsburn/Osborn families. She wants to correspond and hopefully expand this family line.



Another Baxter County Family"

**Descendants of William Henry DOUGLAS**

(1) **William Henry DOUGLAS** was born 5 Feb 1850 in INDIANA and in Dec 1879, married **Margaret E. MASSEY** who was born 28 Feb 1854 in MS. William Henry died on 25 Dec 1918 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR and was buried in Mountain Home Cemetery, Mountain Home, AR. Margaret E. died after a yearlong illness on 24 Jul 1916 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR and was buried after a service by H .F. Vermillion, in the Mountain Home Cemetery, Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR. William Henry came to Baxter County in 1880 where he engaged in the Mercantile Business. He was a kind hearted, charitable man and was a principal part of the upbuilding of the education and religious life in Mountain Home. They were members of the Baptist Church. Margaret had two known brothers:

Burl E. Massey who was born Dec 1856 in Mississippi and married Lula Glin. He had at least 5 children: Thomas Arthur, Euzelia lone, Bonnie Lula, Rosa Alice and Ruby Aileen.

Holly J. Massey who was born Feb 1847 in Alabama and married Emma \_\_\_\_\_. They had at least two children: Minnie and Maggie.

Children:

- 2 1 **Maggie DOUGLAS** was born 10 Sep 1880. Maggie died on 30 Jun 1896 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR and was buried in Mountain Home Cemetery, Mountain Home, AR.
- + 3 2 **William Edgar DOUGLAS** was born in Sep 1883.
- 4 3 **Oscar Linn DOUGLAS** was born in Aug 1890, and on 16 Apr 1919, married **Jemma HURST**. Oscar Linn was buried in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR. Jemma was buried in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR.
- 5 4 **John M. DOUGLAS** was born in Jan 1894 in AR, and in May 1916, married **Nellie GREATHOUSE**. John M. died in Tupelo, Lee County, MS.
- 6 5 **Henry Bryan DOUGLAS** was born in Jul 1896 in AR, and in May 1917 in Salem, AR, married **Grace McELMARRY**. Henry Bryan died in Tupelo, AR.
- 7 6 **Eleanor DOUGLAS**

(3) **William Edgar DOUGLAS**, son of William Henry DOUGLAS and Margaret E. MASSEY, was born in Sep 1883 in Lee Co., AR, and on 22 Dec 1909 in Chocotaw, Oklahoma County, OK, married **Lurah Ethel PIERCE**, daughter of Stephen Washington PIERCE and Sarah Ann FEDUS, who was born 12 Jan 1885 in Valley Springs, AR. William Edgar died on 5 Jan 1964 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR and was buried in Aurora, MO. Lurah Ethel died on 28 Feb 1924 in Tahlequah, Cherokee County, OK and was buried in Aurora, Lawrence Co., MO. William Edgar was a lawyer, a District Attorney and a judge.

Children:

- 8 1 **Velma Emogene DOUGLAS** was born 11 Oct 1910 in Cotter, Baxter Co., AR, and in 1940 in Mammoth Springs, AR, married **Morris WOOLDRIDGE**. Velma Emogene died in 1951 in Bremerton, Kitsap County, WA.
- + 9 2 **Sally Lou DOUGLAS** was born on 12 Aug 1912.
- + 10 3 **Margaret Lucy DOUGLAS** was born on 19 Mar 1915.

(9) **Sally Lou DOUGLAS**, daughter of William Edgar DOUGLAS and Lurah Ethel PIERCE, was born 12 Aug 1912 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR, and on 17 May 1938 in North Little Rock, Pulaski County, AR, married **James Armour CARTER** who was born 12 Dec 1910 in Hattiesville, Conway County, AR. Sally Lou died of cancer on 12 Sep 1958 in Morrilton, Conway Co., AR and was buried in Morrilton, Conway Co., AR. James Armour died on 7 Sep 1978 in Perryville, Perry County, AR and was buried in Morrilton, AR. He was a "Restaurateur".

Children:

+ 11 1 **Martha Frances CARTER** was born on 20 Feb 1939.

(11) **Martha Frances CARTER**, daughter of James Armour CARTER and Sally Lou DOUGLAS, was born 20 Feb 1939 in Morrilton, AR, and on 9 Jul 1961 in Morrilton, AR, married **Wayne COUCHMAN** who was born 1 Aug 1933 in Nettleton, AR. Martha and Wayne live in Forrest City, AR. She is an educator.

Children:

+ 12 1 **Martha Renee COUCHMAN** was born on 15 Oct 1963.

+ 13 2 **Cynthia Lynne COUCHMAN** was born on 15 Nov 1964.

(12) **Martha Renee COUCHMAN**, daughter of Wayne COUCHMAN and Martha Frances CARTER, was born 15 Oct 1963 in Forrest City, AR, and on 18 Mar 1988 in Forrest City, AR, married **Lawrence Joseph TARRANT** who was born 12 Mar 1966 in Osceola, IA. Martha Renee is a teacher.

Children:

14 1 **Lawrence Joseph TARRANT, II** was born 3 Jul 1990 in Blytheville, Mississippi County, AR.

15 2 **Tyler Keith TARRANT** was born 18 Mar 1993 in Memphis, Shelby Co., TN. Tyler Keith lives in Cabot, AR

(13) **Cynthia Lynne COUCHMAN**, daughter of Wayne COUCHMAN and Martha Frances CARTER, was born 15 Nov 1964 in Forrest City, AR, and on 24 Nov 1984 in Forrest City, AR, married **Charles Edward GAINES** who was born in Forrest City, AR. Cynthia Lynne works as an office manager. Charles is in the landscape business.

Children:

16 1 **Charles Edward GAINES, Jr.** was born 19 Apr 1985 in Great Lakes, IL.

17 2 **Kyle Edward GAINES** was born 29 Aug 1989 in Summerville, Dorchester County, SC. Kyle Lives in Forrest City.

(10) **Margaret Lucy DOUGLAS**, daughter of William Edgar DOUGLAS and Lurah Ethel PIERCE, was born 19 Mar 1915 in Mountain Home, Baxter Co., AR, and on 17 May 1946 in Morrilton, AR, married **Loid Nichols STOVER** who was born 4 Apr 1919 in Morrilton, AR. Loid Nichols died on 22 Apr 1972 in Dallas, Dallas County, TX and was buried in Morrilton, AR. Loid was a "Restaurateur" Margaret Lucy was a secretary and lives in Marietta, Cobb County, GA.

Children:

+ 18 1 **Lurah Susan STOVER** was born on 22 Mar 1951.

(18) **Lurah Susan STOVER**, daughter of Loid Nichols STOVER and Margaret Lucy DOUGLAS, was born 22 Mar 1951 in Newellton, Texas County, LA, and married **Harry Earl HOUGHTALING** who was born 20 Mar 1956 in Franklin, NJ. Harry Earl is a Computer Engineer. Lurah is a "Household Engineer".

Children:

+ 19 1 **Cassandra Diane HOUGHTALING** was born on 8 May 1971.

+ 20 2 **Cynthia Lurah HOUGHTALING** was born on 10 Jun 1972.

21 3 **William Loid HOUGHTALING** was born 4 Feb 1983 in Austell, GA.

(19) **Cassandra Diane HOUGHTALING**, daughter of Harry Earl HOUGHTALING and Lurah Susan STOVER, was born 8 May 1971 in Waxahachie, Ellis County, TX, and on 25 Nov 1993 in Augusta, Richmond County, GA, married **Bill WINDSOR** who was born 29 Apr 1971.

Children:

22 1 **Joshua Ryan WINDSOR** was born 25 May 1994 in Waynesboro, Burke County, GA.

(20) **Cynthia Lurah HOUGHTALING**, daughter of Harry Earl HOUGHTALING and Lurah Susan STOVER, was born 10 Jun 1972 in Waxahachie, TX, and on 23 Sep 1995, married **James Jerald PARRISH, Jr.** who was born 20 Feb 1970 in Adkins, SC.

Children:

23 1 **James Jerald PARRISH, III** was born 22 May 1996

—Submitted by *Laurah Houghtaling, 2410 Argentina Dr., Hephzibah, GA 30815 Phone 1-702-790-9801*

#### DONATION TO THE SOCIETY

**"The Cabells and Their Kin"** by Alexander Brown was presented to the Society by Randolph and Mary Kay Cabell. This top quality book was first published in 1896 and contained information of the Cabell family in Virginia. Later in 1939 another edition was published and the last issue was brought out in 1994 by Randolph Cabell. This contains among other items, a complete index. The book covers the Cabells during the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. The book will be shelved in the Genealogy library in the Rollins Hospital Museum in Gassville when that facility is completed.

*Margie Garr found this book being offered on the Internet and sent an E-Mail in order for our Society to acquire it. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> book acquired this way.*



#### THE PERSON WHO TAKES RESPONSIBILITY ON HIS SHOULDER ISN'T LIKELY TO HAVE A CHIP ON HIS SHOULDER

#### GENEALOGY QUERIES

*Member's queries will be accepted for publication in the "Quarterly". All queries should have a connection to Baxter County or the surrounding area. Queries should be brief and include, when known, dates, locations, county, major cities and state, births, marriages, deaths, and residences. Queries will be subject to editing. Send queries to the Editor's address listed on the inside cover.*

**Verna & Dan Bice, 218 Flag Dr. W., Lake Jackson, TX 77566-6015 Phone 1-409-297-3137 E-mail: [jbice@brazosport.cc.tx](mailto:jbice@brazosport.cc.tx)**

Looking for information on these family surnames: **Tracy, Tracey, Vaughan, Bice, Harrison, Hamilton, Gatlin, Gatling, Wilburn, Copeland.** Tracy boys moved from Cass Co., GA just before the Civil War, just in time to enlist in Arkansas. They are found in Baxter, Izard and Independence Counties. It is not known who is the father or brother but we feel they are all related. My Justus F. Tracey served in the Civil War, in Company "C" of the 8<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry as a Captain. Would love to hear from any Tracy descendant or related line.



#### HOW TO FIND THEM!

This is a regular feature of the "History". If you have a unique or educational article to share with our readers, please send them to the Editor for sharing with our members

#### JUST STARTING TO LOOK FOR THEM?

By F. Gene Garr

For some time the Quarterly has featured ways for genealogy buffs to further their research. I imagine that there are some members that have never traced their genealogy that would like to get started.

What is the best way to get started with the research of your family? The place to start is with you and your parents. Just begin with the information in your own home or

those of your relatives. Search your memory and those of family members. Learn how to pick the memory of the elder members of your family. Get out that old family bible or find out who has the family bible and get the records that Grandma wrote there. She did it so those who follow will know the facts about the family. Search



your attic and the attic of the elder members of your family. Get out all those birth, death, divorce and marriage certificates. Whatever your family tells you write it down and date it. Always keep notes with adequate information to insure finding it again later if needed. As the Genealogists say "**Cite Your Sources**". Always give credit to those who have helped you! You may want them to help you again.

After the family has been solicited for their information it is time to go to the public library, bookstore, etc and acquire a how-to-book on genealogical research. Then schedule visits to the courthouses of your ancestor's counties, state vital statistics departments, state and federal archives, genealogical libraries and computer databases. Much data can be found on birth and death certificates, Social Security records, naturalization records, ships' records for immigration records, court records. and one of the most important-acquire the information found in the US Census available from 1790 through 1920. Good genealogy libraries have microfilm, microfiche and computers, which contains much family information. A visit to a "Family History Library (FHL) at a nearby Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints would be in order. The people working there are most helpful for beginners and will assist you in getting started. See the resources listing at the end of this article for finding the location of a FHL near you.

Most genealogists come to a place in their research where a computer becomes almost a necessary tool to keep order in the compiling of your records. There are several good programs on the market to help the researcher maintain order in what they have found. Most of them work well to assist even the novice genealogist. The computer will also be the tool that will allow you to do research from your home on the Internet

The Internet can connect you to others that may be researching your family. Remember that your family has many branches on its tree. Some one else may be doing research on your family and will offer to assist you. The Internet can be the connection that will bring you together. It can also connect you to many good libraries

that may have information that can extend your research

The search for your ancestors requires a lot of patience and persistence. Many who start become frustrated because the information doesn't come quickly or from one place. Genealogy is like a jigsaw puzzle-it is many times acquired one piece at a time. What you thought would be a weekend of work can take a lifetime! Those who have pursued this hobby for years will tell you, it is never completed, and there is always one more branch on the tree to explore.

As a word of warning from the US Postal Inspection Service – beware of solicitations in the mail. They sound as though they're selling write-ups about your personal ancestors. Instead, these books may well be primarily lists of people with your last name, most of who probably aren't related.

Genealogy research can be rewarding. It is not unusual to find a relative that made his niche in history and is someone to be proud of. It is also possible to find the exact opposite! Many have found information that indicated that their ancestor was a soldier in the American Revolution, etc. Genealogy research has reunited families, settled probate cases, establish rights to Indian programs, established medical history of inherited disorders, allergies, etc. Genealogy has become one of the leading hobbies in the nation.

The following are some Genealogy Resources:

"Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages & Divorces."

Cost \$2.25 make check payable to "Superintendent of Documents",

Mail to: Consumer Information Center, Item 127E. Pueblo, CO. 81009

An electronic version is available for free on the Web Site: [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov).

To find the nearest "Family History Center" of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Call: (800) 346-6044.

Web site:

[www.ids.org/family\\_history/how\\_do\\_lbegin.html](http://www.ids.org/family_history/how_do_lbegin.html)

Social Security Death Index:  
[www.ancestry.com/ssd/advanced.htm](http://www.ancestry.com/ssd/advanced.htm)

US Genealogical Web project:

[www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com)

*Genealogy Tool Box:*

*genealogy.tbox.com*

**Forms to record your family are included in this issue.** You may have them photocopied for additional copies. These forms are also readily available at the Family History Library in a nearby Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, or a genealogical Society.

Good Hunting and **cite those sources!**



#### **DIGGING UP ANCESTORS IN ARKANSAS**

Contributed by Ed Sanders, President of the Arkansas Genealogical Society [esanders@cswnet.com](mailto:esanders@cswnet.com)

#### **How To Word A Query**

Those who are willing to help you can do so best if you will furnish a NAME, EVENT (birth, death, or marriage), DATE and PLACE when requesting genealogical information. There is no way anyone can/ will send you "all the information on the \_\_\_\_\_ family." Please be specific.

#### **How To Obtain Vital Records**

For Birth, Death, Marriage and Divorce certificates, request the proper form from Arkansas Department of Health, Vital Statistics Division, 4815 West Markham Street, Slot 44, Little Rock AR 72205.

Birth certificates are \$5, Death certificates are \$4, others are \$3, as of 01 Dec 1997.

#### **How To Learn What Information is in the Arkansas State Archives**

To determine what information is available in the state archives, send by ordinary U.S. Postal Service mail, with SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) a request for descriptive flyers about the holdings of Arkansas History Commission and State Archives, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock AR 72201.

One question about one specific person may be answered-if, and only if-the material is indexed. There will be a charge for the lookup and copy.

#### **Free ARKANSAS Maps Available**

Free maps for each U.S. county are available through your Congressman. Request a USDA SOIL SURVEY MAP for (fill in your) county, or counties. Your Congressman will have email at <(his/her last name).congress@mail.house.gov> , or can receive ordinary mail when addressed

by name at the Longworth Office Building, Washington DC 20515.

Cemeteries are indicated on these aerial photos, and locations are determined by the Section, Township and Range grid on the maps.

#### **More Free Maps**

A single copy of a free map of ROADS, OLD TRAILS, TRACES AND HISTORICAL PLACES OF ARKANSAS is available FREE when requested in person at the office of Cooperative Extension Service in each of the 75 counties of Arkansas. If you cannot appear in person, write: Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, Fayetteville AR 72701 and request a free copy of map MP149.

#### **Still More Free Maps**

Write Arkansas Department of Highways & Transportation, 10324 Interstate 30, Little Rock AR 72209, and request a copy of the book of maps titled STATE HIGHWAY ROUTES AND SECTIONS BY COUNTY. These are traffic maps and have a lot of numbers on them, but the good stuff is there too, and the price is FREE! Each of the 75 counties is included in the book.

#### **Free Arkansas State Highway Map**

A free copy of the current issue of the official Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department's STATE HIGHWAY MAP is available by ordinary mail upon request to: Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock AR 72201.

#### **How To Connect With Other Arkansas Researchers**

Write by ordinary mail: Arkansas Genealogical Society, Box 908, Hot Springs AR 71902-0908, and request a membership application. Membership (\$15 per year) includes four issues per year of the 40pp quarterly, Arkansas Family Historian, and free queries. Send your first query with your membership application and fee. It will soon be in print.



**TIME IS THE WAGES OF LIFE  
INVEST IT, DON'T SPEND IT**



### **NEED A NEBRASKA NEWSPAPER?**

If you need information from Nebraska newspapers, you may borrow them via microfilm from the Nebraska State Genealogical Society, 15<sup>th</sup> and R. Streets, Lincoln, NE 68509.

Write for ordering information and costs, please.

With thanks to the Longmont Heritage Publication and Odom "The Family Tree"



### **POST OFFICE SITE LOCATION**

All extant records of site location reports for post offices have been transferred by the Postal Service to National Archives and Records Administration, Eight Street and Pennsylvania Ave., Washington DC 20408-0001.

The reports of site locations are completed forms submitted by postmasters, mostly in the period from 1865 to 1946, giving the location of their post offices and other geographical information. They typically show the location of post offices in relation to nearby post offices and transportation routes and facilities and some reports show the location in terms of legal land descriptions and/or small grid maps of the vicinity of the offices.

The series has been reproduced in Microfilm Publication M1126, Post Office Department Reports of Site Locations 1837-1950 and copies for a specific office or a few offices can be purchased for 25 cents a page (minimum order of \$6. For larger orders, the Archives can also furnish positive copies of Microfilm Publication M1126 for \$23 per roll. Each roll generally contains several counties within a state. There are 683 rolls in the set.

To order the site location reports, your check or money order should be made payable to the National Archives Trust Fund and directed to Cashier, National Archives, Trust Fund, Washington, DC 20408-0001.

Since about 1950, the postal Service has not used the site location forms to record changes in post office locations. For information after this date, it is recommended that you check with the

nearest Postal Service Division or management Section Center in your area.



### **LOOKING FOR A DOCTOR?**

The National Genealogical Society now offers a research service for entries in the AMA Deceased Physician File.

The file is incomplete from 1878 to 1905 but comprehensive from 1906 to 1969. Information in the database usually includes date and place of birth and death, medical school attended, place of practice, hospital affiliation and obituary.

Surnames "A" through "L" is now available  
Write to:

National Genealogical Society  
Attn: Physician Research  
4527 17<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Arlington, VA 22207-2399

Include first and last name of Physician, time period, and location (if known)

Fee is \$15 for research per name and prepaid payment is required.



### **1930 FEDERAL CENSUS**

Problems using the 1930 Federal Census is anticipated when it comes out in 2002. Apparently, The WPA, was indexing this census but was stopped due to the start of World War II. Only 10 states were indexed, all from the South and there are no known projects to continue indexing that census or the 1940 and 1950 censuses either. Not good news for genealogists!!



### **UNCLE SAM**

America's legendary "Uncle Sam" was patterned from a ultra patriotic meat packer from Chicago whose parents had earlier emigrated from Greenhook, Scotland



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

A mile is 5,280 feet because that was the distance of 1000 double steps of a Roman Legionary and an amount added by Queen Bess so that a mile equals eight furlongs

A foot was the length of Charlemagne's foot, and was modified in 1305 to be 36 barleycorns laid end to end.

An inch was the width of the knuckle of King Edgar's thumb or three barleycorns.

A yard was the reach from King Henry I's nose to his fingertips, a distance also twice as long as a cubit

A cubit was the length of the arm from elbow to fingertip.

A furlong was the length of a furrow a team of oxen could plow before resting.

An acre was the amount of land a yoke of oxen could plow in one day.

That the gauge of American Railroads is 4 feet 8 ½ inches, the same gauge as the specifications for an Imperial Roman Army war chariot. This width was preserved during the years as other wagons were built to match the ruts made by Roman Chariots so as to not be wrecked by the ruts.



#### **What was the earliest date you could drive a wagon from Virginia into Kentucky?**

The first written record of the Wilderness Road was an announcement in the Kentucky Gazette on October 1796.

Daniel Boone marked a trail into Kentucky while working for Richard Henderson in 1774. It was sometimes referred to as the Wilderness Road. This was inaccurate, as it was barely wide enough for a pack horse to pass through—not a wagon road. So if you see or hear a reference to the Wilderness Road prior to 1796, you know it's not correct.

The Wilderness Road began near Jonesville in Lee County, VA. It ran westward to Cumberland Gap, through the Gap, then northwestward toward Lexington. It passed near Middlesboro, Pineville, Barbourville, London and Mt. Vernon to Crab Orchard. There were connecting roads from there to Danville, Harredsburg and finally to Louisville.



#### **A Galvanized Civil War Soldier?**

This term applies to some Confederates who had been captured and in prisoner of war camps were *persuaded* to enlist in the Union Army. They may have received Federal pension.



#### **Only State named for a President?**

The State of Washington, named for George Washington. Interestingly, when the area was first named by an English sea captain, it was named New Georgia, for King George III of England.



**A Gentleman is a husband who sees that his wife always has a sharp axe to cut the wood.**



#### **WHY GENEALOGIST HAVE GRAY HAIR!**

The 1820 and 1830 Wisconsin census records are those of Michigan. The 1860 Nevada census is included with that of Utah. The 1860 schedules for the present state of Oklahoma are with those of Arkansas which was the Indian Lands. The 1860 census records for the present state of Wyoming are with those of Nebraska. And the 1860 schedules for Colorado are included in the Kansas census.

---The Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois's Newsletter.



#### **THE BEST WAY TO BECOME AN OVERNIGHT SUCCESS IS TO WORK AT IT FOR YEARS**



#### **ARKANSAS CONFEDERATE PENSIONS**

In a listing of men and women applications for Confederate Pensions denied in Arkansas for such reasons as "not poor" "not enough proof of service", etc., the following were filed from Baxter County:

#19312 Martin, Nathan

#14456 Neal, S. S.

#14466 Robertson, W. R.

#14486 Travillian, W. T.

From Marion County:

(no number) Slagley, Arritta  
(no number) Stokes, Rebecca

From Fulton County:

(no number) Burrow, Wm. I.  
(no number) Harmon, Jacob B.  
(no number) Holt, J. Rice  
(no number) Hutchinson, Geo. W.  
# 139 Mitchell, W. W.  
#17821 Mullens, Wm. A.  
#2720 Tucker, Thos. P.

From IZARD County:

1223 King, Moses  
2699 Reynolds, M.

1216 Shelton, James  
(no number) Ogle, Mrs. W. P.

Copies of the Application may be ordered  
from :

The Arkansas History Commission  
One Capitol Mall,  
Little Rock, AR 72201



**WEAR A SMILE AND HAVE FRIENDS  
WEAR A SCOWL AND HAVE WRINKLES**



**SOCIAL SECURITY APPLICATIONS  
AS A GENEALOGY SOURCE.**

Have you considered the Social Security Administration as a source for genealogical information? If not possibly you should ask yourself the following questions:

- 1) Why should I order a Social Security Number Application?
- 2) How can I order a copy of a Social Security Number Application?
- 3) How can I find out my ancestor's Social Security Number?
- 4) What if I can't find my ancestor's Social Security Number?
- 5) What kind of information is on the Social Security Number Application?
- 6) How long can I expect to wait for a copy of the Social Security Number Application?

- 1) Why should I order a Social Security Number Application?

The application is a good source of genealogical information. You will find an ancestor's birthdate, birthplace, father's name, mother's name, and more. What if you already know this information? There are other reasons to order a copy of the SS-5. For instance, since your ancestor and not a secondary party provided the information, the SS-5 is good supporting documentation for corroborating previous research. Also, you may find that the SS-5 does not corroborate what you already know to be "fact". As an example, say your great-grandmother's name was Blanche and you

was unable to find any information on Blanche until you viewed your grandmother's SS-5 that said her mother's name was actually Ida Bell.

The SS-5 can also be a source of unexpected information. As an example a paternal grandmother's middle name is listed as Wanda on her SS-5, not Yvonne as all know it to be. When checking with relatives about it. Investigation then revealed that she had been married three times and one husband's surname was Wanda.

So the question really is "Why shouldn't I order a Social Security Number Application?" and not a single reason comes to mind.

- 2) How can I order a copy of a Social Security Number Application?

To request a copy of the application for a Social Security Account Number (SS-5), write a letter to the Social Security Administration which includes the following:

- Applicant's name
- Applicant's Social Security Number (SSN)
- Applicant's approximate date of death

Send your letter and a check or money order for \$7.00 (U.S. Dollars only) to:

Social Security Administration  
Office of Central Records Operations  
FOIA Workgroup  
P.O. Box 17772  
300 N. Greene Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21290

Note that the above address is a new one, which recently appeared on the Social Security

Administration web site. The address previously used was:

Social Security Administration  
Freedom of Information Officer  
6401 Security Blvd  
Baltimore MD 21235

Please also note the following:

A copy of an SS-5 can be ordered only for a deceased person.

include the applicant's middle name or initial if known. When requesting an SS-5 for a female, include all possible last names (i.e. maiden and all married surnames).

When requesting SS-5s for several people, mail each request (and \$7 check) in a separate envelope. This will speed processing in the event there is a problem with one or more of your requests. On the outside of your envelope below your return address, write or type:

"Information Request for Copy of SS-5"

3) How can I find out my ancestor's Social Security Number?

First search the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) for your ancestor. An online version of the Index is available on the Ancestry.com web site. However, according to an article about the SSDI at Ancestry.com, it's unlikely you will find an ancestor listed if she/he died before 1962 since "... close to 98% of the entire index contains individuals who died after 1962 (when the SSA began keeping the database on computer)."

Don't find your ancestor there? If your ancestor died in California, try the California State Death Index, which lists social security numbers when available. This State Index is available in many libraries and Family History Centers. Another source would be family records such as a bible. My great-grandmother recorded births, marriages, deaths and some Social Security Numbers on pages in her favorite book.

4) What if I can't find my ancestor's Social Security Number?

It is possible to request a copy of the Social Security Number Application (SS-5) without knowing the Social Security Number.

The procedure is a little different, takes longer to process and is more expensive. According to the Social Security Administration's web site, for a "Social Security Number application search when you don't have the number ... we need identifying information (name, place and date of birth, father's full name, and mother's given and maiden names) to find the record [a fee is charged. It was \$16.50. Check for current price] Send your request to the same address given in section 2.

5) What kind of information is on the Social Security Number Application?

The format of the Social Security Number Application (SS-5) changed from year to year, but should contain the following:

Applicant's first, middle and last names.

For women, the maiden name or previous married name may be substituted for the middle name.

Applicant's address.

Applicant's employer and employer's address.

Applicant's age at last birthday.

Applicant's date of birth.

Applicant's place of birth.

Full name of applicant's father.

Full maiden name of applicant's mother.

Applicant's gender.

Applicant's race.

Applicant's signature and the date the application was filled out.

It may also included:

Name under which applicant worked if different than name above.

Applicant's marital status.

Wife's maiden name if applicant is male.

Beginning or ending date of employment.

How applicant was paid.

6) How long can I expect to wait for a copy of the Social Security Number Application?

The bad news is that some horror stories tell of waits as long as eight months. The good news is that others have experience waits of only 30-60 days. Experience with these procedure dictates that the following is good advise:

Follow the instructions in section 2 especially the part about mailing each request separately.

Keep records for each request including a copy of the letter, date mailed and check number. After four weeks, start checking whether your check has cleared your bank. Many people have received a copy of the SS-5 within 10 days after their check has cleared the bank.

The Genealogical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) is engaged in the most active and comprehensive genealogical program known to the world. Microfilming is the center of this genealogical operation. Trained specialists throughout the world are microfilming documents; land grants, deeds, probate, marriage, cemetery, parish registers and have accumulated over a million rolls thus far. They are available in Salt Lake City and through branch libraries across the country. There is an extraction program being worked on by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where the subject is the records of Ellis Island from 1892-1924. The finished product will become part of Family Search which is the program that includes the IGI, Ancestral File etc. held at Family History Centers. The LDS extraction statistics for 1997 show Ellis Island had 3,553,067 individual entries. Approximately 28% of the Ellis Island project have been completed. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of county naturalization before 1930 for many states and it has most federal court naturalization records before 1930.

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### **BORN OR DIED AT SEA OR FOREIGN COUNTRY**

Records of birth and death occurring on vessels or aircraft on the high seas: When a birth or death occurs on the high seas, whether in an aircraft or on a vessel, the record is usually filed at the next port of call.

1.If the vessel or aircraft docked or landed at a foreign port, requests for copies of the record may be made to the U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-1705. 2.If the first port of entry was in the United States, write to the Records maintained by foreign countries.

**Death records of U.S. citizens who die in foreign countries**

**To obtain a copy of a report filed in 1960 or after, write to Passport Services, Correspondence Branch, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-1705. The fee for a copy is \$10.00. Fee may be subject to change.**

*Reports of Death filed before 1960 are maintained by the National Archives and Records Service, Diplomatic Records Branch, Washington, DC 20408. Requests for such records should be sent directly to that office.*

Reports of deaths of persons serving in the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, or Coast Guard) or civilian employees of the Department of Defense are not maintained by the U.S. Department of State. In these cases, requests for copies of records should be sent to the National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records), 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63132-5100.

Most, but not all, foreign countries record births and deaths. It is not possible to list in this publication all foreign vital records offices, the charges they make for copies of records, or the information they may require to locate a record. However, most foreign countries will provide certifications of births and deaths occurring within their boundaries.

Persons who need a copy of a foreign birth or death record should contact the Embassy or the nearest Consulate in the U.S. of the country in which the death occurred. Addresses and telephone numbers for these offices are listed in the U.S. Department of State Publication 7846, Foreign Consular Offices in the United States, which is available in many local libraries. Copies of this publication may also be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

*If the Embassy or Consulate is unable to provide*

assistance, U.S. citizens may obtain assistance by writing to the Office of Overseas Citizens Services, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-4818. Aliens residing in the United States may be able to obtain assistance through the Embassy or Consulate of their country of nationality.



**THERE CAN BE CHANGE  
WITHOUT IMPROVEMENT  
BUT NO IMPROVEMENTS  
WITHOUT CHANGE**



### **MARLER FAMILY LORE**

By S. C. Turnbo

*These stories were taken from the manuscript of S. C. Turnbo, who wrote many stories of North Arkansas. He was also the author of "Fireside Tales of the Ozarks".*

#### **MAKING A BEAR GET OFF ITS BED TO SHOOT IT**

Among the pioneer stories of Boone County, Arkansas, is an account told by Mr. Isaac Milum, an early settler on Crooked Creek who lived 3 miles below Harrison. He said that Luke Marler was an early settler in valley of Crooked Creek and was a bold and fearless hunter and was as successful in killing big game as he was in killing small animals. He lived to be a very old man before the death angel came and took him away from the familiar scenes of his hunting grounds. Mr. Milum contributes the following sketch relating to the killing of a bear by Mr. Marler one-day in a cave during wintertime while snow lay on the ground. Marler was accompanied by one of his sons and had followed the trail of the bear in the snow to Sugar Orchard Creek where it had went into a cave. The old hunter made preparations to enter the cavern. They had only one dog with them. Marler instructed his son to remain at the entrance and keep the dog there while he proceeded into the cave, with his rifle and a torch of pine fuel. He slowly made his way into the dark recess with a glare of light from the torch which reached only a few feet around him. He scanned every nook and corner. He soon found Bruin, and the beast was apparently asleep. Marler placed the torch in a convenient spot, then advanced a little closer to the sleeping beast and touched Bruin's hair with his hand. Finding that his bearship did not move he prepared to shoot him, but its position was such that he could not send a ball to a vital part. He therefore poked the beast with the muzzle of his gun

until it arose to its feet. The light seemed to blind it, and it was bewildered. Finally its position was such that Marler sent a leaden messenger crashing through its skull, killing it instantly.

#### **MEETING AN ANGRY PANTHER IN A CAVE**

Luke Marler who was a pioneer settler on Crooked Creek over the line in Marion County, Arkansas, was a famed hunter. His thrilling experiences, if written out and printed in book form, would fill a good-sized volume. Mr. Marler belonged to the same regiment in the Confederate army the writer did and was a member of Capt. Aaron Burleson's Company. One day we belonged to the army, Mr. Marler told me the following story:

"Many years ago", he said, "I and a man of the name of Hill, whose given name I have forgotten, were hunting together one day on the north side of Crooked Creek where we discovered a cave some miles from where the first crossing of Crooked Creek is following the road from Yellville to Bellfonte. This cave had marked indications of being inhabited by a wild beast which we presumed to be a bear. After we consulted a while it was arranged between us for Mr. Hill to go into the cave and either kill the bear or scare him out and I was to await at the entrance of the cavern and keep the dogs back and shoot the Bruin if he emerged from the cave. In a few moments after Hill had entered the cave with torch in one hand and his gun in the other he came in contact with a panther which attacked Hill instantly, which extinguished the light immediately. The panther was furious and it tore the man's clothes and lacerated his flesh until the blood ran from the wounds. Fortunately the beast did not stay with him



long or it might have been much worse for the hunter. The Panther after leaving Mr. Hill made its exit from the cave only to meet a well-directed shot from my trusty gun. When Hill came out of the cave he presented a pitiful sight. The blood was dripping from his wounds, his clothes were dangling from his limbs and body, but he was more than pleased to find the panther lying dead at the mouth of the cave. It measured nearly nine feet in length. I had some difficulty in getting Mr. Hill home and he suffered some time with the wounds made by the panther before he was able to accompany me on another day's march."

#### SHOOTING A DEAD BEAR

We have given a few stories of Luke Marler, the old time hunter of Crooked Creek, else-where in these sketches and we proceed now to give another account of him which is a little amusing. This one was told to me by Handy de Shields, who located on Crooked Creek in Marion County, Arkansas, in the year 1840 and who afterward settled in the valley of East Sugar Loaf Creek and died several years ago on the head of South Fork of the last named stream. Mr. De Shields told the tale in the following words, which he said, was true.

"One day Marler in company with his son-in-law, Levi Henderson, and another man whose name is forgotten, started on horseback for a hunt after big game. During the day Marler was separated once from the other two, a distance of over a quarter of a mile. The two men heard a gun shot and saw Marler mount his pony and ride up the hill a short distance and dismount, load his gun, then mount his pony and ride to the foot of the hill, dismount and shoot, then he remounted and rode back up the hill, stopped and dismounted again and reloaded his rifle, then mounted his pony and rode back to the foot of the hill and delivered another shot. These strange actions of the man was singular and he kept it up until he had repeated it 4 or 5 times and Henderson and the other man reached the conclusion that Marler had gone crazy all at once and rode to where their comrade was acting so peculiar. On their arrival they found that the man was repeatedly shooting a bear what was humped down under the roots of an

uprooted tree. It was found that the bear was dead, probably killed instantly by Marler's first shot, but as he never had seen a struggle or movement he had concluded he was missing his mark each time. It was many days before Luke Marler heard the last of "shooting a dead bear to give it a second death.

Editor-The above Turnbo stories of Luke Marler were submitted by member Dewain Richmond, of 4826 Baham Dr., Sand Springs, OK 74063, descendant of Luke Marler. Luke was the father of Dr. John E. Marler, early physician of Baxter County.



From *The Turnbo's Tales of the Ozarks: War and Guerrilla Tales*

#### CHASED BY THE ENEMY

Mr. W. E. Stone of near Protem, Missouri, an old pioneer settler of Maries County, Missouri, who was a member of the Company F, 10<sup>th</sup> Missouri (Confederate Infantry) furnished the writer this sketch.

"In the early part of 1862, I had gone with part of our command in to the State of Arkansas from where I was sent back into Missouri to organize a company of Southern men. I recollect that on my way back, I passed through Yellville in Marion County and crossed White River at Talbert's Ferry and crossed Big North Fork east of where Mountain Home in Baxter County now stands. I was horseback and passed through the mountains as fast as my horse was able to travel. I was not molested by anyone until I got into Howell County, Missouri."

"One day when near fifteen miles northwest of West Plains, I noticed an elderly horseman north of where I was, coming toward me as fast as his horse could run. The country was open and I could see objects a long distance. When the man had approached closer to me, I stopped, for I was pretty well convinced that he was not running his horse for the fun that was in it. When he got up still nearer to me, I could see that he was whipping and spurring his tired horse to urge him along at his best speed, but I was not able to discern anything in his rear that he should be afraid of. As the fast fleeing horseman galloped up to me, he slowed up a little and yelled out, "Unless I am mistaken, you had better be going the other way."

"What is the matter?" said I.

"Look back yonder and you will receive your answer." Said he. And I looked and beheld a mounted war party had hove in sight which I took to be a squad of Federal cavalry which had just come into view. They were in pursuit of the lone horseman and were a mile behind him."

I had on a suit of citizens' clothes and did not resemble a soldier, but the moment I caught sight of the men in blue, I did not ask any more questions. I reigned my horse around quickly and galloped him over the way I had come. My horse was not as tired as my newly made friend's horse was and I was soon in advance of him. We did not halt a moment to converse but talked as our horses went galloping over the road. We went along as fast as our steeds could move along. We kept together twelve miles before we separated within three miles of West Plains. I asked him why they were chasing him. He said "They are against all southern people and considered them the enemy. They want to arrest and probably kill me and I do not want to fall in their hands and this explains why I am trying to get away from them." Said he.

Through this was the longest and hardest and fastest horseback ride I ever experienced in those turbulent days of war to escape the hands of the enemy. I sometimes think now that the Federals did not intend to kill the old man and would have soon given up the chase and turned back, but on observing another man fall in with the old fellow. I think they concluded to continue the pursuit of us just to see us run. If that was the case, they certainly enjoyed themselves watching us get over the road in such a hurried manner. My horse was almost give out when we parted, but this did not lessen my fears and I urged my jaded horse along to get further. I did not see the Federals anymore. I went on until I found a suitable place to conceal myself and horse where we got a breathing spell, then I traveled on and did not stop for good until I reached the residence of Jim Young who lived in "**Talbert Barrens**" in Baxter County, Arkansas. I stopped a few days to let my horse rest and made my way back up north to Maries County, Missouri, where I raised a company of men for the South."



#### THE CENTRAL OVERLAND CALIFORNIA AND PIKES PEAK EXPRESS

The Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express is better known as the "Pony Express". If you find a letter that had been delivered with no stamps in your family documents, this means the letter was written before 1847. In 1711, fourpence was the charge to carry a letter any distance up to 60 miles; sixpence was the charge for 60 to 100 miles. Fourpence in English money was about 8 cents in American money.

These rates applied to letters on a single sheet of paper. If two or three sheets were used, the rates were doubled or tripled. Postage was not paid in advance because of the uncertainty of delivery but was collected from the person to whom the letter was addressed.

The mailmen were called postriders.

About the time of the American Revolution, stagecoaches were used for carrying mail because they could carry a heavy load and mailing became cheaper.

With the rapid settlement of California, the Pony Express began weekly service in 1860 between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. Later two trips a week were made.

The primary purpose of the service comprised part of the Northern defense strategy during the Civil War by providing a fast, central link with California that Southern raiders couldn't harm.

California was helped to stay in the Union during the 17 months the Pony Express existed.

In 1860, a San Francisco newspaper printed this advertisement:

**WANTED  
YOUNG, SKINNY, WIRY FELLOW  
NOT OVER EIGHTEEN  
MUST BE EXPERT RIDER  
WILLING TO TAKE RISK, DEATH  
ORPHANS PREFERRED**

By 1847, our present system of prepaid postage became the practice by means of stamps, however, the riders of the Pony Express left much in the way of legend in American history and romanticism.





### MY MOTHER, MRS. MABEL SOWELL

In life just as in a foot race, a good start is essential. I feel whatever small success I've enjoyed in life has been due in large part to the wonderful help and support I received in my formative years from my Mother. It was she who instilled in me a love of good books and a desire to learn more of this big wonderful world around us. She read to us from Zane Gray, Harold Bell Wright, etc. as we huddled around the great stone fireplace, with the flames throwing flickering shadows on the wall. Not great literature, perhaps, but they could talk all day about the beauty of a sunset.

It was my Mother who pointed out the various constellations in the sky, and showed me how to locate the North Star. As the wife of a hill farmer in Arkansas, and the mother of two small children, she had very little leisure time. There was canning of fruits and vegetables in the summers, wash day meant heating water in a big black kettle, then rubbing each garment on a scrub board, with plenty of strong yellow lye

soap, which she also made in that same black kettle. All this, plus cooking three meals a day and helping milk eight or ten cows by hand.

And as if that wasn't enough, for three years she taught school in a one-room schoolhouse. Dad would saddle up old Nell, and I rode behind her on the three-mile trip to the schoolhouse. She would tie up the horse, then hurry in to build up a fire in the wood stove.

We didn't have a very wide curriculum, just the basic "readin', writin' and arithmetic" but what we learned, we learned well. I especially enjoyed spelling. About once a week we would have a spelling bee. You had rows of students-the object was to see who could stay up the longest. When you missed a word you had to sit down.

I remember once when two brothers came to school after a night of skunk hunting. Out in the cold, everything was ok, but when they crowded up around that hot stove, the pungent odor of skunk just about ran us out of the room. Mother sent the boys home to change clothes.

Mother was a cheerful person, humming or singing those old gospel songs as she worked. But she could be swift to punish if you did wrong. She is long gone now, but even today I don't use profanity, because I can imagine I would hear her voice, "Merle, go out to that peach tree and get me a switch-I'm going to tan your hide." Child abuse? I don't think so. Two ornery boys growing up need a certain amount of discipline.

Mother was full of surprises. Once when she was visiting us our older son was showing off his new Yamaha motorcycle, and he kiddingly invited her to take a ride with him. Without a word she hitched up her skirt and climbed on behind him, and they roared off in a cloud of dust!

Well, she's gone now, and there's an empty feeling in my heart when I see something I'd like to share with her. But she left a legacy of truth and dedication and loyalty that will live on through future generations.

Mother, I Salute You!

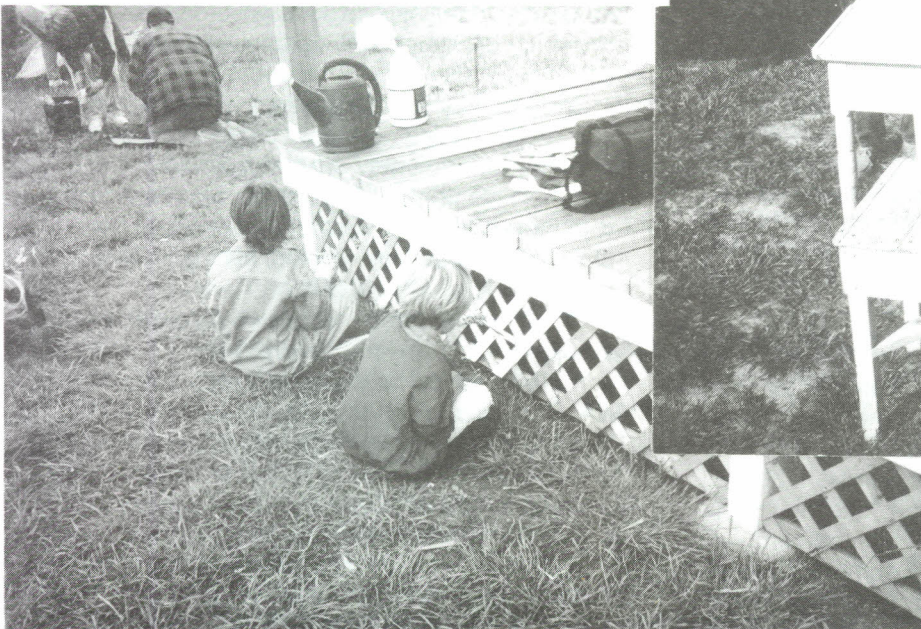
--Merle Sowell, 1994

*Editor: Mrs. Herman Sowell taught three years at the Shady Grove School. The School building is now located in Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement in Cooper Park in Mountain Home.*



←  
**The Cleanup, Paint-up and Plant-up for Earth Day at Rapps Barren Pioneer Settlement.**

→  
**Mr. and Mrs. Truman Smith donate the Teacher's desk and water bucket stand for the school. Stella Jackson, who donated the Shady Grove school is on the left.**



←  
**Two budding artists helping to paint the lattice work on the Shady Grove School**



**CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE ABOVE?**

Above from Joyce C. Watson Bledsoe of 104 So. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Deepwater, MO 64740-9100  
--"My mother, Edna L. Skiver Watson, has the following names on the back of this photo.  
Can anyone name the year and the pupils in correct order?"

Back Row: Center-tall boy is Don Skiver, my uncle, to the left is Norman Skiver, my  
cousin,

The following are the names as listed on the photo:

Rex Baker  
Margurite Jones  
Guyetta Mann  
Daisy Campbell  
Jimmy Dunbar  
O'Neal McClond  
Ernest Martin  
Donald Bruce Morris  
Don J. Skiver  
Norman Skiver

Editor: If you can identify the balance and the correct order, please let me know and I will  
print the picture again with the proper names.

**FAMILY GROUP No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Husband's Full Name** \_\_\_\_\_

This Information Obtained From:	Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
	Birth							
	Chr'nd							
	Mar.							
	Death							
	Burial							

Places of Residence			
Occupation	Church Affiliation	Military Rec.	
Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.			
His Father		Mother's Maiden Name	

**Wife's Full Maiden Name**

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth							
Chr'nd							
Death							
Burial							

Compiler	Places of Residence		
Address	Occupation if other than Housewife	Church Affiliation	
City, State	Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.		
Date	Her Father	Mother's Maiden Name	

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
1	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
2	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
3	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
4	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
5	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
6	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
7	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
8	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
9	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.			59				
		Death							
		Burial							
10	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

\*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

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 lists and full descriptions of many genealogical aids

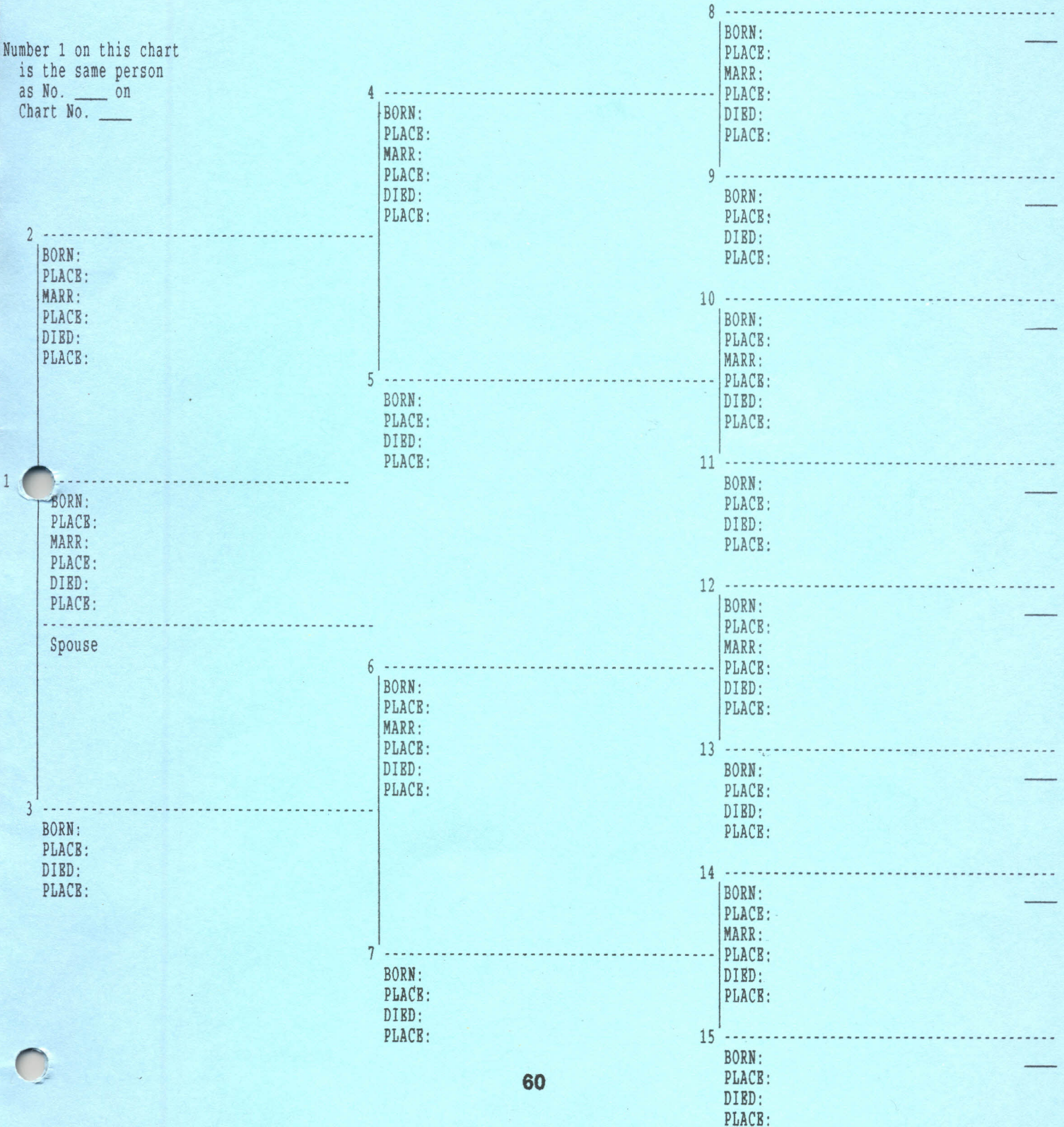
PEDIGREE CHART

Name and Address of Submitter: \_\_\_\_\_

Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
STAKE: \_\_\_\_\_

Number 1 on this chart  
is the same person  
as No. \_\_\_\_\_ on  
Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_



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