

Baxter County History



The Wolf House is the most historical building in Baxter County.

Photo courtesy of Ray Grass

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Active Membership \$5.00 per year
Associate Membership 2.50 per year

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Correspondence concerning membership dues, membership, orders for the "Hisotry", and other business matters should be sent to the Treasurer. Available back issues are \$1.00 each.

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Neither the Society or the Editor assume any responsibility for statements made by the contributors.

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THIS IS A COPY - NOT AN ORIGINAL - VOLUME 4 NUMBER 4.

GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ** BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

BY

JOSEPH & IRMA BLOOM RTE 6 BOX 352, MTN. HOME, AR 72653

BAXTER COUNTY MARRIAGES, NOVEMBER 2, 1890 TO JUNE 28, 1891

T. J. Perry to Namie Comer	Nov. 2, 1890
R. H. Russell to Lillie Smith	Nov. 6,
Oscar Leonard to Rina Love	Nov. 9
J. H. Southard to Sarah A Watson	Nov. 9
C. M. Ennis to Mary A Mabry	Nov. 16
George W. Shaw to Lou Davis	Nov. 16
Joseph Jenkins to Rebecca White	Nov. 23
J. S. Pigg to Mrs. Elizabeth Williams	Nov. 25
J. H. Moore to Nancy J. Morris	Dec. 17
James De Moss to Ann Clingengbeard	Dec. 21
L. L. Evans to Tommie M. Rudolph	Dec. 24
J. C. Lancaster to Delta Springer	Dec. 24
W. H. Lambert to Mrs. Jane Vanderford	Jan. 1, 1891
W. T. Hayes to Mollie Wright	Jan. 3
G. E. Gray to Lula Mooney	Jan. 11
W. E. Grun to Florence Wright	Jan. 13
J. L. Bigger to Mrs. Rebecca Knuickles	Jan. 16
J. M. Loman to Lizzie Hayes	Jan. 17
Wm. Tripp to Mary M. Henderson	Jan. 19
A. W. Rouse to Dollie Guthrie	Jan. 22
E. W. Mooney to Linnie Anglin	Jan. 31
W. T. Suther to Ella Hickman	Feb. 1
R. W. Rice to Minnie E. Morris	Feb. 5
James Queary to Vina Stafford	Feb. 8
W. H. Hodges to Hattie Campbell	Feb. 9
C. H. Foster to Mrs. Lucy Mitchell	Feb. 12
W. H. Wilson to Rebecca Toney	Feb. 15
Jerry Smith to Annie Spencer	Feb. 19
James Herron to Louvena White	Feb. 19
T. V. Poe to Dora E. Merriman	Feb. 22
J. H. Davis to Ida Conditt	Feb. 26
R. E. Eddings to Mrs. Eliza Baxter	Mar. 4
A. P. White to Elizabeth Newman	Mar. 15
L. B. Anderson to Laura Robertson	Mar. 22
John T. Gist to Leanna Cowart	Mar. 22
T. H. B. Martin to Mrs. Adline Pater	Mar. 24
A. A. Wolf to Lou J. Horton	Apr. 5
Andrew Havner to Fannie B. Ross	Apr. 12
J. W. Winkle to Lou Pitts	Apr. 12
W. H. Thorne to Hannah McPherson	Apr. 22
James Jordon to Mary E. Wheat	May 17
R. M. Huskay to Polly A. Waymen	May 17
J. I. Mangrum to Elmeda Young	May 17
Grant Hendrix to Mrs. Eliza Stanfield	May 24
James Knight to Mrs. Ruth Williams	June 3

GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ** CONT.

A. F. Bean to Mary E. Hughes	June 7, 1891
James E. Skiver to Mrs. Annie E. J. Bivens	June 16
M. R. Sorrels to Sallie Partee	June 18
F. C. Felton to Annie Hudson	June 28
William Brizey to Mary W. Walker	June 28

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REPORT ON HERITAGE AND ANTIQUE SHOW by Alyce Marbury

The Baxter County Historical Society held its 2nd Annual Heritage and Antique Show, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24 & 25th at the National Guard Armory in Mtn. Home.

The show, headed by Lloyd Fisk, President of the Historical Society and Quinby Smith, Chairman of the Show, was pronounced a success by all.

There were 20 exhibitors. All were interesting and some were quite unusual. A part of Mary Ann Messick's display was a scrap book she had kept during the 1950's of Elvis Presley. She even had a Christmas Card that Elvis had send her in 1957.

There has been quite a bit of discussion on how many viewed the show. 470 guests signed the guest register. At times the exhibition hall would be full of viewers.

Our thanks to all who brought displays and to all the members who gave their time for the show. Expecially we say Thanks to Verconia Hambleton for the beautiful roses. Plans are already being discussed for next year's show.

Our special thanks to Paul Harris and Quinby Smith who gave their time to guard the exhibits. Paul stayed at the armory from 6:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. Quinby stayed until daylight when the National Guard came to the Armory. Quinby had time for a short nap before going to Sunday School to teach his class.

We are all quite proud of this year's show and so happy that this much interest is being shown by both the exhibitors and the viewers.

PROGRESS OF BAXTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 BY
 HAZEN BONOW, HISTORIAN

June 17th:

Earle Johnson, coin collector, gave us the history of our coins. His talk was not only enjoyable, but very informative. He showed his 1776 coin.

Before 1776 many of the colonies had their silversmiths and made coins. Great Britain had the three pence, shilling, pound notes, etc, but Mexico's piece of eight -- 8 Reale Dollar (silver were used and could be cut into halves and quarter bits. We still use the expression "2 bits and 4 bits." When George Washington was in South Carolina he ordered mush and milk for breakfast and cut a dollar in half for payment. This piece is in the Wafford College Museum and is priceless.

In 1652 Charles II heard the Colonies were making coins and he decreed: "The Colonies must not herwith make further coins dated after 1652." The ingeous Colonists continued to mkae coins another 30 years -- all dated 1652.

In 1776 Continental Congress produced great amounts of currency to finance the war and the new country, such as \$3.00, \$4.00 and 8.00 bills. But there was so much worthless currency there developed a phase which has been handed down to us -- "Not worth a Continental!"

Congress, in 1792, voted to put Liberty and the date on the face of coins. Ben Franklin wanted a turkey on the other side instead of an Eagle, as the eagle was a bird of prey and was not a good portrayal of the Colonies. He was voted down.

1793 - Half cents, large cents, half dimes, etc were minted. 1794 - Half dollars with Miss Liberty showing only her head with long flowing hair were minted. (1,700 and are now valued about \$ 125.00.) 1795 - they gave Miss Liberty a bust and cut her long hair, putting a ribbon on it. (90% silver.)

For four years after the Civil War there were 5¢, 15¢ and 20¢ coins.

In 1864 a Penn. Baptist mī nister, Rev. Mark Watkinson, asked that "In God We Trust" be placed on all coins. In 1953 ,att Rothert, of Camden, AR, started campaigning for this slogan and it appeared on the 1957 series.

In 1883 the V Nickel was produced. It looked life the \$5.00 gold piece so a Josh Tatum (deaf Mute) would put

gold dust on the nickel and use it in buying without saying a word, then take the change for \$5.00. He was caught and in court his defense was, "I was just Joshing you!"

Some interesting facts and values:

1804 - There were 26,000 silver dollars coined. They became lost (?) and now only 15 are known left (value, over \$100,000.)

1895 - The first year silver dollars were coined in Philadelphia.

1907 - A \$20 gold piece was commissioned by Teddy Roosevelt but never minted. A N. Y. collector now has the model. (Value 1 million dollars.)

Only 5 of the fantastic 1913 V nickels are now in existence. (Probably worth \$300,000 each.)

1964 - Silver dollars were ordered for Las Vegas gambling interest, but were supposed to be melted before use. Were they?

1974 - 14 aluminum cent pieces were made because of the high price of copper. Mary Brooks, mint director, passed them around in Congress for approval. Where are they now???

Most valuable of currency has a perfect \$5.00 on one side and \$10.00 on the other (\$40,000 to \$50,000 value.)

July 5th meeting was cancelled.

August 2. Our speaker, Lyle Wood of Flippen AR was the chairman of the research committee for the newly published "History of Marion County." The history of Marion and Baxter counties are tied together, as they originally overlapped.

Mr. Wood said they had so much research to do and so little time to complete the book in order to get help from the Bicentennial grant that it was a very difficult task.

The old timers did little recordings of events whose stories could have told so much interesting history. Mr. Wood could not even find a complete list of boys killed in the service. The oldest court records found were in 1887 as the court house, with the records had burned.

PROGRESS -- CONT.

TOLD THEY WOULD BE EXPELLED IF THEY WENT. Three couples did go but noone seemed to know just who they were.

In 1902 the school became affiliated with Quachita College. Mtn. Home was a two year college and Quachita was 4 years. 1906-1918 the school was supported by subscriptions of local people. In 1916 it was a mission school.

The auditorium had 200 seats and was the center for many activities of culture. Arts, concerts and Lyceum. Lloyd never forgot a Basso (probably from an Opera Co.) singing, "Bells Of The Seas."

Where Memorial Funeral Home now is was the girls dorm. There was an orchard in the back. Many of the girls worked for their tutions. In fact Lloyd said he and "Red" Johnson used to sweep florrns and build and take care of the fires for their tuition.

The rules were very strict and therewas no mixing with boys and girls except by permits on Saturday night. The faculty was required to go to church every Sunday, and Prof. Morton would be there and count them.

The football team was called the "Yellow Jacketts." Mr. Powers Fowler was the cheerleader. At one game when Neill Shoemaker was runnig for a touch-down, some-one yelled, "Watch that guy camelopard.!" The football team practiced on the South side of 4th St. College St. was what is now Main St.

The girls wore the Middy blouses and sateen bloomers for their athletic activities.

At its peak the College had an enrollment of 265 but it was closed in the depression of 1927-28. Many of our old-timers were greatly influenced by the culture of the college.

* * * * *

OCT. 7, 1927 (From The Baxter Bulletin files.)
The West Plains, Mo High School and our local Mtn. Home College Yellow Jackets met on the local gridiron last Sat. The game ended 0-0, neither side being able to cross the goal. Both teams had plenty of encouragement from the side liens but it availed them nothing. The Yellow Jackets this year are a hard fighting crew and Coach Bass seems to have them well trained, as they fought to a finish.

P H O T O G R A P H S

1. Teacher's Contract for Ollie Cypert.
2. Coldwater, Arkansas schoolhouse, where Ollie Cypert taught.
3. Ollie Cypert when she first started teaching.
4. June 12, 1977, Raymond Swearingen Reunion at the Wolf House. From Lrft: Gladys Raymond Talbert, Ruby Raymond Watley, Jessie Raymond Trimble, Cuba Raymond Mills, Lovie Raymond Tigre, Esta Mae Raymond Messick and Ione Raymond Brimble -- all granddaughters of Callie Miller Brown Raymond.
5. Susannah Alean Robertson Clark Brown Swearingen.
6. School group at Colwater. Ollie Cypert at left.
7. Four generations of Susannah Swearingen's family. From left: Alma Messick Franks, Esta Mae Raymond Messick, W. H. "Harve" Raymond, and his great-grandson, Jimmie Franks, Taken Christman, 1950

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* * * * *

This week I was saddened by the death of my very good friend, Mrs. Elvira Martin Carson. "Vira" was just 25 days short of 100 years and we were planning a big party for her.

As i sat at the funeral and looked at the beautiful floral offerings, I remembered, as a children that Elvira could often come hurring into a funeral and place a bouquet of tulips before the wooden, homemade coffin. This was before florist shops and mnney for flowers, but Elvira saw to it that everybody had at least -- one last rose.

TEACHERS' CONTRACT

STATE OF ARKANSAS.

County of Baxter
THIS AGREEMENT, Between H. H. Leaf J. J. Sexton
J. H. Pinkston
as Directors of the School District No. 47 In the County of Baxter

State of Arkansas, and Ollie Cypert a teacher who holds a license of the 2 Second grade, and who agrees to teach a common school in said District, is as follows:

The said Directors agree, upon their part, in consideration of the covenants of said teacher, hereinafter contained, to employ the said Ollie Cypert to teach a Common School in said District, for the term of 3 months, commencing on the 2 second day of December A. D., 1912, to pay therefor in the manner, and out of the funds provided by law, the sum of 545 Forty five Dollars for each school month.

Said Directors further agree that all steps required or allowed by law to be taken by said District and its officers, to secure the payment of teachers' wages, shall be so had and taken promptly, and the requirements of the law, in favor of the teacher, complied with by said District.

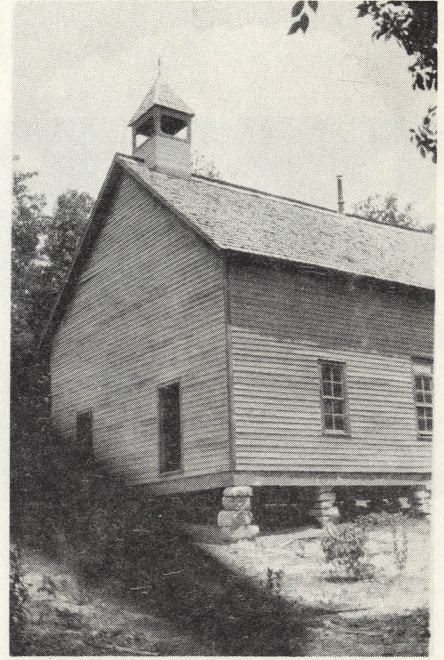
The teacher on her part, agrees to keep said school open 8 hours each school day; keep carefully the register required by law; preserve from injury to the utmost of her power the District property; give said school her entire time and best efforts during the school hours; use her utmost influence with parents to secure a full attendance of scholars, and generally to comply with all requirements of the laws of this State in relation to the teachers, to the best of her ability.

Signature: H. H. Leaf
J. H. Pinkston
J. J. Sexton Directors.
Ollie Cypert Teacher.

Date Sept 6 1912 Place Table Rock

(NOTE—Section 7615, Kirby's Digest, was amended by Act 206, approved April 24, 1911, requiring all teachers' contracts to be made in triplicate and one copy to be filed with the County Treasurer.)

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CHRISTMAS EVE by Hazen Bonow

The Christmas I remember most was when I was about 6 years old, but it was not my happiest one! In those days we had no Christmas trees at home, but there was a big tree at our church where toys were hung at the Christmas Eve service. Each child would wonder which gift had their name on for Santa to call out. That was an exciting moment. I had always wanted one of those pretty dolls with curly' hair which I would see each year and this year my Mama said, "I'm sure Santa is going to give you a doll this year." I could hardly wait!!!

A few days before Christmas I became ill with the measles so my Grandma came to stay with me while all the family went to the Christmas Eve service. I was heart broken. They did bring a doll home to me, but the thrill was gone of receiving it from the tree and somehow this doll never was my favorite. The disappointment had been too great!

* * * * *

RAYMOND - SWEARINGEN FAMILY REUNION - CONT. FROM LAST
ISSUE by Mary Ann Messick

Tom Swearingen, Rob, Walter, Harve, Andrew, Charlie and Albert Raymond's families were represented at the reunion held June 12 at the Wolf House.

From Walter and Mary Ellen Martin Raymond's line:

Ernest and Mable Raymond, Dwight, Mary, Janette and Janelle Raymond, Millersburg, Ohio; Wayne, Barbara, Judy and Sherrie Nussbaum, Lovie Raymond Tigre Kenneth Trunk and Cuba Raymond Mills, Wooster, Ohio; Mariam Raymond Motter, Julie and Ellen Motter, Mansfield, Ohio; Cliff Trunk, Denever, Colo., Robert Trimble, Derby, KS, Jessie Raymond Trimble and Allen Stine, Wichita, KS.

From the Charlie and Effie Finley Raymond Line:

Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Jr. Raymond, Hiram Lee, Stanley and Nena Lou of Mtn. Home; Lorene Raymond Haggart, David Lynn and Cynthia Haggart, Liberty, MO, John M. and Geneva Raymond Hayes and children, Bar-O-Bar Ranch, Pierceville, KS; and Ivon Raymond Speer of Kansas City, MO.

From the Andrew and Lena Matthews Raymond Line;
Albert, Eloise, Amy and Jennie Raymond of Conway, AR.
Also with them was Mike Zenanko, Jennie's fiancée.

RAYMOND - SWEARINGEN REUNION - CONT.

From the Rob and Della Duncan Raymond line:

William D. and Earlene Raymond, Gladys Raymond Talbert, Alice, TX; Ruby Raymond Watley and Preston and Louise Raymond, San Antonio, TX.

From the Andrew and Cora Robertson Line:

Ione Raymond Brimble, Kansas City, MO.

From the Harve and Eliza McNeil Raymond Line;

H. H. "Dee" and Maxine Raymond, Cotter; Julian and Joan Raymond Holloway, Little Rock; Barron "Mike" and Patsy Raymond Collier, Fayetteville, Esta Mae Raymond Messick, Mary Ann Messick, Dean and Alma Franks, Bob, Leona, Mariona and Airl Cheek, Gassville; and Charles and Alfa Tilton, Rt. 3, Harrison, Ark.

From the Tom & Sarah Hampton Swearingen Line;

Quinby and Hattie Swearingen, Ada Swearingen, Vero and exie Swearingen and Robert Bondi, Mtn. Home; Brian Hansen, Baton Rouge, LA and Cindy Warner, Newport News, VA.

We were happy to have with us the following good friends, neighbors or relatives to members of the Raymond-Swearingen families:

Oren Rouse, Bill Shannon, Myrtle Crawford, Floyd and Allen Skaggs, Leon and Jewel Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Wallace of Mtn. Home; Thelma and Cleo Horton of Salesville; Junior and Mable Finley, Juanita Luther, Ralph and Mable Martin of Norfolk; Arlie and Mary Boyd, Roger and Annalee Payne of Martin Springs, Mabel Burkhart and Velma Deatherage of Cotter; Beatrice Bradford of Port Lavaca, TX; Karla Yokley, Portsmouth, VA; Oral J. Monigold, Wichita, KS; Walt and Lela Martin Monigold of Fairfax, OK and Leo Billias, Wooster, Ohio.

Many of our group toured the Wolf House and had only praise for the way it is furnished and run. We are already making plans for a reunion in 1978, probably at the Wolf House. Nobody seemed to mind the heat -- after all, we were taking a trip down Memory Lane, and what child ever minded a little warm weather? Hope to see you all at the Raymond-Swearingen Reunion in 1978.

* * * * *

OLLIE GERTRUDE CYPERT VICKERY by Howard M. Knight

The original of the Teacher's Contract, Photo 1, was recently presented to our Society by Margie E. Wilhm. She informed us that Ollie's daughter, Mrs. Raymond (Faye) Parton resided on Rigeon Creek Rad, Hwy 201.

The following is the result of interviews with Mrs. Parton and with Mr. & Mrs. Ed Pinkston of Mtn. Home.

* * * * *

Ollie Gertrude Cypert was born June 3, 1892 at Big Flat, Arkansas. Her parents were Anderson T. Cypert ("Uncle Tod") and Sarah Norman. They lived at Big Flat, then McPherson and Mtn. Home.

Photo# 3 shows Ollie, July 23, 1916, when she was 24 years old. She had attended Baptist College of Mtn. Home and there obtained her second grade teaching license. She started teaching when 18 years old. Her age at the time of the contract, (phot 1) was 20. She taught at Coldwater, City Rock, McPhearson, and Table Rock. She taught all the grades. (Ed Pinkston said that it was the custom to combine grades 7 and 8 and grades 5 and 6. The grades below that could not be combined. Ed says that he once taught 65 by himself.)

Photo 6 shows Ollie with her pupils at the Coldwater School.

Photo 2 shows this school at a later date. It is believed that this building is still standing.

Ed Pinkston points out that not all of those pictured in # 6 are students. Some are pre-school children and others are adults. Ollie is at the extreme left. It was probably a special occasion for adults to be present but pre-school children were not unusual. If the mother had to be away and there was no one to be with the children, they would send them to the school. The school would be forced to be a "baby-sitter." Of course, these children disrupted the school with their noise and playing.

Ollie continued to teach after her marriage to Walter Mose Vickery, for a total of 15 years, until her children arrived. Her children were T. J., Faye (now Mrs. Raymond Parton), Oris and stepson, Clarence.

Her husband was a farmer at McPhearson but they also had

OLLIE - CONT.

a small store and postoffice on a hillside. Ollie was postmistress until they moved to Mountain Home.

They bought land in Mtn. Home and in 1927 built the Chevrolet building downtown. Later, on Walter's death Ollie sold this building to Hugh Hackler and he in turn to Lloyd Fisk. Now it is occupied by the American Motors Agency.

In 1928 they bought the large house that stood where the People's Bank west parking lot is now. When Walter died in 1931, the house was not paid for. Ollie changed it into a rooming and boarding house. During the W.P.A. days, she boarded many W. P. A. workeers at \$5.00 per week. Grandmother Cypert asked her, "Why do you do it? You don't make anything." Ollie replied, " I feed my children."

Ollie was a member of the Methodist Church at Mtn. Home and was very active in it until her final sickness. She became a member of the Eastern Star of Cotter on March 22, 1935 and was a charter member of the Mtn. Home Eastern Star and was very active in both.

Her father, known to many as "Uncle Todd", was Justice of Peace for many years. He lived with Ollie his last 15 years. He was 97 years old.

Ollie died Nov. 9, 1970 at the age of 78.

Additional remarks by the Pinkstons:

"That's my brother John H. Pinkston's signature on the contract. F. F. Cox was Felt Cox and T. J. Sexton was Tom Sexton." Ed's parents boarded all the teachers in the area (Table Rock, City Rock, McPhearson, and Coldwater.) Ollie probably boarded there. The \$45.00 a month that Ollie got was exceptional for that time. often it was \$100.00 for three months. Ed taught much later at Table Rock and got \$70.00 per month.

Writer's Note: Be sure to re-read Ed Pinkston's "General History of the Rural Schools Located in Baxter County Fifty Years Ago." as printed in Vol. 1, No. 2, pages 12-15 of the Baxter County History.

EDITOR'S NOTE: My thanks to Mr. Knight for this article. I wish all the members were as good about writing for our publication as Howard is.

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