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# ❖ Tree Talk ❖

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Volume 25 Issue 3

Spring, 2000

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## **Announcements**

Cherokee County Genealogical society announces its Second Ancestor Swap Meet to be held Saturday, June 24, 2000 at the Norman Activity Center, 526 E. Commerce, Jacksonville, Texas 75766. Cost is \$15 per person OR \$25 per couple IN ADVANCE by June 10, 2000. See the enclosed Agenda and Registration forms.

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## EDITOR'S LETTER

### SECOND ANCESTOR SWAP MEET!

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 24, 2000  
**WHERE:** Norman Activity Center, 526 E. Commerce St., Jacksonville, Texas 75766  
**SPONSOR** Cherokee County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1332, Jacksonville, TX 75766-1332  
**COST:** \$15 per person OR \$25 per couple IN ADVANCE by June 10, 2000  
**ACTIVITIES:** Most of our time will be spent finding info on our ancestors in the portable files that will be formed from information submitted by you and other researchers. It is requested that you send IN ADVANCE family group sheets, ancestor charts and GEDCOM files or other materials pertinent to your ancestral lines. IBM compatible computers will be available for sharing GEDCOM files and copiers will be available at 10¢ per page. A formal announcement complete with a form for submitting your reservation will be included with this issue of Tree Talk. Should it get separated from the quarterly, you may send in your registration fee without the form but be sure to give complete details on your mailing address, surnames and other information as described above. There will be considerable publicity on this meeting and attendance will have to be limited to the first 300 persons who register, so make your reservations early. Make your check payable to CCGS and mail to above address. We look forward to seeing you.

We will have the ancestor files from the June 27, 1998 Ancestor Swap Meet available. Persons who submitted information in 1998 may add information to their files. For a list of the 1998 files see the Fall, 1998 issue of Tree Talk or our internet site at: <http://www.tyler.net/ccgs/SwapMeetContributors&Registrants.htm>

Stella Hill Memorial Library has about 2000 negatives and prints of historic photographs of the Alto area, including families, children, school groups, businesses, homes, buildings, street scenes etc., most before 1940. Indexed by name and by subject. Most have been released to be copied for individual use. Mr. Virginia Singletary has agreed to bring the photographs to the Swap-Meet. You may view the photos in albums and Mrs. Singletary will take orders for reproductions. See page 82 for a small sample of this important archive.

### Rememberances of Old Larissa College

My grandparents, Alonzo Kent Dixon and Sophronia Alexander both went to Old Larissa College. As a child, I used to go to the wonderful outdoor reunions with long tables of indescribably good food. Once, I even had to "recite" a poem my grandfather had written -- "I wonder, ah, I wonder." I know that A. K. Dixon taught at Larissa and had come from Tennessee with his mother, but do not know the date. My grandmother and he eloped from the college, had four sons, Uhlan, Kenneth, Ford, and Frank (died when he was a law student at U. of Texas in 1924 or 1925), and a daughter, Bess Marie, my mother.

A.K. was a traveling man for Armour for a while, going into Mexico to manage getting bat guano for fertilizer, was a specialist in growing tomatoes, and had something to do with the newspaper the "Jacksonville Progress." He was a Democrat.

Sophia and he were both Presbyterians, I believe. She taught "expression," was quite active in church, and the house she and A.K. lived in on Crepe Myrtle Drive belonged to her father who was 18 during the Civil War and led a mule train of supplies somewhere in Texas to Confederate soldiers. I only know him from a picture of him in a wheelchair. She had three brothers two of whom, I believe, lived in Jacksonville--I remember them as Uncle Mel, Uncle Sank, and there was an Uncle Robert who lived in a nearby town.

The house is on a hill from which one can see in the far distance some railroad tracks (I remember listening to the old hooting whistle when I was a child). Down the road was the box factory where baskets were made for tomatoes to be shipped out. People named the Tiptons lived on one side, the Godsey and the Pearmans down the hill across the road. The house is now occupied by Leota Pearman Dixon, Kenneth Dixon's wife, and their son, also Kenneth, and their family. When I was a child, Ford, his wife Kathleen Trammell, and two children, Gene and Dorothy Lynn, my cousins, lived there with my grandparents. I would like to know more about what my grandfather taught at Larissa and what part of Tennessee he came from.

**By Jan I. Dean,** 1304 Raintree Place, Lawrence, KS 66044 [tdean@mail.sunflower.com](mailto:tdean@mail.sunflower.com)

## A History of Alto

What was in our community 150 years ago? The three Indian Mounds, with firmly packed earth, were standing west of Alto, but no one knew their history. During 1939-1941 H. Perry Newell did extensive excavations at that site. And in 1968-1970 Dr. Dee Ann Story continued those excavations. They proved that a settlement of Caddoan Indians had dominated life in this region for 750 years. The Indians had carried dirt in hides or baskets to build a mound for their temple and another for burial of important members of their tribe--or for sacrificial bodies. The third mound has never been excavated.

Later, other tribes observed the beautiful life-sustaining area and moved in and out. When the Spaniards founded a mission here in 1690, they found a large tribe of Tejas Indians who had established a seat of government in the area. Our rivers--the Angelina and the Neches--derive their names from them. In 1716 Spain sent explorers and missionaries who established a mission near each river.

Chief Bowles brought sixty families of Cherokee Indians in the winter of 1819 and settled north of the present site of Alto. They were fought out of the area in 1839.

The first flag to fly in our community was placed on the temple mound by the Spanish explorers and remained there throughout the skirmishes between Spain and France.

The oldest road in America started with the old Indian trail, which includes the section between our two rivers. The King of Spain ordered this trail widened and called it "El Camino Real". Today it is known as Highway 21. Land grants were given by the Spanish government and settlers chose land on this highway and on the creeks for miles around.

To correlate with our history, the second flag to fly over Texas was the French flag, planted by La Salle in 1686. When La Salle first visited the Hasinai Indians living at our Indian Mounds, he was met by chiefs bearing a calumet and ceremonial pipe. On March 14, 1687 he established his last camp on El Camino Real near Alto.

The El Camino Real was the main thoroughfare from Natchitoches, Louisiana to Mexico City. In 1798 Barr and Davenport were granted 41,000 acres of land that included our present community south of the San Antonio Road.

In 1821 Texas flew the banner of Mexico. Under the Mexican government, John Durst made title to nine leagues of land, a part of which was later sold to Robert F. Mitchell. It was on this land that our town of Alto was later established. Up until now there were few settlers, but the growth began when the Mexican authorities approved

immigration of Anglo-Americans to Texas. In prior years Peter Ellis Bean came to our community to hunt for wild horses with Philip Nolan, but was taken prisoner by the Spanish government. He returned and established a settlement at our Indian Mounds that he called Mound Prairie in 1821. The next years were difficult times in our history. A trading post was established 1 - 1/2 miles west of Alto on the King's Highway. Fort Lacey adjoined it. Martin Lacey, an Indian agent, was in charge.

About three miles east of the present site of Alto was our first prosperous town, named Lockranzie. It had many fine homes and a handsome hotel where the stagecoaches stopped. It was flourishing in 1825. Some two miles north from Lockranzie was the plantation of Helena Dill Berryman, the first Anglo-American child born in Texas. Her home, Forest Hill, still stands. San Patricio, the colonial mansion of Colonel John Durst (1835) was on the east side of the Angelina River near Hinkley Bridge, where later Mt. Sterling was located.

Trouble developed between American and Mexican settlers as early as 1825. The State religion required that settlers in the colonies be Catholic. Most of them were Protestant. The Fredonian Rebellion at Nacogdoches caused Mexico to reverse its liberal colonization policy by limiting immigration from the United States and allowing no slaves. Our large land owners were cotton farmers and could not work their land without slaves.

In 1836 Texas declared her independence from Mexico and the Lone Star Banner flew! Although the land was sparsely settled, our young men felt it their duty to fight for independence.

The Republic of Texas, a free and independent country, was born in 1836. Our community at that time consisted of Ft. Lacy, a strong fort, built to resist Indian attacks. It stood on the Old Indian Trail that the King of Spain had ordered widened, located one and one-half miles southwest of where Alto is today. It is the oldest road in America. Settlers lived near Ft. Lacy. They had built a school house where the McGaughey family sent their children. In 1836 their neighbors included:

Thomas Williams who came in 1821. William Music who came in 1821. Zackariah Gibbs and daughter Phebe who came in 1824. Zackariah was killed and scalped. Peter Ellis Bean Martin Lacy (one time owner of Lacy's Fort) came in 1832 In 1825 there was a proud city named Lockranzie, located on the other side of Alto's town site--about 1/4 mile east of the present Old Palestine church. The streets in this city were "named" and "numbered." The stage coaches stopped at a fine hotel.

## A History of Alto

In 1832 Mt. Sterling was located near Hinkley bridge where John Durst built his colonial mansion called San Patricio.

In 1836 Linwood was also a prosperous town that had been surveyed around a public square. Steamboats brought visitors and merchandise up the Angelina River. C&HW Reguet carried excellent merchandise that was shipped by boat from New Orleans. In 1836 George W. Terrell, founder of Cherokee Co. , settled on the west bank of the Angeline River. He was prominent in judicial work.

Alto was not a part of the community until 1851 when Colonel Mitchell opened a store on the corner of Camino El Real and the present Hwy. 69. He hauled merchandise from Shrevesport by oxen wagons. He owned and operated the Mitchell Hotel and he called the little place Alto. Close by his store was Isaac Allen's store and a blacksmith shop. From Hwy. 69 the business section (in time) extended east with a Masonic lodge building, Koher's grocery and saloon, and the Odd Fellow' s Hall. Dave Cooper - operated a store on the south side of the street across from the Mitchell hotel. Holly Agnew owned one of the early stores and Howard Brewer's father had a market. Mr. Johnnie Noel was an early postmaster.

In 1852 caravans of settlers came. In this year a charter was issued to Alto for a State Grange. This was a club of farmers devoted to the interests of agriculture. At that time wagon trains were bringing families. Some had applied for land grants--others found a good location and simply stopped and began to clear land for a home site.

Church services were held in private homes and lodge buildings ... but in 1853 Old Palestine Baptist Church moved into its first building. In 1854 Shiloh built their church, and the Methodists went there. The first church at Alto town site was the O.S. Presbyterian church, built on land deeded in 1885. There is also a deed to Alto Educational Association (H.W. Berryman president in 1888). In the spring of 1870 the school teacher in Alto was Frank Templeton. He had 55 pupils (names are in the Stella Hill Memorial Library) . There was a fine private female college at Linwood where fine arts were taught. Professions for women included school teachers, music teachers, milliners, and seamstresses. These came from other places and boarded in private homes. Penmanship was considered a fine art. Professions for men were farmers, merchants, doctors, dreyemen, and blacksmith. Someone generally had a shoe shop.

When the train came through Alto, there was great excitement. The stage coach had been the only outlet for news. Now, when the big black engine blew its horn, the citizens came to see. A "butch" boy would get off the train and sell his wares. If a drummer (dressed in style--from his hat to his shoes and spats) got off with his big suitcase, it meant new clothes would be displayed in the hotel lobby. The women were fascinated, but

only the merchants could buy. For years the depot remained a place to congregate at "train time. " Much of the merchandise was brought to Alto by peddlers in their covered wagons. The women bargained with them, using chickens and eggs for money.

Alto has had a weekly newspaper since 1853.

Recreation for the earlier settlers was "possum hunts" and "quilting bees", but by 1900 the tent shows would stop by. They put up their tents on the cotton yard (which was the block the post office is located today) . The "medicine" shows guaranteed to "cure what ever ails you." The admission price was 15 and 35 cents. Their productions were either dramatic or comedy, with a black-faced comedian playing a banjo. Alto had its first "picture show" in 1900. It was shown on 4 x 6 sheets above the corner drug store on Hwy. 21 and Hwy. 69. Through the years various theaters were built. On Saturday afternoons one could see a movie of cowboys and calvary or a continued story of "The Perils of Pauline" for 5 cents. This building had a balcony called the "buzzard roost". Through the years various theaters were built--each with a varying degree of excellent production, but when H. H. Berryman built a duplicate of the Majestic Theater in Dallas, and it was the pride of the town.

Colonel Ferris had a race track on his farm where horses were trained to race in the Kentucky Derby. Horse owners brought their horses to race here. The community was welcome to watch. Another race track was in Redlawn.

Alto's "Hoo-Hoo Band" not only played on summer evenings in the cotton yard, but had engagements in other towns. As early as 1912 we had a salaried baseball team that belonged to the East Texas League.

In 1905 farming was profitable. Cotton was "king". The cotton yard was filled with bales of cotton; however, other crops brought money to Alto at the same time. Colonel T. L. Ferris built a tram from his large farm on Camino El Real through the woods to the depot at Morrell, Texas, to carry his products to market. At that time he planted 200 acres of potatoes, 40 acres of tomatoes, 60 acres of watermelons, and 200 acres of cantaloupes. In 1895 Mr. R. E. Morrell of Michigan started shipping peaches from Alto. It was in 1909 that the big Brunt-Decker mill came. The Whitmans, Deckers, and other families brought culture as well as money to our community. This was followed by the Tomato Industry. When it was at its peak, 225 cars of tomatoes were shipped in a season. At the tomato canning plant 40% of the money went to the farmers. Alto has had a good fur market for years. In 1935 farmers could not manage but a few milk cows due to the fever tick; however, in 1943 it was controlled and dairy farmers began shipping milk, and beef cattle took over the farm land.

## A History of Alto

In 1940 the Texas Service started a pine tree nursery. Today they ship from 5 million to 30 million pine seedlings a year.

The City of Alto was incorporated in 1909. Today it is modern and sufficient. Alto owns its own water plant and gas system. Southwest Electric Co. furnishes our electricity. Alto Rural Water Co. supplies the surrounding communities. We have one of the better small schools in the state of Texas. 650 pupils are enrolled in our school. There is a meat processing plant, and in 1951 Whiteman Foods opened. They ship turkeys, ham, sausage, and bacon to all areas of the United States. "Westcraft Manufacturing" is probably our best established new industry. Gerald West opened this business in 1970. They manufacture air and hydraulic cylinders.

The McClendon saddle shop, with the life-size wooden horse, the livery stable and the blacksmiths, are hardly remembered. Today the car dealers, filling stations, and auto parts have taken over.

Alto has no milliners today with lovely hats, but beauty shops are located in all directions to keep the women's hair in style. Home refrigeration has eliminated the ice man who delivered ice every day to all the homes. The only telephone (1893) was a private line from Dr. Teague's home to the drug store. Today Southwestern Telephone Co. has placed phones throughout our community.

In this sesquicentennial year the population in the City of Alto is 1203, but the rural area is much larger. The census of Alto community is near 3000. The city council has a good program. We have 1 bank, 1 savings and loan organization, a city library, a post office, a new fire station, 85 places of businesses, 20 churches, 2 doctors, 1 veterinarian, one of the best small public schools in Texas, and a Montessorian school. The Caddoan Indian Mound museum attracts tourists. The active Lion's club

was organized in 1935. There are fishing and hunting clubs, a literary club, an art league, a Quarterback club, and an Extension Homemaker's club. A Girl Scout Troop is active, as is Little League baseball.

Folks are proud to say that "Alto is their home town".

Alto, Texas--My Home Town

Alto, Texas- -on the King's Highway  
Seen by thousands as they pass this way  
Land of Indians of long ago  
This is our home that we know  
Land of red hills and the pine tree,  
Alto, Texas in tomato country  
Known for her game and a place to fish  
May she prosper, is our wish.

Alto--the heart of East Texas  
Alto High welcomes you exe s  
Pass the word aroun'  
Alto, Texas; my home town.

By Fisher Blanton  
10-17-64

These excerpts were compiled by me f rom both oral and written resources. There maybe errors but, hopefully, they show the fateful occurrences of our little town.

Edith Stribling - 1986

Editor's note: This is one of many original manuscripts from programs presented to the Thursday Study Club concerning Alto area history and maintained in the STELLA HILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY ,  
Route 1, Box 724, Alto TX 75925  
403 Quincy Street (936) 858-4343

Used by permission of Stella Hill Memorial Library.

### STELLA HILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY to Exhibit and Sell Historic Photographs

Virginia Singletary, Librarian of Stell Hill Memorial Library has agreed to bring the library's collection of about 2000 Negatives and prints of the Alto Area to the Second Ancestor Swap Meet to be held in Jacksonville, June 24, 2000. The photographs include families, children, school groups, businesses, homes, buildings, street scenes, etc., most before 1940. Indexed by name and subject. Most have been released to bve copied for individual use. The library's address is STELLA HILL MEMORIAL LIBRARY , Route 1, Box 724, Alto TX 75925  
403 Quincy Street (936) 858-4343 E-mail: gsfarm@lcc.net

Examples of Stella Hill Memorial Library Photographs



DATE: 10/03/85 ROLL: 10

EXP 06

OWNER: B L Singletary Jr

ADDRESS: Rt 1, Box 733, Alto

PHONE: 858-3613

LOCATION: Shiloh DATE: abt. 1915

DESCRIPTION: Four young men on horseback

IDENTIFICATION: Emmett Miller, Clarence Miller, Tom McClain, Albert Singletary

DATE: 10/01/85 ROLL: 03

EXP: 05

OWNER: Otha Harrison

ADDRESS: Box 146, Alto

PHONE: 858-4248

LOCATION: Alto

DATE: 1895-99?



DESCRIPTION: A community choir with the Methodist Church building in the background. This was not a church choir, but used the Methodist church facilities.

IDENTIFICATION: FIRST ROW: Clara Murphy (Acrey), Eva Usher (Allen), Emma Musgrove, Jim Blanton, Mittie Pace, Edith ???, Ida Usher (Wood), Malone Armstrong, Mrs. Thompson, Mary Fisher, Lizzie Tittle, Annie Fisher, Lovice P. Law, Ludy Findley, Will Blanton, Betty Pace. SECOND ROW: Claud Coats, Ellen Pace, Robert Fisher, Annie Harrison, Bertie Jones (Boyd), Brother Pace (Methodist pastor 1895-1899), Mrs. Pace, Frank Pace, Ella Musgrove, C. Duke, Fannie Fisher.



Packing tomatoes Alto Tex.

Typical tomato packing shed, Alto, Texas  
No identification of people or date.

## The Jane Messer Norton Bible

### THE JANE MESSER NORTON BIBLE

Mrs. Dorothy Jackson, 907 Kelley St., Jacksonville, Texas has in her possession this New Testament and asked my help in finding a descendant or loved one to pass it on to. It was found in an abandoned house over 30 years ago. The writing is very dim but Gaylon White and I were able to read the entries and the letter found in it - with time and two magnifying glasses.

The flyleaf reads: The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Translated out of The Original Greek: And With The Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised. New York: American Bible Society, Instituted in the Year MDCCCXVI. (Test. & Psalms, Pia 8vo) 1859.

Written inside the cover: JAMES E. HUGHES  
Next page: James M. Hughes was born May 12, 1820 and died the 3rd day of May 1863.

Hughes was born 6 Died 13th day of November Jane Messer Norton Departed this Life March 15th 1870 (above entry is very plain while others are dim. All entries following are perfectly plain.)

NOTE: The New Testament is followed by Psalms. This page is between Revelations and Psalms.

James Hughes his Book was born the 5th of December A.D. 1838

James E. Hughs was bornd the 5 of December 1838 this January the 16 1861 his Book 75 cents

Mrs. hannah halsted P.? Departed this life February 23, 1878

Written on last page of book: J. (or I.) B. Halsted Dide on the 13th day of November 1863.

This letter was inside the Bible. It is hard to read:

Milton, Fla July 27/73  
Dear Aunt

I received your kind letter yesteday and was glad to here frm you. We are all well as common and I hope that these few lines will find you enjoying the same

blessings Tell all howdie for me. Thomas is going to New Orleans and we don't know where he will go from there. We are not going to school now but Pa is going to send Thomas when he comes back. Mother says that if you will write to Uncle Jack in Pensacola, he will send you that money. Aunt Feby Besgis? is well as common. Miss Dugal is dead and aunt Feby has been staying with her children. Grandma says she would be so proud to see you. Her eyesite is failing her very bad. She has just come from Missie. Aunt Missie is in very bad health. Eliza is getting timber? money? Pa is not in business now. Mother says she will send you Miltons picture. i will close. You must excuse my short letter and bad writing and spelling. Give my love to all from your affectionate (illegible)

Florence Hurst

Mother hasnt got her pictures now. Tell Aunt Tilly and Lizzie.

-----  
Gaylon White then checked Vol. 5 of Helen Crawford's cemetery books of 1974 and learned that Mrs. Edna Rich gave the following information when Parks Cemetery on the Transier Dairy Farm was copied: Known to be buried in unmarked graves.

NORTON, Erasmus James, Sr. born July 4, 1822, died November 2, 1911 (grandfather of Mrs. Rich)

NORTON, Jane Messer Hughs, died March 15, 1870, married July 3, 1843 (first wife of Erasmus James Norton Sr.)

Please help Dorothy Jackson place the 150 year old Bible and records.

**Ogreta W. Huttash**

Visit our Internet site at:

<http://www.tyler.net/ccgs/default.html>

## Charles W. Mason Family

Generation I

JOEL MASON

After researching Charles W. Mason who came to Cherokee County, Texas in 1897, a glance back through the records now available was successful and his parents are now known. This space on his death certificate was blank.

From Volume 2, SOUTH CAROLINA WILLS AND RECORDS by Southern Historical Press, Inc., P 0 Box 738, Easley, S.C. 29641- 0738, The Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr.:

Book B. page 34

Joel Mason owned 280 acres on waters of Choestoe Creek joining lands of Thomas W. H. Harbin, Thomas Jenkins, John Mason, and others. Heirs were Frances Mason, widow. B. C. Whisenant and wife Milly. Samuel Lyles and wife Mary, D. L. Lyles and wife Martha Ann. Charles W. Mason a minor. Dated 19 October 1859.

The 1860 Federal Census of Pickens District, South Carolina Page 54, Residence 841, shows  
 MASON, Frances female born in S.C., Real Estate value \$500 age 53  
 Charles W. male born in S.C., age 17

This was 2nd Regiment at Fairplay, South Carolina. We knew Charles W. Mason enlisted in the Civil War from Pickens County.

By backtracking ten years to the 1850 Federal Census for Pickens District, Western Division, 11 October 1850, Residence 548/578: Real Estate value \$ 1,500

MASON, Joel	55 born in S.C.
Fanny	40 born in S.C.
Mary	18 born in S.C.
Martha	15 born in S.C.
Maria	11 born in S.C.
Charles	9 born in S.C.

By combining these names with those of the heirs in the estate settlement, a list of the children and their husbands gives a good picture of this family.

### CHILDREN OF JOEL AND FRANCES MASON

Mary Mason married Samuel Lyles  
 Martha Ann Mason married D. L. Lyles  
 Milly/Maria Mason married B. C. Whisenant  
 Charles W. Mason married Mary Mildred Ellis.

Nearby on the census is one CHARLES WHITWORTH and family. And on his pension application, C. W. Mason listed his name as Charles Whitworth - a clue to possible kinship!

## Charles W. Mason Family

GENERATION II  
CHARLES WHITWORTH MASON

Charles Whitworth Mason brought his family to Cherokee County, Texas in 1897 from Alcorn County, Mississippi. Before that he lived in Georgia for a time and the daughter Susan was born there ca 1867. His home was Pickens County, South Carolina, where he was born 25 October 1841 to Joel and Frances Mason. It was there he enlisted in Company F, Orr's Rifle Regiment and was with this unit throughout the war. At the close of the war he was discharged at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia.

One census record indicates his parents lived near Fairplay, South Carolina. Pickens County is on the Georgia Border.

In 1872 Charles W. Mason and Mary Mildred Ellis were married. Their children were born in Mississippi. On the 1880 Soundex of Alcorn County they are listed as

MASON, C. W.	38	S.C.
M. M.	28	Tenn. (She was 38)
Susan	13	Georgia - daughter (Surprise)
M. L.	4	Mississippi
C. C.	3	Mississippi (Charlie C.)
F. R.	8/12	Mississippi (Fannie)

Two more children, Birdie (Bertie) and Beulah Mason were born there. The 1900 Census for Cherokee County, Texas shows:

MASON, Charles W.	58	SC. born in October 1841
Mary M.	57	Tennessee, born May 1843
Beulah M.	15	Mississippi, born October 1884
BROWNING, Mattie L.	23	Mississippi, born December 1876

Mary Mildred's last name and marriage date come from family. She was born in Tennessee and died in Alto, Texas. She is buried in Alto City Cemetery. Her tombstone reads "Mary Mildred Mason, born 18 Nov 1843, died 5 April 1919."

Charles W. Mason died 9 November 1930 and is buried in Mt Zion Cemetery northeast of Alto, Texas. Their children:

- 1) Mattie Lou Mason, 1875 - 1906
- 2) Charles C. Mason, 1877 - 1939
- 3) Frances Mason, ca 1880 - died before her father
- 4) Birdie Ann Mason, 1881 - 1954
- 5) Beulah Mason, 1883 - 1912

From Alto Library, copied from The Alto Herald, 13 Nov 1930, page 1, column 5:

### AGED RESIDENT PASSES

Death called one of Cherokee County's oldest citizens Sunday in the person of C. W. Mason, better known by his legion of friends as Uncle Charlie Mason. He was 89 years of age.

## Charles W. Mason Family

obit of C. W. Mason continued

His familiar face will be missed from Alto, as he was always here on Saturday to chat with his friends and neighbors from other localities. He had been getting very feeble of late, and Sunday the Lord called him to that eternal home where age does not count.

Uncle Charlie was born in the year 1841, and had spent the better part of his life in this section. He was laid to rest in the Mt Zion Cemetery Monday afternoon. Rev. Bob Smith, pastor of the Baptist Church at Alto paying a glowing tribute to the beloved old man. R. R. Stribling Funeral Parlors had charge of the funeral arrangements.

.....

The Card of Thanks in the paper of 20 November 1930 was signed by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Heard, and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Rogers and family.

.....

### ESTATE OF C. W. MASON

On 2 December 1930 Gus Rounsaville of Alto, Texas was appointed administrator of the estate of Charles W. Mason. The inventory totalling \$5,472.65 included

Deposit in Continental State Bank, Alto	\$ 1,307.72
Time Certificate of Deposit, Continental State Bank, Alto	1,500.00
Time Certificate of Deposit, Olla State Bank, Olla, Louisiana	1,000.00
Demand deposit in Alto State Bank	154.81
Note on W. H. Johnson, secured by end. of W. C. Bolton	370.60
2 Vendor's lien notes of L. Gough, \$100 each	200.00
Note on G. E. Douthit	80.00
Note on G. E. Douthit	150.00
Note on Roy Lawrence	50.00
Liberty Bonds	350.00
Balance 25% Liquidation fund Old Guaranty Bank	165.27
Interest on Liberty Bonds	144.25

Funeral expenses paid R.R. Stribling were \$150.25; medicine at Allens Drug Store was \$3.10, and Dr. J.M. Crawford was paid \$8.00.

Heirs of C. W. Mason were his children:

- 1) Mrs. Bertie Mason Rogers, Alto, Texas
- 2) C. C. Mason, Cherokee County, Texas
- 3) Mrs. Susie Mason Heard, Urina, Louisiana
- 4) Mrs. Fanny Mason Murphy, deceased
- 5) Mrs. Mattie Mason Lawrence, deceased

Mrs. Fannie Mason Murphy left as her heirs

- a. Mrs. Eva Murphy Rose
- b. Rupert Murphy
- c. Lesslie Murphy

Mrs. Mattie Mason Lawrence left as sole surviving heir

- a. Roy L. Lawrence

# Charles W. Mason Family

- 4 -

500-212-500

## FORM A

### For Use of Soldiers, Who are in Indigent Circumstances

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County of Cherokee

I, Charles Whitworth Mason do hereby make application to the Commissioner of Pensions for a pension to be granted me under the Act passed by the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Texas, and approved ~~March 26~~ <sup>April 1914</sup> A. D. 1909, on the following grounds:

I enlisted and served in the military service of the Confederate States during the war between the States of the United States, and that I did not desert the Confederate service, but during said war I was loyal and true to my duty, and never at any time voluntarily abandoned my post of duty in the said service; that I was honorably discharged or surrendered Appomattox Court House, Va.

at close of war

(Give date and cause.)

that I have been a bona fide citizen of this State since prior to January 1, A. D. ~~1880~~ <sup>1900</sup>, and have been continuously since a citizen of the State of Texas. I do further state that I do not hold any National, State, city or county office which pays me a salary or fees ~~one hundred and fifty~~ <sup>300</sup> dollars per annum, nor have I an income from any other employment or other source whatever which amounts to ~~one hundred and fifty~~ <sup>300</sup> dollars per annum, nor do I receive from any source whatever money or other means of support amounting in value to the sum of ~~one hundred and fifty~~ <sup>300</sup> dollars per annum, nor do I own in my own right, nor does any one hold in trust for my benefit or use, nor does my wife own, nor does any one hold in trust for my wife, estate or property, either real, personal or mixed, either in fee or for life, of the assessed value of over ~~one~~ <sup>two</sup> thousand dollars; nor do I receive any aid or pension from any other State, or from the United States, or from any other source, and that I am not an inmate of the Confederate Home, and I do further state that the answers given to the following questions are true:

1. What is your age? 71 years
2. Where were you born? Lickens District, S.C.
3. How long have you resided in Texas? Since 1897
4. In what county do you reside? Cherokee
5. How long have you resided in said county and what is your postoffice address? Since 1897 - Alto Texas
6. Have you applied for a pension under the Confederate pension law and been rejected? If rejected, state when and where. No.
7. What is your occupation, if able to engage in one? Farming
8. In what State was the command in which you served organized? South Carolina
9. How long did you serve? Give, if possible, the date of enlistment and discharge. July 1861, Apr. 1865
10. What was the letter of your company, number of battalion, regiment or battery? Company "F" Co. 1st Rifle Reg. S.C.V.
11. If transferred from one command to another, give time of transfer, name of command and time of service. None
12. What branch of the service did you enlist in—infantry, cavalry, artillery or navy?



### Charles W. Mason Family

Answers and depositions of (1) L. W. Kelly -5- (L W KELLY  
OF  
FALLS COO

to the accompanying interrogations (2) and Cross Interrogations  
propounded to him in the above entitled cause, taken before (3) W. M. Mummenth, County Judge Falls Co  
in accordance with the accompanying (7) Commission

To the first interrogatory the said L. W. Kelly -  
Witness, answers L. W. Kelly - 73 years old - Post Office Reagan Texas  
Route 1 - Box 6 -

To 2<sup>nd</sup> Int. He answers: He answers: yes knew him from  
Childhood -

To 3<sup>rd</sup> Int. He answers: Known applicant all his life -  
knew first in Pickens District South Carolina when  
he was a child and have known him ever since -

To Int 4<sup>th</sup> He answers: yes - He enlisted the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of  
July 1861 at Bachelors Retreat Pickens District  
S. C. in Co. "F" Orr's Rifle Regiment

To 5<sup>th</sup> Int. He answers: yes - Co. "F" Orr's Rifle Regiment -  
He enlisted July 3, 1861 in Pickens Dist. S. C. and served  
until the surrender at Appomattox Court House - Perished  
Continuously only at times when he was wounded and  
could not serve.

To First Cross Int. He answers: I was raised with him from boyhood  
and served with him in same Company and Regiment, and  
have known him ever since - I never knew of any other C. W.  
Mason in the service or out and knew this applicant to be  
the person I served with.

(TX)

To 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Int. He answers: I know him to be the identical  
person testified about. He served bravely from date of enlistment  
until surrender - I know he never deserted his Command  
nor abandoned his post of duty.

Charles W. Mason Family

-6-

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE  
 RECEIVED  
 JUL 28 1924  
 Referred to \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. \_\_\_\_\_

Reinstated 9/29/24  
 C. W. Mason

The State of Texas,  
 County of \_\_\_\_\_

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally  
 appeared C. W. Mason to me well known to be a credible  
 person, and who, after being by me duly sworn upon His oath

~~deposes and says: "That on the said C. W. Mason who~~  
 under claim of file No. 25136 was granted a Confederate Pen-  
 sion by the State of Texas on or about the 1st day of December  
 1913, and that I began to receive my pension on or about March  
 the 1 day of 1924.

That I continued to draw said pension until about the 1 day  
 of Nov. 1927, at which time I left the State of Texas for the  
 purpose of Visiting my Daughter \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of  
 La. \_\_\_\_\_, and remained in said State until the 1st day of  
 June 1918~~1924~~, when I came back to the State of Texas to make  
 my home permanently in Texas; and am now a resident citizen of  
 the State of Texas.

That I never at any time left the State of Texas with the in-  
 tention of remaining away or making my home permanent in any  
 other State; nor have I at any time claimed any other State  
 than Texas as my home.

*C. W. Mason* (TX)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 26 day of July 1924.

*Alto T. ...*  
*J. Miller*  
 Notary Public, Cherokee County, Texas

# Charles W. Mason Family

Form 743b-81609-229-3m

- 7 -

## APPLICATION FOR MORTUARY WARRANT

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Cherokee } I, Lucas Rumsauer  
do hereby certify that I am the person to whom is entrusted the paying of the accounts and indebtedness of  
the late C. W. Mason, who was a pensioner of the State of  
Texas, and whose file number was 25136 and whose original county was Cherokee

The said pensioner C. W. Mason, died on the  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1930, in the town of Alto  
County of Cherokee, Texas.

The pensioner died in the home of C. W. Mason  
who was related to the pensioner as Son

That the warrant, which application is hereby made for, shall be applied to paying all or part of the  
funeral expenses incurred by the said pensioner C. W. Mason

I further certify that the warrant for the current quarter has not been cashed by the pensioner, to the  
best of my knowledge and belief.

I am related to the pensioner as (Friend) Friend  
that my postoffice address is Alto

City Alto Street or R. F. D. \_\_\_\_\_ State Texas

Signed Lucas Rumsauer, Admin  
Sworn to before me this 19th day of Dec, 1930

Joan Blawie  
Notary Public in and for Cherokee State of Texas.

### CERTIFICATE OF UNDERTAKER

I, R. R. Hilling, do certify that I am undertaker in the  
town of Alto, County of Cherokee, State of Texas  
that I had charge of the body of C. W. Mason, who died in the  
town of Alto, County of Cherokee, State of Texas  
on the 9th day of Nov, 1930. That said body was prepared for burial by me  
on the 10th day of Nov, 1930 and that I am of the opinion that  
warrant herein applied for should be issued to the said Lucas Rumsauer, Admin  
who makes the foregoing application.  
(Member Bell #150)

Signed R. R. Hilling  
Undertaker

### CERTIFICATE OF PHYSICIAN

I, J. M. Crawford, do certify that I am a practicing  
physician, and that I attended C. W. Mason in his last illness, and  
am of the opinion that his ailments were Dysentery

(TX)

I further certify that I am of the opinion that the Mortuary Warrant above requested should be issued in  
the name of the aforementioned applicant, in accordance with Act passed by the Thirty-eighth Legislature  
and approved March 2, 1923.

Signed J. M. Crawford, M.D.  
Physician's Address Alto, Texas

car

12-18-30

## Charles W. Mason Family

### GENERATION III AND SOME OF THEIR DESCENDANTS

Charles W. Mason was the father of six children, one by his first wife and five by his second wife. They were Susan, Mattie Lou, Charles C., Frances, Birdie Ann and Beulah Mason.

1) Susan Mason was the daughter by a first wife, not researched. She was with the family on the 1880 census of Alcorn County, Mississippi which shows her place of birth as Georgia. On the 1910 census Mary M. Mason, second wife of Charles W., is shown as the mother of 5 children, 5 living. They are named above. Susan married W. A. Heard, inherited from her father, and lived in Urina, Louisiana in the 1930s.

2) Mattie Lou Mason was the daughter of Charles W. and Mary Mildred Mason. She was born 31 December 1875 in Mississippi and died 13 November 1906, almost 31 years of age, and is buried at Mt Zion Cemetery near Alto, Texas.

Her first marriage was to W. S. Browning 5 December 1898, (Book M, page 179), Cherokee County, Texas. A tombstone at Mt Zion Cemetery reads:

Infant Browning, born and died 20 October 1899, Son of Willie and Mattie.

The next record found is the 1900 census showing Mattie Lou Browning, age 23, born in Mississippi in December 1876. She was in the home of her parents. She married D. W. Lawrence on 22 February 1902 (Book M-407). Other tombstones at Mt Zion Cemetery read:

Mildred Ruth Lawrence, 7 August 1904-17 October 1905, Daughter of D. W. and Mattie

Infant Lawrence born and died 1 November 1906, Daughter of D. W. and Mattie Brunette Page listed one son, Roy Lawrence who married Bessie Dykes. Roy is listed in the estate settlement of C. W. Mason as the only heir of deceased mother Mattie Lou Lawrence.

3) Charles C. Mason was the son of Charles W. and Mary Mildred Mason. He was born 15 October 1877 in Mississippi and died 27 May 1939 in Cherokee County, Texas. He probably married Ella Whitaker before they came to Texas. She was born 28 March 1877 and died after her husband. They are buried at Mt Zion Cemetery. Her date of death was not on the tombstone when the cemetery was copied years ago. Their home in Central High Community was on present FM 851 about 1/2 mile southwest of Dickey's store at the crossroads, FM 851 and FM 241.

On the 1910 census, precinct 2, Cherokee County, Texas:

MASON, Charlie	32 born	in Mississippi
Ella M.	33	Mississippi
Howard J.	11	Texas
Roscoe R.	9	Texas

Ella was mother of two children, two living, had been married 12 years. They lived near his parents. Ages were given as of a

## Charles W. Mason Family

certain date so Charlie and son Howard had not had their birthdays for the year but Ella had. Charles C. Mason shared equally in the distribution of the estate of his father, Charles W. Mason.

Copied from The Alto Herald, May - 1 , - 1939, page number not shown on film, but it is in the Mt Zion News column.

The many friends of Mr. Charlie Mason are very sorry to know that he had the misfortune of getting his right leg broken in two places. He is now in the Nan Travis Hospital at Jacksonville and his condition is such that it is not known at this time when he can be brought home. His many friends among both young and old are hoping for him a very speedy recovery.

.....

Copied from The Alto Herald, June 2, 1939, page 1, column 3:

### C. C. MASON DIED SATURDAY AT HOSPITAL IN JACKSONVILLE

Funeral services were held at Mt Zion Methodist Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock for C. C. Mason, prominent farmer and citizen of this vicinity who died in a Jacksonville hospital Saturday afternoon. Mr. Mason had been suffering for two weeks from the effects of a broken leg and other complications. The Rev. G. B. Carter and the Rev. Cyril McGilvray had charge of the religious services, with R. R. Stribling directing funeral arrangements, interment taking place at Mt Zion Cemetery.

C. C. Mason was born in Mississippi October 1, 1877, and came to this county when a young man and has lived near Alto for many years.

Mr. Mason is survived by his wife, two sons, Howard and Raymond Mason, and one sister, Mrs. R. A. Rogers, all of Alto.

.....

Charlie and Ella Mason were parents of two children:

- A. Joel Howard Mason, 1898 - 1987.
  - B. Roscoe Raymond Mason, 1901 - ?
- A) Joel Howard Mason was born 5 October 1898 And died 4 December 1987. He married Otha Lee Norton who was born 5 January 1900 and died 27 August 1982. Their children - not in birth order:

- 1) Marie Mason, born 9 November 1919
- 2) Joel Vasco Mason
- 3) Herman Mason
- 4) James Harold Mason
- 5) Mary Doris Mason
- 6) Sarah Nell Mason
- 7) Mildred Mason

.....

From Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph, Sunday, 5 Dec. 1987, Sec 1,. 6.

JOEL H. MASON Alto-Services for Joel Howard Mason, 89, are scheduled for 2 p.m, Sunday at 0. T. Allen and Son Funeral Home Chapel in Alto with Rev. James McKnight officiating.

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### Charles W. Mason Family

Burial will be in Alto City Cemetery. Mr. Mason died Friday in a Nacogdoches hospital after a lengthy illness.

He was born October 5, 1898 in Mississippi He was a self employed farmer and lifelong resident of Alto. He was a Methodist and member of Downtown Bible Class in Alto. Survivors include three sons, Vasco Mason, Jonesboro, Georgia, Herman Mason, Kinder, Louisiana and James Harold Mason, Rusk; four daughters, Marie Mason and Mary Doris Bobbitt, both of Alto, Sarah Dover, Lufkin, and Mildred Landrum, Rusk, 14 grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Jim Wilson, Elvin Peacock, Hugh Click, Ford Gilcrease, Roscoe Hester, and Buel Rogers. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Downtown Bible Class.

.....  
From Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph, Section 1, page 10, 29 August 1982.

MRS. MASON

Alto--Services for Mrs. Otha Lee Mason, 82, will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in the O. T. Allen and Son Funeral Home with Revs. Bill Jenkins and Don Copeland officiating.

Burial will be in Alto City Cemetery. Mrs. Mason died Friday in a Rusk hospital. She was born January 5, 1900 and was a lifelong resident of Cherokee County. Mrs. Mason was a Methodist.

Survivors include her husband, Howard Mason, three sons, Joel Vasco Mason, Atlanta, Georgia, Herman Mason, Kinder, Louisiana, and James Harold Mason, Rusk; four daughters, Marie Mason, Alto, Mary Doris Bobbitt, Alto, Sara Nell Dover, Lufkin, and Mildred Landrum, Rusk; 17 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Michael Ray Mason, Jerry Pal Hubbard, Kevin Lange Landrum, Kenneth Mason, David Mason, Terry Mason, Joel Michael Mason, and Donald Carroll.

.....  
Tombstone in Alto City Cemetery.

	MASON	
HOWARD	OTHO LEE	MARIE
5 October 1898	5 January 1900	9 November 1919
4 December 1987	27 August 1982	

B. Roscoe Raymond Mason was born in 1901. He married Lodema Selman and they had one child, Nellave (or Nella V.)

4) Frances Mason was the daughter of Charles W. and Mary Mildred Mason. She was born in Mississippi in 1879 and was 8 months old on the 1880 census. She married Bert Murphy ca 1898 They are on the 1910 census of Cherokee County as

MURPHY, Bert	35	Texas	Miss.	Ala.
Fannie	30	Miss.	SC	Miss.
Eva	11	Texas	Texas	Miss.

---

## Charles W. Mason Family

Rupert	8	Texas	Texas	Miss.	
Leslie C.	5	Texas	Texas	Miss.	
HOOD, Wesley	19	Texas	Ala.	Georgia	BOARDER

The Murphys had been married 12 years, three children were born to them, and three were living. These are the same three children mentioned in the estate settlement of their grandfather Charles W. Mason as heirs of their deceased mother Frances (Fannie) Mason Murphy. Eva had married Loyd L. Rose.

5) Birdie Ann Mason was the daughter of Charles W. and Mary Mildred Mason. She was born in Mississippi 17 October 1881 and died 7 January 1954. She married Richard A. Rogers 24 December 1899 in Cherokee County (Book M-136). He was born 9 May 1877 and died 22 November 1944. They are buried at Mt Zion Cemetery. Lou Rogers recalls that Mr. Rogers told her he was actually named Richmond instead of Richard. He was always called Mr. Dick Rogers. Their children were:

- A. Baby girl born and died 28 September 1900
- B. Ethel Maye Rogers
- C. Leo Herman Rogers, 25 Feb 1904 - 17 June 1905
- D. Mary Brunette Rogers
- E. Melba Carl Rogers

On the 1910 census for Cherokee County, Texas they are listed

ROGERS, Richard	31	Texas	Georgia	Georgia
Birdie	28	Miss.	S.C.	Tenn.
Ethel M.	8	Texas	Texas	Miss.

B. Ethel Maye Rogers was born 28 March 1902 at Alto, Texas. She married Hobson Townsend 10 July 1921. She died 13 June 1968. Issue:

- 1) Winona Townsend, born 6 Nov 1924, married Alfred Ray "Dude" Skinner.
- 2) Beulah Faye Townsend, born 20 March 1927, married first Willie Wynn 16 Sept 1945, second Andrew White 6 Sept 1947.
- 3) Tommie Doris Townsend, born 16 Nov. 1931, married Robert F. George 9 July 1951.
- 4) Howell Dixie Townsend, born 4 Feb 1933, married Fern Burdick Long, 12 May 1962.
- 5) Annie Beth Townsend, born 22 Sept 1939.
- 6) Donnie Keith Townsend, born 3 Sept 1941, married Jodean Gertz, 8 Sept 1962.

D. Mary Brunette Rogers was born 19 September 1910 at Alto, Texas and presently resides there. She married Charlie Leo Page 23 December 1926. He was born 14 October 1908 and died 13 August 1955 in a Tyler hospital. He IS, buried at Mt Zion Cemetery. Issue:

- 1) Charles Lester Page, born 1 Dec 1934, married Wanda Sessions 1 July 1961. Their children
  - a. Merry Melody Page
  - b. Connie Roxanne Page
  - c. Polly Jane Page, born 19 Aug 1968 at Rusk.

## Charles W. Mason Family

- 2) Marcia Eileen Page 1 July 1947 at Fort Worth, Texas. She married Sumner Clark Hassell 26 October 1974.

E. Melba Carl Rogers, always known as Carl, was born 11 August 1915 at Alto, Texas and died 1 May 1999. He married Carlean Gertrude Collins 29 June 1940. She was the daughter of Eddie Lee and Annie Louise (Johnson) Collins. Carlean was born 22 May 1922. Their children are

- 1) Dixie Ann Rogers, born 17 May 1945 at Alto, Texas, married Jack Phillips 5 June 1964.  
2) Vickie Sue Rogers, born 10 October 1951 at Fort Worth, Texas, married H. C. Gordon 26 June 1970.

6) Beulah M. Mason was the daughter of Charles W. and Mary Mildred Mason. She was born in Mississippi 15 November 1883 and died 28 December 1912. She married Elmer F. Cole 17 August 1900 in Cherokee County, Texas (Book M-201). They are on the 1910 census as

COLE, Elmer 31	Texas S.C.	Texas
Beulah 26	Miss. S.C.	Tenn.

They had been married 9 years. One child had been born to them, none living. Beulah has a marked grave at Mt. Zion Cemetery. This is all the research done to date on this Mason family.

Ogreta W. Huttash  
1502 South Jackson  
Jacksonville, Texas 75766-3026  
19 November 1999

## Additions to Jacksonville Public Library

Mrs. Crossman has added one CD-ROM and some books to the genealogy section of the library:

Marriages of Shelby Co, TN  
Marriages of Stewart Co, TN  
Historical Collections Vol I and Index, Georgia Chapter DAR  
Marriages of Hancock Co, CA 1806-50/Land Lottery 1806  
Ebenezer Record Book, 1754-1781  
Alabama Census Returns 1820  
Ships From Ireland to Early America, 1623-1850  
Mississippi Territory in War of 3612  
Kentucky Land Records 1774-1924 by Broderbund

I think the CD-ROM is: Family Tree Maker Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1538-1940 (1999 Supplement) I will have to check further to be sure as it was listed only as CD590.

Sylvia B. Acker

## **Additions to Jacksonville Public Library**

The following publications were donated to the genealogy section of the Jacksonville Public Library 1999-2000 by the Cherokee County Genealogical Society:

The Butler Family by Margaret Pearce Anderson  
Echoes From Yesterday by Margaret Pearce Anderson  
The Peacock Family and The Stalcup Family by Margaret Pearce Anderson  
Cherokee County Death Records in honor of Margaret Pearce Anderson  
Texans in Gray given by Willie Harold Acker, Sr.  
Texas State Cemetery: Confederate Veteran Research Project by Jason Walker, given by Woody Edmiston  
Isbell Country (Genealogy of an Isbell Family & Allied Families of Birdwell, Cox, little) given by R.L.McGuire  
Bowles Family given by R.L.McGuire  
Wt. Springs Oral History given by R.L.McGuire  
Henderson County, Texas 1846-1861 by Kenneth Wayne Howell in honor of Bonnie Wolverton  
Nacogdoches County Families in memory of Jack Moore  
Montgomery Co, TX Deeds, Bk A-E, 1831-1840, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX Deeds, Bk F, exchange with Montgomery Co. Co, TX School Records 1874-1909, exchange with Montgomery  
Montgomery Co, TX Probate Minutes 1838-1851, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Early Settlers of Montgomery Co, TX, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Early Settlers of Montgomery Co, TO, Vol 11, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX Marriages 1838-1894, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co. TX Marriage License Applications 1898-1907, exchange with Montgomery Co.  
Early Montgomery Co, TX Marriages Black Boxes, 1836-1872, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, Tx Various Court Records, 1840-1896, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX State Docket District Court 1857-1879, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX Treasurer's Claim Register 1885-1894, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX State Docket 1871-1894, exchange-with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery Co, TX 1890 Tax Records, exchange with Montgomery Co  
Montgomery County History, exchange with Montgomery Co

The book exchange with Montgomery County Genealogical Society has been done. A list of the books placed in the library during this membership year is available if you would like to have it. A copy will be attached to the minutes. Two of the books from Montgomery Co. are being reprinted and will be here soon.

Sylvia B. Acker

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## **Martha George Family**

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Gordon,

I am beginning my project of updating the Martha George family tree. I will probably send the information in several batches, as there is much data.

On to the data:

I have seen the date of 1843 and 1848 for the birth of Martha A. George. I found her listed in the 1850 census as being 2 years old.

The rest of the following information comes from the Waxahachie City Cemetary Record of Interments, Index to Death Records 1903-1940 Vol. 1-9 and the family record book of Lola E. Acrey Davis.

There has been discussion within the family, that Acrey was spelled Acry in the past.

Martha Ancibell (Ansabell?) George married Albert Newton Acrey 18 May, 1876. A.N. Acrey had been born in 1840 in Georgia and served in Company A., 2nd Georgia Infantry in the Civil War (1861-1865). They had two sons, William Robert Acrey, born 1 Feb 1877 and Oliver Newton Acrey, born 25 June 1883, both in Jacksonville, Tx.

W.R. Acrey married Eoline E. McBee 16 Aug. 1903. He died 30 December, 1924 and she died 30 March, 1918. They had four children.

Lola E. Acrey was born 9 Sept. 1904, in Waxahachie, Tx., she married John Alden Davis, 15 Jan 1944 and died 9 May 1986. She did not have children. She is buried in Kennedale, Tx.

William Robert Acrey, Jr., was born 15 Dec 1907 and died 13 Aug 1975. He was physically handicapped, using a wheelchair, from age 10, never married or had children. His older sister Lola took care of him.

Margie Delores Acrey was born 14 Dec 1912 in Waxahachie and died 9 October 1914.

Joe Mack Acrey was born 31 Jan 1918 and died 30 Dec 1925.

I have memories of Lola and "Robbie" visiting in my father's home (their cousin) and we visited in their home many times. I have a few of their family photographs and records.

I will start with my grandfather, Oliver Newton Acrey in the next message I send. Please feel free to send any comments. Should I use a more formal format? More personal information? Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Beverly Kimbrough  
8104 Hillrise Drive  
Austin, Texas 78759

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## **Oliver Newton Acrey Family**

The following information is from family memories, of days we celebrated and days we mourned.

My grandfather was Oliver Newton Acrey, born 25 June 1883, the second son of Albert Newton Acrey and Martha A. George. He married my grandmother, Sallye Cora Gouldy on the 20 July 1904. She was born on 23 June 1885, the daughter of James Chauncey Gouldy and Frances Melissa Armstrong. Their three children were Oliver Chauncey Acrey, born 17 July 1905, Martha Fadril Acrey, born 2 Feb. 1907 and my father, Edward Odell Acrey, born 24 Sept 1911. O.N. Acrey died 10 Jan 1954 and Sallye Acrey died 17 Nov 1959. They are buried at Laurel Land Cemetery in Dallas, Texas.

Oliver Chauncey Acrey married Corinne Lillian Bodden, 29 June 1932. Their two children are Annis Adele Acrey, born 26 July 1937 and Charles Chauncey Acrey born in 1939. O. C. Acrey died 23 Nov 1984 and Corinne Acrey died in 1998. They are interred at Hillcrest Mausaleum (spelling?) in Dallas, Texas.

Annis Adele Acrey (Dell) has not married, nor had any children. She currently lives in Dallas Texas, with her widowed sister-in-law, "Millie".

Charles Chauncey Acrey married Mildred Reчек (spelling?). Their three children are Christina Therese, born May 1970, Anthony Arthur, born June 1973 and Adrienne Marie, born June 1975. Charles died in Lubbock, Texas and is buried at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. He died prior to Nov 1984, as I remember his father attending the burial ceremony.

Christina is married to Brad Hodge. Anthony and Adrienne are students at Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas.

Martha Fadril Acrey (daughter of O.N. and Sallye Acrey) married Austin Scott Bratcher, 5 June 1926. Their two children are Marilyn Yvonne, born 19 July 1930 and Austin Scott Bratcher, Jr. in October of 1932. (A.S. Bratcher, Sr. remarried after divorcing Martha Acrey, and named a son of the subsequent marriage, Austin Scott Brathcher, Jr. , the same name as his older son.) Martha, (or Aunt Fadril, as she was known in the family), died in 1999, just after her 91st birthday. Her body was cremated and the ashes scattered in the Waxahachie cemetery.

Marilyn Yvonne Bratcher married Thomas Henry Parsons, in June, 1951, in Sherman Texas, They adopted Tamara Lynn Parsons in 1958, when she was one year old. Marilyn and Tom divorced many years ago, and Tom died the second week of December 1999. Tammy is married to Barry Bone and they live in a suburb of Dallas, with their 3 children. Marilyn is the principal of the Port O'Connor school on the Texas coast and she lives in Victoria, Texas.

Austin Scott Bratcher, Jr., (son of Martha Fadril Acrey and A.S. Bratcher, Sr. ) married Margarite Virginia Quinn in 1958. They have two children, Michael Scott, born in 1959 and Christy, born in 1961. Austin and "Marge" live in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Scott and his wife Shelly, live in Dallas with their 3 children. Scott is with the Dallas Police Department. Christy and her husband live in New Mexico, with their 2 children.

Edward Odell Acrey (son of O.N. and Sallye Acrey) married Louella High, 25 July 1936, in her parent's home in Dallas, Texas. Her parents were Della Jones and Ivey Montague High.

I, Beverly Faye Acrey, am their only child and was born 12 July 1937, Louella died 6 June 1949 and "Ed" died 10 December 1991. They are buried at Laurel Land Cemetery. He is buried next to his widow, Goldie Leona Lorence, who he married 10 June 1961. She died in September of 1994.

I married Pat Davis Kimbrough, 12 June 1959 in Dallas Texas. Our two children are Keith Edward, born 24 July 1963 and Laura Louise, born 1 July 1967, both in Austin, Texas. Pat was born 2 June 1927 in Goliad, Texas, the son of Harry L. and Louise Teresa Clarke Kimbrough. Pat, Keith, Laura and I live in Austin, Texas. Neither Keith or Laura have married or had children.

Note: I have requested in-law and grandchildren information of my cousins and will send it when I receive it.  
Beverly Kimbrough

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## SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S HIDDEN TREASURES

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by Paul McNorrill

At the first regular meeting of the year 2000, on 6 January, Augusta Genealogical Society was pleased to have as our speaker Dr. David O. Percy, Executive Director of the SC Historical Society located in the "Fireproof Building" in downtown Charleston.

Founded in 1855 as a private institution, the Society is the state's oldest and largest repository of historical South Carolina records. With an ever-expanding collection of over one million documents, thirty thousand books, photographs, maps, a 140-foot vertical file with many lineages, and other materials, the Society has endeavored not only to preserve the collection but constantly to expand its content and accessibility to researchers.

The Society publishes two periodicals, *Carologue*, a magazine designed to appeal to a general audience, and *The South Carolina Historical Magazine*, a more specialized and scholarly publication.

Growth of the collection has filled available space almost to capacity and taxed the ability of staff to catalog and organize the material. A recent re-examination of the Society's mission and future role led to utilization of more volunteer workers and taking advantage of computer technology. A computer-generated index to holdings is being completed, and an internet website with some online searchable files is at the URL, [www.schistory.org](http://www.schistory.org). The site has four main areas: a description of the library and surrounding geographical area; lists of holdings such as local history, genealogy, surname index, books, photographs, and maps; research query postings; and hyperlinks to related websites.

Dr. Percy related some of the discoveries made while researching his own family history. His ancestors seemed always to be on the losing side of conflicts. The most recent family disaster involved his grandfather, a Texas sheriff who lost a gunfight with bank robbers. As a historian, one of his particular interests is colonial American agricultural history. A scarcity of documentation led him to conduct an experiment in tobacco culture to determine whether the reported method of creating a mound for each plant was true. Supposedly, a slave was expected to set out eight hundred plants in a day. Dr. Percy hired members of the football team at the University of Maryland to determine whether this could be accomplished. Apparently the goal was not reached and the team members were exhausted for days, thus discrediting the report.

The South Carolina Historical Society has always attempted to preserve the records of ordinary people as well as the more famous. In the first half century of its existence beginning in 1855, the Society published five volumes of *The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Record*, which eventually became *The South Carolina Historical Magazine*, the one hundredth volume of which will be published this year. The index should be of interest to genealogists because many private papers and items of local history have been incorporated. About one third of the users of the SCHS collection are genealogical researchers. Future efforts of the Society will be in expanding the local history collection and cataloging recently donated items. Seventeen thousand photographs in the collection are in the process of being scanned into digital form. Some will be posted on the website.

Dr. Percy urged that potential users of the collection consult the website for familiarization before visiting in order to make most efficient use of time and space. His presentation was informative and enlightened those present about a resource previously not well known in the area. It was announced that a field trip for AGS members to the South Carolina Historical Society is planned for 12 July 2000.

**Editor's Note:** Reprinted from the article "South Carolina Historical Society's Hidden Treasures" from Volume XXI, Number 6, February 2000 issue of *Southern Echos*. Used by permission of Dr. Thomas R. Dirksen, President, Augusta Geological Society, Inc., P.O. Box 3743, Augusta, GA 30914-3743.

## Finding South Carolina Baptist Ancestors

by Brent H. Holcomb <scmar@juno.com>

[The author is the editor and publisher of the SOUTH CAROLINA MAGAZINE OF ANCESTRAL RESEARCH (SCMAR).]

Nearly everyone who has South Carolina ancestry has at least one ancestor who belonged to a Baptist church. Unfortunately, not all Baptist church records survive. Even so, we must know what to expect from such records when they can be found. No birth records are there, and usually in a list of members in such records, we find only the time of the baptism of members (adult), their joining the church, being excommunicated or dismissed by letter. An occasional death date (usually only a year) is found. In the list of female members (almost always separate from the male members), an occasional marriage reference might be found, e. g. "Sarah Smith now Jones." Such an entry indicates that a marriage has taken place since the list was first made.

A good general reference is the book SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS 1670-1803 by Leah Townsend (which has been published by Genealogical Publishing Company). Included are the names of members of churches with extant records in this period, though an occasional record has surfaced since the publication of that volume. The Welsh Neck Baptist Church (Darlington County) has records back to 1737. The records of Boiling Springs Baptist Church in Spartanburg County begin in 1792. The Baptist Historical Collection at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, has an excellent collection of microfilm copies of Baptist church records for South Carolina. A list of their holdings can be viewed on line at: <<http://library.furman.edu/depts/speccoll/churchrecs.htm>>. The records listed can be borrowed by inter-library loan.

Some other helpful publications are MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM BAPTIST NEWSPAPERS 1835-1865 (\$25.00), MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM BAPTIST NEWSPAPERS 1866-1887 (\$35), and LOWER FAIRFOREST BAPTIST CHURCH, UNION COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, MINUTES 1809-1875 AND MEMBERSHIP LISTS THROUGH 1906 (\$20). These three books are available from Brent H. Holcomb, P.O. Box 21766, Columbia, SC 29221. Please add \$3.00 mailing for the first book, and \$1.25 for each additional book to the same address. South Carolina residents add 5% sales tax. The records of Prince Williams Primitive Baptist Church (Beaufort District, present-day Hampton County) are being published serially in the SOUTH CAROLINA MAGAZINE OF ANCESTRAL RESEARCH.

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Written by by Brent H. Holcomb <scmar@juno.com>. Previously published by Julia M. Case and Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG, Missing Links: RootsWeb's Genealogy Journal, Vol. 4, No. 43, 20 October 1999. RootsWeb: <<http://www.rootsweb.com/>>

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Charter Membership Roster  
 Cherokee County Genealogical Society  
 By Mary Marsh

Charter Membership Roster  
 Cherokee County Genealogical Society  
 Organized May 1975 Charter closed June 1975  
 with the following 23 members

Sue

- 1 Darnell, Sue 14 members 1st meeting
- 2 Dublin, Edna 23 charter closes
- 3 Dowling, Bobby
- 4 Edmiston, Ida Lee
- 5 Gay, Ima Jides
- 6 Hoforth, Ruth
- 7 Goodson, Edith
- 8 Heath, Mabel
- 9 Huttash, Oreta
- 10 Lane, Dolyn
- 11 Lusk, Lorey May
- 12 (McDonald, Mary Lee
- 13. (Martin, Faye
- 14 Marsh, Mary
- 15 Moore, R. F. (Jack)
- 16 Setliff, Eunice
- 17. Smyth, Frances
- 18 Spraggins, Faye
- 19 Stevens, Ruby Lee
- 20 Taylor, Jerry
- 21 Taylor, Sue
- 22. Warren, Evelyn
- 23 Wegmel, Debra

Sept 1975 meeting the following members joined: Janice Kargue + Bessie Mauldin  
 Oct 1975 : Ola Faye Tolbert

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**CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINUTES  
1846 TO 1862**

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*(These minutes, dating from 1846 to 1862, were submitted by Jaunita Wardlow of Tyler. She got this information from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, TX The minutes were transcribed by IdaLee D. Edmiston. Please note that I have placed a question mark after words that were very hard to read and, in some cases, I have had to insert an underlined blank space for a word or words that were completely illegible. This is the first of a continuing contribution to be published in Tree Talk. )*

Minutes of Trinity Presbytery, State of Texas, Spring Session 1846

According to a resolution of Texas Synod, the Trinity Presbytery, which was stricken off from the Texas Presbytery, met at the town of Henderson, Rusk County, State of Texas, on Friday before the third Sabbath in March, 1846.

**Rev. Robert Gilkerson** who was appointed the first moderator, preached the opening sermon from Matthew 16th and 20th. A quorum being present, constituted with prayer.

Members present:

**James McDonal, Robert Gilkerson, Thomas L. Wilcher, and Mitchell Smith.**

Elders present:

**David Collins, W. D. Long, and J. D. Hambleton.** . **Mitchell Smith** was elected Clerk..

On motion, Resolved that **T. L. Wilcher** and **David Collins** be appointed a committee to examine the church books Presbytery adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Saturday, the 14th

Presbytery met according to adjournment, constituted by prayer. Members present as on yesterday. The committee appointed to examine the church books reported that they have examined the books and find in them no departure from the books of discipline

**Brother Solomon Await**, an ordained minister of the CPC, presented a letter of dismissal and recommendation from the Memphis Presbytery and was received into this Presbytery.

On motion, Resolved that the following appointments for two days meetings be made, to wit: The 2nd Sabbath in July at Irons Bayou neighborhood, 3rd Sabbath in August at Duck Creek, the 4th Sabbath in \_\_\_\_ ? neighborhood, the 5th Sabbath at Rabbit Creek the 2nd Sabbath in September at **Robert Gilkerson's**, the third Sabbath in September at Henderson, the 4th Sabbath in September in Malls (or Walls?), the 3rd Sabbath in October, the 2nd Sabbath in October at **Col. Smith's**; at **Killough's** the 3rd Sabbath in October .

On motion, **Rev. Brother Becton**, a Presbyterian Missionary, invited and took a seat as corresponding member

On Motion, **Brother Rhea**, a minister of the Baptist Church, was invited and took a seat as corresponding member.

On Motion, Resolved that **Brother James McDonald** be appointed to preach a sermon on the Divinity of Christ. Resolved that **Brother Solomon Await** be appointed to preach a sermon on the subject of the Support of the Gospel at the next session of this Presbytery.

Resolved that the thanks of this house be tendered to the citizens of Henderson for their kind and hospitable treatment we have met with during the present session of this Presbytery.

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**CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINUTES  
1846 TO 1862**

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On Motion, Resolved that the next session of Presbytery be held at New Providence in Killough's neighborhood to commence upon Friday before the third Sabbath in October.

**Richard Smith, Clk      Robt. Gilkerson, Moderator**

Minutes of Trinity Presbytery, March, 1846

The minutes of the organization of the Trinity Church at Crockett and the Mound Prairie Church of Mound Prairie, organized by the **Rev D, C. Nevills**, was presented by him and received under the care of this Presbytery.

**Bro M. G. Edmiston**, a ruling elder from Trinity Church was received as a representative from Trinity and Mound Prairie congregations,

**Bro. G. S. Templeton**, an ordained minister from the Ocoa(?) Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church being present was invited to take his seat as a corresponding member.

**Bro. Mijamin Priest**, an ordained minister from the McGrady Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, presented his letter of dismission and recommendation which was received.

**Robt. Gilkerson, D. C. Nevills, Thos. Willcher, Mijamin Priest, Elisha Moore, and M. G. Edmiston** were appointed a committee to arrange protracted and camp meetings, also the preachers to attend them.

**Bro. Edmiston** made a motion that **Bro. Nevills** supply the congregation at Crockett and Mound Prairie with preaching monthly, which was adopted.

The committee appointed to arrange protracted and camp meetings beg leave to submit the following report:  
That a protracted meeting be held in **Bro. Gilkerson's** neighborhood to embrace the 2nd sabbath in July to be holden by **Bro. Awalt, Priest, Watkins, and Gilkerson.**

(Minutes of the Trinity Presbytery, Fall Session, 1846  
Minutes of the 2nd Session missing?)

Spring Session, 1847

The 3rd Session of the Trinity Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church:

The Trinity Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church met, agreeable to adjournment, in **Col. R. W. Smith's** neighborhood in Rusk County, Texas, on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in March, AD 1847. A quorum not being present, adjourned to meet tomorrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, 9 a.m.

Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment, a quorum being present, constituted by prayer.. Ministers present: **Rev. James McDonald, Robert Gilkerson and Thomas L. Wilshire.** Ministers absent: **Rev. Mitchell Smith, Solomon Awalt and James B. Harris**

Licentiates present: **Archibald H. Watkins(?)**

Candidate absent: **Malcolm Guinn**

Elders present: **Elisha Moore** from Concord congregation and **Bro. S. Campbell** from New Providence The former Moderator not being present, the house was called to order and the **Rev. James McDonald** was chosen Moderator and **Robert Gilkerson, Clerk**

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## **CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINUTES 1846 TO 1862**

**Rev. D. C. Nevills**, an ordained minister from the McGiordy(?) Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, presented his letter of dismission and recommendation and was received as a member of this Presbytery.

The minutes of the last Session of Presbytery were read.

### Minutes of Spring Session, 1847

... One in **Bro. Awalt's** neighborhood embracing the 2nd Sabbath in August holden by **Gilkerson, Priest, Awalt, and Watkins**:

One in **Crockett** to embrace the 2nd Sabbath in July holden by **Bro. McDonald, Nevills, Harris, and Priest**.

One in **Mound Prairie** to embrace the third Sabbath in August holden by **Bro. Nevills, Harris, and Wilshire**.

One in **Bro. Wilkins** neighborhood to embrace the 3rd Sabbath in September holden by **McDonald, Gilkerson, Willshire and Watkins**.

One in **Bro. Collins** neighborhood to embrace the 4th Sabbath in Sept to be holden by **Bro. McDonald, Gilkerson, Awalt, Smith and Watkins**.

One at **Duck Creek** to embrace the 2nd Sabbath in September, holden by **Bro. McDonald, Willshire, Gilkerson, Smith and Watkins**.

### Minutes of Spring Session 1847 (cont'd):

One in **Henderson** to embrace the 3rd Sabbath in July, holden by **Bro. Priest, Smith, Gilkerson, Willshire and Watkins**. And a camp meeting at **New Providence** embracing the 3rd Sabbath in October, which was received and adopted.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at **Palestine, Anderson County**, on Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in November A.D. 1847, concluded by prayer.

**Robt. Gilkerson**, Clerk

**James McDonald**, Moderator

### Minutes of Fall Session 1847

Trinity Presbytery met at **Palestine** in the County of **Anderson**, on The Friday before the 2nd Sabbath of Nov. in the year of our Lord 1847.

Ministers present: **James McDonald, Thomas L. Wilcher, D. C. Nevills, and James B. Harris**.

Elders Present: **Nathaniel Killough** from **New Providence** congregation, **Benjamin B. Cannon** from the recently organized congregation at the town of **Rusk**

Ministers absent: **Robt. Gilkerson, Mitchell Smith and Solomon Awalt**

Licentiates absent: **Archibald Wadkins** and

Candidates absent: **Malcolm Grayson**.

And there being a quorum present, on Motion, Presbytery constituted with prayer by the moderator. On Motion of **Bro. Harris**, the moderator being in chair, Presbytery proceeded to the election of a moderator to preside at its present meeting and until the next semi-annual meeting thereof. When, on comparing the votes, it appeared that **Bro. Harris** was duly elected, who being invited by the former moderator, took the chair. And **Bro. Cannon** was appointed clerk

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**CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINUTES**  
**1846 TO 1862**

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On Motion, Presbytery adjourned until 8 o'clock tomorrow morning to meet at the academy and concluded with prayer.

Saturday Morning, 13th 1847

Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment, present: same members as on yesterday, and constituted with prayer. **Bro. Andrew Manson**, Elder representing Mound Prairie, being present rendered a satisfactory excuse for absence on yesterday, took his seat as a member of the Presbytery.

On Motion of **Bro. Wilshire, Bros. McDonald** and **Cannon** are appointed a committee to examine and report on the condition of church books from the different congregations represented at the present meeting of Presbytery.

On Motion of **Bro. Cannon**, the delegate from the congregation at the town of Rusk it is unanimously agreed that said congregation be hereafter known and designated by the name of Montvale(?) Church and that it be received under the care of of this Presbytery.

On Motion, **Bros. McDonald, Wilcher, Nevills** and **Harris** respectively report on the subject of their ministerial labors and the state of religion generally within the bounds assigned them at the last meeting of Presbytery, whose reports were received.

On Motion of **Bro. Wilcher**, Resolved that the ministers of this Presbytery be requested to bring or send to next meeting of the Presbytery special statistical account of the condition of the church in their respective bounds.

On Motion, ordered that **Bro. Harris** supply New Providence and Montvale churches with preaching, each one-fourth of his time and that he engage in missionary the residue of his time, so far as means be provided by those churches or otherwise for that purpose until the meeting of Presbytery next spring.

On Motion, ordered that **Bro. McDonald** supply the the citizens of the town of Henderson in the county of Rusk and its immediate vicinity with preaching one-fourth of his time, in addition to his former engagements until the meeting of Presbytery next spring..

On Motion, ordered that **Bro. Wilcher** supply the citizens of the neighborhood in which he resides with preaching one-fourth of his time and elsewhere as he may be enabled to do the residue of his time within the bounds heretofore assigned to until the meeting of the Presbytery next spring.

On Motion, ordered that **Bro. Nevills** supply the congregation at Crockett and Mound Prairie each with preaching one-fourth of his time and that he devote the residue of his time in supplying the Ebenezer congregation with preaching and in Missionary operations.

On Motion of **Bro Nevills**, ordered that **Bro. M. Priest** be furnished with a letter of dismissal and recommendation (he being a member of this Presbytery and having removed and settled within the bounds of Texas Presbytery) as appears from his written application for a letter of dismissal

On Motion of **Bro. Nevills**, Resolved that Presbytery recommend *The Texas Presbyterian* a religious periodical Published in the City of Houston, to the favorable consideration and patronage of the churches and citizens generally within bounds of this Presbytery.

The Committee on church books made the full report which was received and ordered to be put in the Minutes "that pursuant to an order of Presbytery they have examined the church books submitted to them for that purpose and have found them substantially kept in accordance with our discipline , though there may be and probably are some defects and informalities in some if not all of them, yet in their opinion none that \_\_\_\_\_? them," and the committee was discharged.

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## CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINUTES 1846 TO 1862

On Motion of **Bro. Nevills**, Resolved that this Presbytery conditionally approve of the character, principles and plan of operation of the American Sunday Union(?) and cordially recommend all our churches and congregations to form Sunday School in connection with said union and to supply them with its excellent and anti-sectarian(?) publications.

Resolved 2ndly that we have heard with \_\_\_\_? of an agent for said Union, having been appointed for this state, in whom we recognize a highly respected citizen of Texas of ten years residence and with whom some of the members of this Presbytery have the pleasure of personal acquaintance.

Resolved 3rdly that one \_\_\_\_? said agent to visit this part of the state, and cordially commend him to the confidence and cooperation of all our churches and people in carrying out the objects of his agency.

And resolved 4thly that we recommend the wisdom and prudence of the A- S. S. Union in selecting as their agent for this State an old citizen of the country in preference to sending \_\_\_\_? a stranger from abroad-

On Motion of **Bro. McDonald**:

And when as the New Providence congregation and citizens in its neighborhood, through **Bro. Killough**, the delegate from that church, have expressed a desire and make the request that this presbytery take under its control and direction a Literary institution about being established at or near New Providence meeting house in the county of Cherokee. Now therefore be it Resolved that Presbytery do take under its control and direction said Literary institution to be established at the place aforesaid.

And be it further Resolved that **Thomas McKee, John Dewberry, Malcolm Gwynn, James Brandon, and Nathaniel Killough** be appointed trustees for said institution, whose duty it shall be to have prepared suitable buildings, employ a teacher or teachers, and to do everything else necessary to the establishment of said institution, that the patronage of New Providence congregation and citizens of the neighborhood may enable them to do without forcing any pecuniary(?) liability on Presbytery.

Resolved further that a majority of said trustees shall constitute a board to transact the business pertaining to their office and that they report their proceedings to next meeting of Presbytery.

On motion of **Bro. Benj. B. Cannon** was duly appointed Clerk for the Presbytery and ordered that proceedings be recorded in a well bound book.

On Motion, **Bro. James McDonald** was appointed to attend the General Assembly of our church to be held \_\_\_\_\_ and **Bro. D. C. Nevills** is appointed alternate from this Presbytery. And **Elders Bro. Benj. Cannon** is also appointed to attend with **Bro. McDonald** and, in case he cannot attend, **Bro. Nathaniel Killough** is appointed his alternate.

On Motion of **Bro. Killough**, and for reasons satisfactory to Presbytery, leave of absence is granted to **Bro. Killough** during the remainder of this present session of presbytery.

On Motion of **Bro. Nevills**, Ordered that Ebenezer congregation, a newly organized church at San Pedro, be received under the care of this Presbytery.. And Presbytery adjourned 'til Monday morning 8 o'clock, and concluded with prayer.

(TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE)

By **IdaLee D. Edmiston**

## Queries

Beverly Ross Eidson  
110 Briarwood Drive  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
eidson@tecinfo.com

I am searching for the history of my grandfather's family-Edgar Herbert Ross was born 23 Oct.1876 near Jacksonville,TX. He married Alta E.Booth from Chico,TX on 20 Aug. 1899. His father was James William Ross born 19 June,1856 near Jacksonville, Tx. J.W.'s wife was Drucilla Catherine Kirkhum(b.31 Dec. 1856 in Hamlin,TX). James William Ross had two brothers, according to family stories. Who were they? Who were his parents? Where did the family come from and when did they arrive in Texas? Is there a connection with the Robert R. Ross listed in the original land owners of Cherokee County?.

Carolyn Hays  
Rt. 2, Box 296A8C  
Rockdale, Tx 76567  
jchays@hotmail.net

I am searching for ancestors of Silas Madison Ferguson, born 1863, died 1944. Married Nancy Ellen Johnson..

Gloria Jackson  
PO Box 54  
Burnet, Texas 78611  
gljackson@281.com

Trying to find Mary Ann Anderson's parents. She was born July 20, 1832 and was married to David Isaacks in Rusk, Texas on June 28, 1849. Old family papers state: Frances Coleman was born December 8, 1812 and died January 13, 1858. Melvina Jane Anderson was born May 9, 1831 John Wesley Anderson was born July 29, 1834 Martin Yancy Anderson was born December 2, 1836 and died February 2, 1853. She repeated some of these names in her children, so I feel that these may have been her siblings and the Frances Coleman either the mother or father. Does anyone have any info on this family?.

Sharon Posey Smith  
16601 A Walker Rd.  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
SharonS639@aol.com

Bennett Posey d. abt 1850 in Cherokee Co. and his wife Sarah Williamson d.. abt 1821 in MS. They had 5 children: James E. b. abt 1841, Rebecca, b. abt 1843, Wiett R. b. abt 1845 in TX, sarah E. b. abt 1847 in TX and Thomas J. b. abt 1849 in TX. I hope someone can tell me when these family members died and where they were buried in Cherokee Co and if there are spouses and children there also. Thanks for any clues..

UGene Kimbrell  
5160 SeaShore Rd.  
Memphis, Tn. 38109  
eagle997@bellsouth.net

I am looking for James Herbert Kimbrell and parents he was born on January 1, 1931. His ex wife's name is Linda Iola Patrick and he has three children by her by the names of Herbert UGene Kimbrell, Linda Maurine Kimbrell, and Sylvis Diana Kimbrell. If any could help me i would greatly welcome the help. thank you very much..

Pat Tennon  
4630 SW H Ave.  
Lawton, OK 73505  
prechan@sirinet.net

I am searching for descendants of William Penn Wright, b OH son of Joshua Wright. I have where obtained land in Cherokee co, hopefully this is the one I am searching for. These Wrights were Quakers before coming to TX. Joshua's wife Rebecca Sumner was a Quaker minister. Joshua died in Shelby co in the 1850's. Anything appreciated. Thanks, Pat.

Evelin Boehl Morgan  
11900 Wickchester Ln. #1213  
Houston TX 77043  
Eboehlmorg@cs.com

I am searching for the location of the grave of John Poehler who was married to my gg-aunt, Anna Dorothea Boehl. Anna died in Arneckeville in DeWitt County in 1899. Any info would be appreciated. Thank you..

Debbie White  
P.O. Box 357  
Alto,Tx. 75925  
debdian@yahoo.com

Does anyone have any information on the White family from around Alto and Wells there was Lewis Marion White father of James Averett White b. 1877 married Ardell Summers from Nacogdoches and was the father of James Allen White. The Goodwin family was from Dog Town. Laura Belle Goodwin was the wife of Samuel Goodwin and Ethel Bell from Dog Town. Ethel was the daughter of Andrew Bell and Sally Bell..

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## Queries

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Robert Moyers  
1311 Tony  
White Oak, Texas 75693  
Flytyer974@imagineii.net

My GGGrandfather came to Cherokee Co in 1850 and was married to Mary Ann (Polly)Waggoner. He then went to Rusk Co. He was only 17 years of age and I believe he was too young to be here by his self and that some of his family was here also. I don't have any record of any brothers or sisters. I anyone has a sibling of that time frame with any match on the names I would appreciate contact. Thanks Robert.

Linda Sims  
2079 Perry Avenue  
Groves, Texas 77619  
blinkie50@tx.freei.net

I would appreciate any information or help on the Batton's. I have a James Carroll Batton born Nov. 2, 1847 in Memphis, Shelby County, Tenn. Died Dec. 18, 1929 in Jacksonville, Texas.. His Father: Zachariah Batton (Batten) and his mother: Mary Claiborn... Jame's second wife as Susan Catherine Benge Bolton.. James and Susan had; (1) Edith Ellender, (2) Elnora (3) Charles P. born Oct. 10, 1880 dying March 29, 1951 (4) James F. (5) Claude (6) Cora Olivia (7) Laura Ann and (8) Josephine... I got this information from a Crawford in Jacksonville. I am having the hardest time digging for M.J. Batton that married my great grandfather Thomas Benjamin Sanders on January 1, 1891 in Cherokee County. James is suppose to be her father from an earlier marriage. My aunt sent for a death certificate on Jane Batton and they can't find records... If you can help me on any of this, I will be forever grateful. Linda

Patricia Gilmore Burrs  
12113 Valleywood Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20902-2238  
301 933 5379  
MZDCT@aol.com

Cook, Sloan, Davis, Arnwine, Dixon, Lancaster, Wells Family history information needed. Looking for ancestors, friends and relatives. Many charts already completed. Relatives born in Jacksonville, Cherokee County, Rusk, TX, Tyler, Alto, etc..

Kaye Dennis Eden,  
Route 2, Box 165A,  
Stonewall, OK 74871.  
eden@tds.net

Robert Dennis, wife Verlinna Jackson and daughter Martha E. were in Cherokee Co. in 1860 in the Rusk township. Next door were his sister Martha Horton and family. Robert enlisted in the Confederate Army from Cherokee Co. and is said to have died in LA in 1865. Would appreciate any information on him..

Lynn Friedman  
4 Jo's Barn Way  
Rowayton, CT 06853  
lynnfriedman@home.com

I am looking for information on ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, born in NC in 1803 and probably lived in AL before coming to Cherokee Co. TX. On the 1850 Cherokee Co. census, he is listed with ELIZA CAMPBELL (b. GA 1814) as his wife and one son, JAMES W. (b. 1832) and ALMEDA BELVIN (b. 1838). Archibald became guardian for Almeda in 1850. Archibald had at least one other child living in Cherokee Co. at the time, MARY CAMPBELL BROWN (b. 1834, AL) who married R.P. BROWN (b. 1820 in GA). The Browns took in another of the Belvin orphans, ELLEN BELVIN. Other Belvin orphans were taken in by members of the CRIST family and the PAGGITT family. I am trying to find the connection between these families..

Lynn Friedman  
4 Jo's Barn Way  
Rowayton, CT 06853  
lynnfriedman@home.com

On the 1850 Census, 6 BELVIN orphans were found in various households. LUCINDA BELVIN (b. 1833, AL), was living with JACOB and REBECCA CRIST in Anderson Co. The other children were found in Cherokee Co. ALMEDA BELVIN (b. 1838, AL) was living with her guardian, ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL; ELLEN BELVIN (b. 1843, AL) was living with her guardian, R.P. BROWN and his wife MARY CAMPBELL. JOHN BELVIN (b. 1836, AL) and MARGARET BELVIN (b. 1842 AL) were living with JACOB CRIST and his wife SARAH MITCHAM. SUSAN BELVIN (b. 1846, TX) was found in the household of JOHN PAGGITT and his wife, JANE. The father of these children was probably TYRE BELVIN. I am trying to determine the relationship between the families who took in the Belvin orphans.

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## Queries

Cindy Smith  
7066 Sandy Springs,  
Maumee, Ohio 43537.  
cindysmith9@hotmail.com

Anyone working on Hiram JONES, in 1850 Cherokee census and in 1860 Angelina County Census, please contact me. Hiram came to Texas from Kentucky (or ILL and IND, both are mentioned on census as birth site) about 1836-1839. Wife was Nancy in 1850, Sarah in 1860, but the ages match so may be the same woman. Wife may have been a CONAWAY, also said to be Indian. Children were William, Jane, Catherine, Martha (b. 1840), A.Jackson, Rebecca, Mary.

Lisa Redden  
420 NW Renfro St.  
Burlson, TX 76028  
gredden@cowtown.net

George C. Redden is in Cherokee Co. 1850 census--age 21, a blacksmith, b. TN (KY?), with J.D. Carr family. Shortly thereafter, George marries Nancy Autry. Their children-- William Redden b. abt 1852. Benjamin Redden b. abt 1855 in Cherokee Co., TX. Georgina(?) Redden b. abt 1864 in Cherokee Co., TX. Lairy Columbus Redden b. 6 Nov 1865 in Cherokee Co., TX and d. 25 Aug 1910 in Jones Co., TX Jane Redden b. abt 1869 in Cherokee Co., TX. Harell Redden b. abt 1872 in Cherokee Co., TX. Fanny Redden b. abt 1876 in Cherokee Co., TX. Nancy Autry's parents and siblings in the 1850 Rusk Co., TX census-- George AUTRY, 45 M, Farmer, b. GA Mary (wife), 40, F, b. ? William, 18, M, Farmer, b. AL Nancy, 16, F, b. AL George W., 14, M, b. AL Hiram F., 12, M, b. AL Cynthia, 9, F, b. AL James L., 5, M, b. AL  
Would like to correspond with Redden/Autry researchers. I'd also like to find out about where to do research in Cherokee Co. Thanks for any help. Lisa.

Barbara R. Cantrell  
2813 Glen Oaks Drive  
Nashville, TN 37214  
brtrill@dellnet.com

I am searching for John Stonecypher or Stinecypher or variation of, and wife, possibly Elizabeth who moved to Cherokee Co, TX, in 1850 from Morgan County, TN. He fought in the War of 1812 from Morgan County, TN..

Aline Jones,  
303 Sugarlane,  
Lufkin, Texas, 75904.  
jsazk@txucom.net

Looking for Williams from Jacksonville, Texas. I am looking for anyone who is related to the following Williams. Willie H. Williams b. 1869, d. 1943, Marry H. Called (Molly) Vann Williams, b. 8-28-1874, d. 1962. Buried in Old Jacksonville Cemetery. Their children: Latha O, Barbie, E. D., Bill, & Sert. Could have been more children. I am looking for information on Marry H. Vann, Williams. She is my great aunt. Would appreciate any information.

Wanda Skinner  
Route 3, Box 300  
Eastland, Texas 76448  
wskinner@eastland.net

I am searching for the Ault family who were in Cherokee CO. TX. I know the Mary Jane Ault Mansell married Sion House there in 1878. Were any of their children born there? Her brother was married to Sion's daughter and they ran a store there. I will share what I have on the family. Part of them went to Arkansas and then back to Texas soon after 1900.

RAYMOND LOVETT  
290 BERRY ROAD  
BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77706  
rlovett@clearsail.net

I'M LOOKING FOR ELIZABETH JANE DAWSON THAT WAS IN CHEROKEE COUNTY IN 1865. I'M TOLD THAT SHE MARRIED A MAN NAME HAMILTON. OR A MAN NAME HARRINGTON. CAN ANYONE HELP ME WITH THIS ONE. ELIZABETH WAS THE DAUGHTER OF ISAAC N. DAWSON FROM PENNINGTON TRIMITY COUNTY, TEXAS. I HAVE INFORMATION ON THIS FAMILY AND WILL SHARE..

Carol Jacobson  
595 Idylwood Dr SE  
Salem, OR 97302  
Caroljac@aol.com

Victor Thomason (1810-1861) reportedly buried in Burr Stover Cemetery in Cherokee County. It's not on lists, so has anyone heard of it?.

Marty Bivens Adcock  
1603 Highway 16E  
Jackson, GA 30233  
mjba@mindspring.com

I am looking for information on Jesse P. BIVENS who was living in Cherokee County when the 1920 Federal Census was taken. He was a photographer by trade. He was the son of Benjamin Franklin & Sarah Jane Gore Bivens. Any information would be appreciated.

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## Queries

Earl and Sandra PRYOR,  
Rt 4 Box 111,  
Rusk TX 75785-9416.  
spryor@ballistic.com

Searching for members and addresses of the Robert PRYOR Family for our cousins reunion in October. This year at the reunion we will have a special ceremony honoring our Civil War Veteran grandfather. I have just received the monument to place on his grave from the Veterans Administration. At the service the Texas Calvary and Sons of Confederate Veterans will perform an enactment of the Civil War at the gravesite for the special ceremony of unveiling the tombstone. The reunion will be in October 2000. Noticed will be sent out to the exact date.

Robert PRYOR was born April 1825, in Marion District South Carolina, died 10 Jan 1918 in Cherokee County TX., married Prudence "Prudy" TURNER 21 June 1849 in Pike County Al. He came to Cherokee County TX between 1858-1860.

First appeared on the Cherokee County Census in 1860. Children:

1. Samantha Jane PRYOR, died at an early age, about 1 1/2 years.
2. William Earl PRYOR, born 11 May 1851, Pike County AL, died 5 Jan 1880, Cherokee County TX., married 13 Feb 1873 to Margaret Sarah NORTON, born 24 Sep 1848, died 10 June 1902, daughter of Erasmus James NORTON and Sarah Messer HUGHES.

Their children included:

- A. William F. PRYOR, Sr.,(Fletcher), born 13 June 1874, died 25 Apr 1947, married Mary Jane (Molly) JONES and Lola Bonard WORK.
- B. Erasmus Frank PRYOR, (Frank), born 19 Mar 1876, died 10 Mar 1960, married Josephins (Josie) LLOYD.
- C. Thomas Jasper PRYOR, (Tom), born 21 Nov 1880, died 5 Feb 1946, married Mary J. (Mamie) GOFF.
- D. Ida J. PRYOR, born 12 Sep 1879, died 19 Oct 1924, married Cecil L. HUTCHINS.
- E. Margaret Sarah (Maggie) PRYOR, born 15 Mar 1885, died 23 Dec 1961, married John G. GOFF.
- F. Lelia PRYOR, b 29 Dec 1882, died 25 Apr 1889.
- G. John Robert Earl PRYOR, (Earl), b. 1 Feb 1888, died 7 Mar 1964, married Myrtle (Myrtie) Lee GOFF, Noler Elizabeth MARTIN, and Ella Claudia ROBINSON HORTON, mother of Johnny HORTON, well known country western music and folk singer.

If you are connected to the above families and have information on you family or others, please contact me. I would love to have trees on each of the families so I can post them at the reunion. This will be an event in your family you do not want to miss. I need people to be on committees. PLEASE CONTACT ME and send any addresses you have.

Frank Fagg  
Rt 5. Box 731  
Alvin, Tx 77511  
minnisc@gateway.net

I am the Greatgrandson of James M. Fagg. JMF is buried in a cemetery behind the Maple Grove Missionary Church in Minden, Texas. After many years of searching, I found his grave. Supposedly he died while visiting his daughter Mamie Shotwell in Jacksonville August 24, 1915. His wife died in Mobile, Al. in 1903 +/- this is all of the information I have and grasping at straws to obtain more information, doing a genealogy check can be very rewarding even when a brick wall is put in front of you. Sincerely, Frank Fagg

Ronda Jones  
171 E. Hampton Ave.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
ronda@hopefoundation.com

I am looking for a Samuel W. Robbins. He died in TX abt 1864. B. in Tennessee abt 1795. Do you have him in your county? Thanks, Ronda

Janet Ariciu  
Rt 4 Box 490  
Ava, Mo 65608  
monkey@goin.missouri.org

I need obit for William Munkers b 1810 died in Cherokee on 18 Jul 1877. I hope it will link him to his dad. Janet

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## Queries

Kitty S. Eastwood  
14211 Chef HWY #15  
New Orleans, LA 70129

I would like to place a query on information on J. Thomas Park who married Pernesey Pickens in 1865. I would appreciate any information on this family.

Michelle White  
PO Box 886  
Stanton, TX 79782  
915-756-3205  
michelle@usaonline.net

I am searching for the family of Nancy Elizabeth Goodwin. Her parents possibly were Andrew Wesley Goodwin and Mary Ann Ashworth. This couple is reported to be married in Cherokee County in 1838. Mary Ann died in 1852. Any help will be appreciated. I will be happy to pay for copies and postage.

Harold Wesley  
PO Box 264  
Big Oak Flat, CA 95305  
channgthegrid.net

I am researching my Richardson family line. Attached is what is known about the line. They lived at a "homestead near Alto" in the 1850 era. In the book "The First Census of Texas, 1829-36" some Richardsons were listed in the 1835 Census Bevil District. Would the Bevil District be part of your area? Ten names were listed but only William seems to correspond to given names associated with my family. I would appreciate any help in leads that I may follow.

- 1 William Thomas Richardson
- 2 John William Richardson 1828 - b: May 24, 1828 in Perry, Alabama. +Ann Kathyrine Waters
- 3 Reuben Epanimondres Richardson 1857 - 1933
  - b: September 20, 1857 in Texas
  - d: August 29, 1933 in Elna believes August 28, 1933
  - Burial: Harmon County, Oklahoma at Pleasant Hill Cemetery
  - +Emma Eudora Woolly 1861 - 1925
  - b: February 05, 1861
  - d: January 01, 1925 in Harmon County, Oklahoma at Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Marie Webre  
Box 222  
Honeyville, Ut. 84314  
swebre@pdqnet.net

I am looking for the birth record for Sarah Jane Cadell. She was born on Sept. 7, 1853 in Rusk, Cherokee, Texas. Her parents are from N. Carolina. The county records supposedly don't contain records from that early a date. Can anyone in your society help me? Any information about her or her parents would be helpful in my genealogical research. Sincerely, Marie Webre

Gladys Armstrong  
P.O. Box 771  
Baker, LA 70704  
IMABR@aol.co

If anyone is researching the RUSSELL Family of Cherokee, CO during the 1870 and 1880's, I need the parents of James W. RUSSELL. He married Maybelle ODOM in Cherokee Co then moved to MACON CO. AL and was there on the 1900 Census, back in TX in Anderson, CO in 1910. please e-mail me or write.

Joyce (Hollers) Jones  
12991 FM 968-W  
Longview, TX 75602-9578  
supernana123@prodigy.net

Have been searching for the Jones and Goss families who lived in Troup, but don't know if they lived in Smith Co. or Cherokee Co., Tx., this may have been in the Griffin Community or Blackjack Community? Also, I do not find Emmaus Cemetery Records listed in Cherokee Co., are they in Smith Co.? Thanks, Joyce (Hollers) Jones

Joyce (Hollers) Jones  
12991 FM 968-W  
Longview, TX 75602-9578  
supernana123@prodigy.net

Searching for cemetery records of William Goss and Hodge Meeks Goss, who are both supposedly buried in Caledonia Cemetery in Shelby Co., Tx. Can you be of any assistance of the Goss and Meeks lines? Many thanks, Joyce (Hollers) Jones

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# Membership Application

**CHEROKEE COUNTY**

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**Post Office Box 1332**

**Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332**

Annual membership dues are \$12.00 (single) and \$16.00 for a two-member household. The membership year ends August 31, 2000. Membership entitles you to four quarterly issues of our publication Tree Talk. The Society meets the second Monday of the months September through May at Bonner Place, 421 S. Bonner, Jacksonville, Texas at 7 p.m.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ 9-digit Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames you are researching; \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the information above, make out your check, and mail to:

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

Post Office Box 1332

Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

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