

TREE TALK

Volume 49 Issues 1 & 2

Fall –Winter 2023-2024

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Editor's Letter

James I. Douthat of Mountain Press is a frequent contributor of articles to TREE TALK. His latest article begins on page 4.

Mountain Press has begun offering their books as eBooks only. You can find them at their websites www.MountainPress.com or www.SouthernGenealogyBooks.Com. The details of the change in Mountain Press's plan is on page 6.

Dr. Deborah L. Burkett is the author of **“Quilts and their stories: binding generations together : journal of a small town quilt show”**, **“East Texas Piney Woods Spunky Women 1830's-1950's, Vol. 1”** and **“Remembering Those buried Beneath the Cedars”**.

She also frequently writes about people and the history of our area in the Jacksonville Progress and the Cherokeean-Herald. She shares her previously published story about Mr. Wyzo Griffin, Jr. on page 7.

I hope you enjoy this issue of TREE TALK.

Gordon Bennett, Editor

OOPS!!

By James L. Douthat, Mountain Press

As we begin our research, we are frequently excited and we grab at straws to add to our bank of knowledge. This happened to me years ago as I got serious in my research on my mother's family, the Painters. I knew my fourth and fifth grandparents all lived in one county in southwestern Virginia. Their names were not common names and when I came across a Mathias Painter in the county records, I made all kinds of notes and kept the records of all mentions of the name. Then there was also an Isaac Painter, and I knew he was the son of Matthias. I had pages of notes. Later I began to compile these notes into a story of the two men, especially when I was given a photograph of Isaac and his wife.

All at once the story began to fall apart and became totally confusing. The notes did not match each other. It seemed that Isaac appeared in two different communities at the same time, and he was totally involved in two different adventures. In one story he had a 425-acre mountain plot of land in the south of the county and the other he was involved in a store on the east side of the county. I know it would not have been impossible, but my mountain side man taught school on his 425 acres of land and the "east" side man never mentioned a school. Instead of throwing all the records out, I decided to dig deeper into each of them. I went after the vital records and finally found the graves of two different Isaac's but in two different counties and the dates matched their births, marriages and finally deaths. I had two different men and tried to get one man out of the data. Both Mathias and Isaac in this case were two totally different men. One set were my ancestors and the other not. Since this time several other researchers have confused these two, so I had to publish the difference in a county journal to help others find the truth. It took me a several years of research to come up with the truth, but I am so glad I did as it helped so many others to sort out their differences also.

Point One: Proceed with caution with a common name like James Smith!! You have to use a whole stable of information sometimes to sort out the difference, especially when the names are close, and location is even closer. One of my wife's third great grandmothers married J. N. Levi before the Civil War and had several children. One of the first records that I found of a J. N. Levi was that he operated a small local store after the Civil War in the 1870s. However, the husband of her grandmother died at Andersonville Prison in Georgia during the Civil War. It is impossible to own a store after you have died. I found out that there were two Levi's in the county. One was James Noah and the other was Jasper Newton. Simple mistake but one that can throw you off for years if the research is not pushed to the end as soon as possible. Solution: Dig deep as soon as possible.

OOPS!!

Point Two: Learn the history of the area you are searching. Case in point my fifth great grandfather was taken captive by the Shawnee in a county in western Virginia in the late 1780s. I grew up with this story from birth as we were living in that county, so I knew where to look for the information. Later, in searching the court records for the location of the land, which is marked with a monument, I couldn't find any deed records for the home site, and I had been to it hundreds of times. It turns out that the present county did not exist at the time he lived there. The original county existed for four years, so it is no wonder there was confusion. Counties and even state names and locations change frequently. Be careful of relying on names of locations.

Point Three: Often the spelling of the name changes without warning. Going back to my Painter clan I was looking in the deed book in the Shenandoah County, County in Virginia where my ancestor purchased his land. I was able to trace this by the given name of Painter and not Paynter as it is often spelled. However, in the margin written by the County Court Clerk is a note that says, "He signs in English "Painter" but in German the name is "Bender"." This was my first clue that there was a name change. I was years learning that the two names sound a lot alike when pronounced in the German - Bainter. I found few if any Benders in that county or any of the surrounding county in this part of Virginia. However, in Pennsylvania the woods are full of Benders. The spelling of the name might be different from generation to generation so be on guard. With my name "Douthat" I have documented a few dozen different spellings and some not even close. There is no standardized system of spelling names and in fact, I have seen two brothers spelling their names differently. Be aware of this in any research.

The best resource for these problems is that of the land records. It is unlikely that two men of the same name will be listed as owning the same piece of property if that is the case the court clerk made a mistake. Even if both own property in the same county, they will be in different locations. Track them down this way. Many of the court records can be confusing with the names, but not the land records.

In doing the best research, start building a library of those counties involved. Gather as many resources as possible as what is needed today might come in just as handy in later research

Happy Searching!

By James L. Douthat,
Mountain Press

MOUNTAIN PRESS EBOOKS
www.MountainPress.com
www.SouthernGenealogyBooks.com

Mountain Press has begun offering their books as eBooks only. You can find them on our websites www.MountainPress.com or www.SouthernGenealogyBooks.com. All our manuscripts have been scanned in pdf format and are now online as eBooks. They contain all the original information as our printed books. A nice thing about the eBook is that the cost is substantially less than the printed books and you receive them instantly. You can still search by surname or county to find your area of interest.

To help your societies, we are making an offer. If you put a note in your next journal/publication about our eBook availability and send us a copy of the notice, we will send the society a genealogical research book for your library. We will be selecting the volume from our vast library of research materials. If that particular book does not fit your needs or does not cover the area of interest, then this book can be used as a fundraiser for your society.

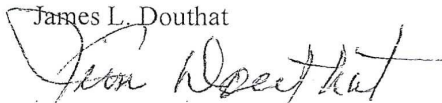
Mountain Press is also working on getting our huge map collection together to offer to societies and libraries. We have hundreds of maps available from local maps to nationwide ones. Maps are an important part of our genealogical research, especially the older maps that show the counties and states as they once were when the pioneers began to work their way across the nation from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Stay tuned!

If you still want our books in printed form, we have turned the manuscripts over to Heritage Books out of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Craig Scott, the owner, plans to keep them in print in the future.

Take advantage of our offer to notify your members about the eBooks availability and we will send you a free research book!

Yours sincerely,

James L. Douthat



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Images Speak Stones Made by Wyzo Griffin Jr. New Hope Community Cemetery by Deborah Burkett

Born September 23, 1928, Mr. Wyzo Griffin Jr. will celebrate a birthday soon, his 95th. He's still going strong and I want to wish him the very best. In doing so, I will share portions of an interview conducted in August 2020. At the time, I was working on a book entitled; *Remembering Those Buried beneath the Cedars*. I learned of Mr. Wyzo and wanted to talk to him about his cemetery stones.

George Martin arranged a meeting near the huge cedar tree at New Hope Community Cemetery and before long Mr. Wyzo and I were talking about his family and his memories of the past.

He shared, "My mother was Zula York Griffin. She was born in 1905 and died in 1930 when I was two years old...she is buried here in New Hope Community Cemetery." Later as an adult Mr. Wyzo made a gravestone for her.

During the interview, Mr. Wyzo continued, "I joined the church when I was 6 years old and was baptized at Mill Pond Branch—before a baptism they had to cut switches, beat the water and chase the snakes away...Rev. E. O. Sweet was pastor when I was baptized..."

As we walked the cemetery where generations of his people are buried, he indicated many were marked with a stone he'd made, Mr. Wyzo described the techniques used to make a grave stone. He explained that his career in the cinder block business prepared him for making stones. He shared, "...Worked at Alto Concrete, then when they moved to Lufkin. I wore out 3 pickups driving back and forth to work. For 24 years. I was foreman in Lufkin...I built the first blocks for the Astrodome...It was after my retirement I started to make grave stones...I had a few friends who died."

He continued, "Working in cement, I knew how to put lots of words on stone...to take out letters before it hardens. The first one I charged \$15...but often did not get paid. But that was alright. Mr. Conley of Rusk asked me to make stones. We made a deal, he'd cut my hair and I'd make stones," Mr. Wyzo said with a laugh. "I've got stones in cemeteries at Linwood, Rusk, and on the Mountain too."

The picture of Mr. Wyzo submitted with this article is one I took at the conclusion of our walk through the cemetery. I wanted one more photo before we said good bye that day in 2020.



Images Speak Stones Made by Wyzo Griffin Jr. New Hope Community Cemetery

Wanting to share Mr. Wyzo's story, I contacted Dr. Perky Beisel, Professor, in the Department of History at Stephen F. Austin State University. I had attended several of her workshops and over the years had invited her to Cherokee County to guide our efforts in cemetery preservation and documentation of our local history.

A date was scheduled recently and George Martin, a dedicated member of the New Hope Community Cemetery Association, met me and Dr. Beisel. She wanted to photograph Mr. Wyzo's stones as well as other aspects of the cemetery. While walking the site, George shared histories of many African Americans buried there and highlighted their contributions. While discussing the Masonic Lodge at New Hope Community, George shared, "At one point, all three of them were Worshipful Masters...Mr. Wyzo, his father and Grandfather."

Dr. Beisel is seen at the grave stone of Mr. Wyzo's father, Wyzo Griffin Sr. On several of the stones Mr Wyzo made, one can still see color. Dr. Beisel explained and described the color, "as a once thick reflective blue-grey paint that is now flaking and fading but still shows Mr. Griffin's style and skill in crafting gravestones."

According to Dr. Beisel, "Cemeteries and their gravestones are a window into past lives. By studying these cultural landscapes and their material culture we can better understand previous generations' social, cultural, economic, political and military experiences. A cemetery's creation, layout and style combined with gravestones' materials, types, motifs and the makers deserve proper documentation and preservation. In addition, gravegoods and historic plantings are significant evidence of the past that deserve proper maintenance and preservation."

Mr. Wyzo Griffin Jr. has certainly done his part in terms of preservation. By marking graves with his unique stones he's provided a permanent written record of their life, placing them in historical context of New Hope Community, the Alto area and all of Cherokee County.

It's been said a person's worth and their character can be measured by the lives they touched and the number of people who speak of them glowingly. Mr. Wyzo is such a person. When speaking of him people smile and proclaim, "Everyone loves Mr. Wyzo!"



Used by permission of Dr. Deborah L. Burkett, February 5, 2024.

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Members

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	CATEGORY	ADDRESS 1	CITY	STATE	POSTAL CODE	E-MAIL
ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	MOBILE PH.	SURNAME	SURNAME 2	SURNAME 3	SURNAME 4	SURNAME 5	SUR-
Baker	Marge	Member	681 COUNTY RD 1311	RUSK TX	75785-3416			margebaker8@gmail.com
	907-360-2397		PEAVY, SNOWDEN, HARRIS, WELCH, DIAL, SEALE					
Blodgett	Elizabeth	& Eric	Couple	6020 Minnetonka Blvd	Minneapolis	MN	55416-2024	
	e2blodgett@gmail.com		979-436-8745	EARLE, TEMPLETON, WALLACE, BUSH, PAYNE, WRIGHT, THOMPSON, BERGE, WINN, BREVARD, BLANSETT, McEACHERN, RAGSDALE, WEBB				
Bennett	Gordon	Member	825 Willowcreek Drive	Jacksonville TX	75766-3401			ccgs@suddenlink.net
	903-586-0135		BENNETT, HOLLENBECK, HICKMAN, HICKS, NEVITT, GILL, CRAVEN, TAYLOR					
Bolton	John Seguire	& Sonja Carroll	Couple	211 Skyview LN	Tullahoma TN	37388-4149		johnsbolton8@gmail.com
	903-988-1591		903-399-4644	BOLTON, NORWOOD, DURRETT, McCRACKEN, HAMMETT, DENT, THOMPSON, HUDNALL, CLARK, MAY, MEYERS, DuBOSE, SEVIER, GOREE, RANKIN, JONES				
Burkett	Deborah L.	Member	PO Box 325	Troup TX	75789-0325			debbietroup7@yahoo.com
	903-752-7850		LONG, LANGSTON, ARMNSTRONG,					
Cates	Vivian T	Member	2403 State Highway 21 West	Alto TX	75925-5706			vtcates1943@gmail.com
	936-858-3801		ALLRED, BALDWIN, BLACKSHEAR, BURT, BRADLEY, BROWN, CATES, COLLIER, COWARD/ COW ART, DANIEL, DOMINY, FONDREN, GAY, MANNING, MAYES, NEWBERRY, ODELL, SPURLIN, TOOLE ALLEN, BOOTH/ E, BOWLES, BOOLES, BRUCE, BUCKNER, CARPENTER, CHRISTIAN, CROW, DURHAM, EDMONDS/EDMUNDS, FREE MAN, GREEN/E, HATCHER, LINDSEY, MALONE, POLLARD, POWELL, RANDAL/RANDALL, REYNOLDS/RUNNELS, ROBIN SON, SHEFFIELD					
Childs	Marleta	Member	PO Box 6825	Lubbock TX	79493-6825			kinsearching@gmail.com
							806-748-1470	
Eggleston	Linda	Hall	Member	807 Quail Run	Brownwood TX	76801-6314		lhe-bwd@hotmail.com
	512-289-8045		325-784-7747	SHORTER, WAILLIAMS,				
Francis	Thomas	member	5 Dianne Court	Lafayette CA	94549-5101			francis.t@comcast.net
	283-9124		FRANCIS, HENRY, ARMSTRONG, SUMMERS, WILLSON, BLACK, PRYOR, TAYLOR					925-
Hardy	David	Member	6531 Trimstone Dr.	Pasadena TX	77505-4265			dssh Hardy@juno.com
	281-487-4005		HARDY, MAYES/MAYS, FOREMAN, BEAIRD, GREEN, JENNINGS, GENTRY, BURT, WEST, MARTIN, MATHEWS, CORELEY, WILLS, RAMEY, FOXWORTH, ARRANT, TODD, HENSON, MAYNARD LANIER, DICKEY, REDD, COOK, ALLEN, PEGUES, McClURE, SINGLETARY DOVER, ROSS, HEWGLEY, MAY, WARD, FORD, HERLONG, WESLEY, BENNET, GENTRY, GUICE, PERRY VICKERY, WATSON, ETHRIDGE, MOORE, FELDER, TANNERY, VALENTINE, RISHER, , DILLARD, TERRY, THOMPSON, COOPER, MASTERS, BRADFORD, ELWELL, MILLS, CARROL, CUMMINGS, SELMAN, WILSON, MAY, RUSSEL					
Hughins	Barbara	Member	901 PALESTINE ST APT B	Jacksonville TX	75766-3273			
	bh@jacksonvillemethodist.org		903-586-5860	ANGELO, ODOM, HUGGHINS, MARTIN, MONTANDAR				
Johnson	Joyce R & Daniel D.	Couple	108 S. Main	Rusk TX	75785-1335			rowlandstone1943@gmail.com
	832-687-3528		ROWLAND, TURNER, McFADDEN, HOUGHTON					

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Members

Jones Eileen S.	Member	23220B Parkshire Ct	New Caney TX	77357-8632	esjones@sbcglobal.net
281-689-3567	713-305-6463	CAMPBELL, GRIFFITH, STIKE, BLACK, FORREST			
Kennedy Glenda Durrett	Member	10286 Colquitt Rd.	Terrell TX	75160-1572	glendajkennedy@aol.com 972-524-8821
	214-356-1699	DURRETT, CHAPMAN, BOLTON, FOX, KENNEDY, WHITE, PARKER, MORROW, DENTON			
Limuel Nekeshia	Member	1832 FM 1911 S	ALTO TX	75925	nekeshia.thegriot@gmail.com 832-839-3303
		WATSON, LOFTIN, SIMMONS, (Cherokee Co..TX), LIMUEL, HAWWOOD, SMITH, BROWN (Bastrop Co., TX), BOLTON, THAMES, COLLIER, ALLEN (Houston Co., TX)			
Marable Helen Heck	Member	601 Pebble Beach Dr.	Jacksonville , TX	75766-9376	hmmara@suddenlink.net 903-586-9171
	903-721-3786	HECK, VOSS, EHRNST, LUKEN, SEROCKI, MESKE, PIECHOWSKI, KIEDROWSKI, DWROWA, MARABLE, FISHER, WOODWARD, HOWELL			
Martin George	Member	1555 FM 1911 S.	Alto TX	75925-6039	gbmartin@consolidated.net 936-858-2159
	936-635-6378				
McCarty Toni	Member	2122 FM 2574	PALESTINE TX	75803-1949	dmcca249@gmail.com
903-721-5834	STOCKTON				
McCutcheon Elizabeth	Member	PO Box 215	New Summerfield TX	75780-0215	
EMccut6568@aol.com	903-752-2188				
McMullen Cynthia & Roy	Couple	303 Alice Lane	Huntington, TX	75949-2862	cindyann@consolidated.net 936-422-5316
	HOLSOMBACK, BURNETT, PRYOR, BOOTH, ACKER, ODOM, LLOYD, COOPER, CLARK, HAMMONS, LINDSEY, NORTON, McCOWN,				
Moody Phyllis Vaughan	Member	18157 Osage Trail Drive	College Station TX	77845-4582	moodyphyll@me.com
713-621-1884	VAUGHAN, MIDDLETON, JONES, MEAZLES, HARDY, TIPTON, BETTS, BOGARD, DUDLEY, MORRIS, PORTER, PICKETT, BERRY, CONI(A)WAY, FOUST, HART, BURROUGHS, MEYERS, BEACHAM, LANGSTON, WYNNE, CURRY, EL LIOTT, MULLINS, REYNOLDS, SMITH, CLAPP, NOLAND, HARRISON, LOVING, DUDLEY, GARTRELL, GIDDENS, GRESHAM, HAYNE, HUNT, JESSUP, KERRICH, BEACHAM, LUCE, ROUNDTREE, NICHOLSON, KING, LOWERS, MALONE, MANGHAM, MOODY, COLEMAN				
Peevy Ann	Member	20797 CR 2199	Troup TX	75789-5734	AnnPeevy@aol.com 903-839-4555
	COWEN, HOLLIMAN, SMITH, HORTON, TEASLEY, PEEVY, LAMBRIGHT, HOGG, WALLING, HEROD, WEST, SINCLAIR				
Shaw Georgia K	Member	12800 FM 241 S	Alto TX	75925-5207	peachseed53@yahoo.com
Shirley Beth	Member	2105 N JOSEY LN APT 421	Carrollton, TX	75006-3030	pastel.artist@yahoo.com 972-245-1621
	DURRETT, ROACH, SHERMAN, JONES, BOBBITT, CHAPMAN, EMBRY, SIMPSON				
Sides, Jr. Jim	Member	3134 S. Amble Pass	Gold Canyon AZ	85118-1703	jsidesjr@gmail.com
210-378-4717	SIDES, BOUNDS/BOWNDS, ACKER, HIGHTOWER, SEITZ, ARNWINE, GOLEMON, TRIBBLE				
Smith Fred R	Member	9141 Seagrove Dr.	Dallas TX	75243-7225	fsmith@rayleeco.net 214-349-1319
	214-213-0644	MEADOR, SMITH, McCRACKEN, PRYOR, SWEARINGEN, CRAWFORD, BRIGMAN, JOHNSON, BANKHEAD, HAMMONDS, TREADWAY, YARBROUGH			

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 CARLETON, LANGHAM, REED/REID, EVANS,HELM, WILSON, BRACKEN, ALLEN, SHAVER, GASKEY, MUNSON, MIDDLETON,
 BURKE, WHEAT, MERRIMAN,NEWMAN,HELM ENGLISH,BURKE, HOLCOMB, CUTLER, FLOWERS, HEMBY

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 ERFORD, McKINNEY, TEAGUE, HARRIS,GAY,CLARY,DEVERSON,HAWLEY,NORTHCUTT, SUM MERS,BASS,CLARY,GAY,
 MOORE,TURNER, WORLEY, WERLIE, WHERLE

White Jack & Sheila Couple P.O. Box 491 Rusk TX 75785-0491 jackwhite317@gmail.com 903-721-3152
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 JOWELL, MYERS,BOLTON, MUSIC,COGGENS,PIERCE, McKINNEY/McKENNY, PLANT,

Wright Helen Member229 Mesa Dr Georgetown TX 78628-1506 helen.wright@suddenlink.net
 512-930-9889 BRANHAM, BOBBITT, JOHNSTON, JOHNSON, WRIGHT, LEACH, GILCHRIST, COOPER,
 GLENN, WOODLEY. DUNCAN



Photo Donations help preserve Gallatin History

By Deborah Burkett

Images from the past offer a glimpse of another way of life, an era in which our ancestors lived. Thanks to a generous donation by Sallie (Evans) and Randy Mallory of Austin, photographs of Gallatin taken in the 1930's capture and preserve its history.

These images show details that can't be found by merely examining Census Records. Details such as a split rail fence in the background of a picture of a young James Harold Colville grinning proudly with his calf.



Recently, I received a call from Mr. Mallory asking, 'Are you and the Cherokee County Historical Commission interested in any old photos related to your area? We've already donated photos to Smith County.'

Answering in the affirmative, we quickly made plans to meet and since the Mallorys also have a home in East Texas it was easily arranged.

Gallatin is a name-sake of Gallatin, Tennessee, the hometown of Rusk attorney, C.H. Martin, who surveyed the town site in 1902. The land was owned by John W. Chandler and his sister, S.A. Chandler. John wanted the town named after his oldest son, Alton, but after a check of established Texas towns revealed another 'Alton' already existed.

The name of Gallatin was then chosen.

At one time, Gallatin was second only to Jacksonville as the largest tomato shipping point in the county. About 1902, the construction of the Texas & New Orleans Railroad, also referred to as T&NO, between Dallas and Beaumont led to establishing Gallatin along the south side of the railroad right-of-way.

Photo Donations help preserve Gallatin History

Many farm families migrated to the area and merchants opened stores in the new town, approximately 20 in all, which included general mercantile and dry goods stores, as well as drug stores. In 1916, the town's business buildings were almost totally destroyed by fire.

There would be a Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Gallatin and two early public schools. The oldest school, Mt. Hebron, was on the east side of the Gallatin-Rusk Road. The building was later converted into a private home. The other old school was south of the center of town. Gallatin Independent School District was the first rural independent school district in the county. The district's school for black students was at the Elm-Grove community.

In the early 1980's the town was incorporated into the City of Gallatin. Even though Gallatin is fairly new, the area had settlers before Cherokee County was formed out of Nacogdoches County in 1846. One of the early family names during that time was Colville, the name written on the back of the donated photographs.

The other photo submitted with this article and part of the Gallatin collection shows James Harold Colville again, this time with Dick Colville and "Pa" Smith's car in 1936.



Interesting to note Sallie Mallory's grandfather, Goldwyn McGrat Smith was a teacher/principal at Gallatin School at one time. It's thought the car may have belonged to him.

If you have stories to share contact Deborah Burkett at debbietroup7@yahoo.com or call 903- 752-7850.

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

Monday, February 13, 2023

Rusk Public Library – 207 East 6th Street, Rusk, TX

In attendance were Gordon Bennett, Helen Marable, Dan Cates, Vivian Cates, George Martin, Barbara Huggins, Georgian Shaw and Sassy Cox

Treasurer Report given by Helen Marable. January 9 meeting cancelled therefore reports as follows: Balance 12/21/2023 \$1752.46, a gift of \$100.00 was received. Balance 1/31/2023 \$1768.74.

Minutes were read by Helen Marable and approved as read.

New Business:

Gordon asked if anyone does Facebook. He said the Texas State Genealogical Society suggests that we have more than one Administrator. George Martin offered to add him to be Administrator with Gordon Bennett.

Gordon mentioned we have a hosting agreement with our internet provider Bluehost which will expire April 2024. Considering maybe to go to the website <https://www.txgenwebcounties.org>? He asked if anyone interested in finding or volunteering someone to be the Co-County Coordinator (Co-Administrator). Currently, he is the only one. He has been handling the webpage since 1996.

Also, Gordon mentioned there were 18 exchange publications since the last report.

Vivian Cates mentioned putting on a workshop for beginners. Donations from DAR or Cherokee County Genealogical for youth awards program.

Program: Presented by CCGS 2nd Vice-President George Martin of Alto. His topic was on the "Cherokee County Historical Commission, What it is & What it does". He is Committee Chairman of the Cherokee County Historical Commission. Texas Historical Commission is the state agency for historic preservations. They collect the stories to authentic real or not for true history. Save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas. Staff consults with citizens and organizations to preserve Texas history through its architectural, archeological and cultural landmarks. These include markers, historical places, courthouses, cemeteries, museums and sawmills across the state of Texas. There are around 15 members. The Cherokee County Historical Commission works with the State Historical Commission. He mentioned work in progress now is the El Camino Real de los Tejas signage.

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

He also said they have 2023 calendars for sale at \$10.00 each and few books that the Cherokee County Commission produced a few years ago for \$75.00 and not reproduce when gone.

We enjoyed the program.

Helen Marable

Next meeting March 13, 2023

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

April 10, 2023, 3:00 PM

Rusk Public Library – 207 East 6th Street, Rusk, TX

In attendance were Gordon Bennett, Vivian Cates, George Martin, Liz Williford, Bill Williford, Marge Baker, and Helen Marable

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurer Report given with a checking account balance of \$1616.08.

Business:

Fiscal year ends 4/30/2023. Marge Baker offered to be auditor of the year end reports.

Facebook Gordon yet to set up for George Martin to be Co-Editor

Dan Cates died in April 21. Motion made by Gordon and seconded by Bill that the CCGS approved to donate memorial fund at Alto bank of \$50.00

Gordon mentioned the Roots web general conference held in March still has online speakers from event.

George mentioned at the last meeting at the Cherokee County Clerk's Office a lot not digitized such as land records available.

Vivian Is working on a Genealogy Event for October 20, 2023. The event to be held at the Rusk Public Library. Vivian is also working with a 4-H Club Project completing family or historical research with monetary awards.

After the business meeting the meeting adjourned to the Cherokee County Court House. District Clark, Allison Dotson talked about some of the things found there such as civil, divorce records that are digital. We appreciated her taking time to talk and answer questions.

Next meeting September 11, 2023

Helen Marable

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

September 11, 2023, 3:00 PM

Rusk Public Library – 207 East 6th Street, Rusk, TX

In attendance were Gordon Bennett, Barbara Huggins, George Martin, Helen Marable, Vivian Cates, Deborah Burkett, Marge Baker, Georgia Shaw, Betty Marcontell, plus 2 guests.

Minutes unread. Treasurer Report given with a checking account balance on 5/1/23 \$1616.08, Deposits of \$1261.96 (mostly books sold), Closed Petty Cash \$20.00, Expenses \$786.69. Balance 8/31/23 \$2111.35.

Gordon asked the nominating committee if they had a list of officers for 2023-2024 year. Deborah will give the report next meeting.

Gordon printed 1301 pages-May, 5596 pages-June, 1177 pages-July, 1716 pages-Aug for total 9790 pages printed.

Tree Talk, Gordon is needing some stories, write about parent, yourself or anyone.

Gordon Mentioned the 21st Annual Genealogy Lock-In will be held Friday, October 20, 2023, Hybrid Meeting all day.

21st Annual Family History Fair, Saturday, November 18 all day at the W.T. Conference in Tyler, TX

Program Speaker: LuAnn Mannix of Rusk with the topic about using the Ancestry computer genealogy Program available by subscription. Ms. Mannix is a retired teacher from Slocum ISD school whose primary subject matter was computer science.

She spoke about Ancestry DNA and Ancestry.com both with a wealth of information. She mentioned through the app and computer sometimes come up with different information. She shared with us tips for Ancestry Research using www.ancestry.com Discussion after another app to use Find a Grave.

Next meeting Monday, October 9, 2023

Helen Marable

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

October 9, 2023

Location: Cherokee County Historical Commission Office

In attendance were: Gordon Bennett, George Martin, Barbara Hugghins, Marge Baker, and Helen Marable

The Minutes was read and approved as presented.

The Treasurer Report was given with a checking account balance of \$2,308.52 on September 30, 2023. It was approved as presented.

The program was presented by Barbara Hugghins with the topic of “Writing Family History Stories”. She started out with discussion of personal motto. Some said hard work, education, bloom where you are planted (make yourself happy where you living), draw the circle wide (bring people into your life). She gave us suggestions how to start a story. Stories can start anywhere from current, past, family, your birthdate, name, occupations, school, parent’s advice, travels or experiences of life. She ended by saying we are all unique, different and have had different experiences. We all have our stories.

Upcoming events:

October 20, 2023 – 21st Annual Genealogy Lock-In Virtual at the Rusk Library, Rusk, TX and Hybrid.

November 11, 2023 – 4th Annual Veterans Patriotic Pathway Celebration at Buckner Park, Jacksonville, TX at 11:30 a.m.

November 18, 2023 – 21st Annual Family History Fair at W.T. Brookshire Conference Center, Tyler, TX from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting, Monday, November 13, 2023

Helen Marable

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

November 13, 2023

Location: Rusk Public Library, Rusk, TX

In attendance were Barbara Huggins, Gordon Bennett, George Martin, Helen Marable, Karl Little, Sherry Little, and Nekeshia Limuel

The minutes were read and approved as presented.

The Treasurer Report was given with a checking account balance of \$2,457.19 on October 31, 2023. It was approved as presented.

Old Business:

October 20, 2023 – 21st Annual Genealogy Lock-In virtual at the Rusk Library, Rusk, TX and Hybrid.

November 11, 2023 – 4th Annual Veterans Patriotic Pathway Celebration at Buckner Park, Jacksonville, TX (Veteran's Day)

Program for the evening was presented by Gordon Bennett titled One Peace Time Naval Officer. He had graduated from college in Goodwill, OK, Panhandle A&M in 1960. On June 27, 1960 at Newport, RI., he entered officer candidate school for 16 weeks instruction course. He had to dive 15-foot tower and then swim 75 yards in 10 minutes to pass the course. October 14, 1960, he received his commission. He went to supply corps school in Athens, GA from November 1960 to May 1961. He was stationed on the USS Intrepid in June 1961. He was the Wardroom Mess Officer and S5 Division Officer. In June 1963 he was transferred to Norfolk Group, Atlantic Reserve Fleet in Portsmouth, VA. His main duty was work in the inventory office. He was released from Active Duty on October 13, 1963. Purchased a 1962 Chevrolet convertible with red interior after being released and drove it home to Oklahoma.

Barbara Huggins mentioned her husband Gordon, George Martin and Karl Little added some of their military life.

Next meeting December 11, 2023

Meeting adjourned,

Helen Marable

Cherokee County Genealogical Society Minutes

Cherokee County Genealogical Society

December 11, 2023

Location: Rusk Public Library – Rusk, TX

In attendance were Gordon Bennett, George Martin, Vivian Cates, Helen Marable, Nekeshia Limuel, and Georgia Shaw

The minutes were read. George Martin approved as read. All in favor approved

The Treasurer report was given by Helen Marable with a new balance of \$2,345.09 on November 30, 2023

Program was given by Gordon Bennett and George Martin. Gordon began the program of history of CCGS. He mentioned, member Helen Crawford, over 50 years ago produced five books with Newspapers Obits. In 1996 Gaylon White produced a book of NW Cherokee County Cemeteries. He said would like to see someone manage cemeteries already found.

George Martin talked about chasing family, such as his Great Great Grandfather arrived to East Texas in 1870. Challenge why did he travel from Tennessee, what part of Tennessee from and when he arrived how did he get the land that he received. Who owned and operated it. He mentioned in 2000 many records in Texas have become digital, such as the Cherokee County Clerk's Real Property Records, Texas Land Records.com, FamilySearch.org, Probate Records, Census and Estate Records.

Both did a very interesting program.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting January 8, 2024

Helen Marable

Publications available through CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1332, Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

- ___ 1850 CHEROKEE CO. FED. CENSUS & MORTALITY SCHEDULE, by Sue Taylor, 76 pgs, (1986) indexed ISBN 1-931167-05-2 \$10.00
- ___ 1860 CHEROKEE CO. FED CENSUS & SLAVE SCHEDULE, 131 pgs, indexed. ISBN 1-931167-06-0 \$11.00
- ___ 1870 Cherokee County Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Mortality Schedule and Tax Rolls, by Sue Vaughn Taylor and Ira Gaylon White, 150 pages (1999) indexed ISBN 1-931167-07-9 \$11.00
- ___ 1880 CHEROKEE CO. FED. CENSUS, by Sue Taylor, 504 pgs. plus pgs of column explanations & abbreviation explanations: other introductory pgs., (1983) indexed. ISBN 1-931167-09-7 \$38.00
- ___ 1910 CHEROKEE CO. FED. CENSUS, by Bobbie Berry Dowling & Ira Gaylon White, 265 pgs, plus 3 pgs of column explanations, (1998), indexed ISBN 1-931167-09-5 \$24.00
- ___ AN ALBUM OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, TX MEN & WOMEN WHO SERVED IN WW 11, THE KOREAN CONFLICT OR VIET NAM (1994), navy with white imprint, red tape binder, 260 pgs., softbound, indexed. ISBN 1-931167-00- \$34.00
- ___ Arkansas Democrat, Sesquicentennial Edition, 1836-1986, Compiled by Helen Wooddell Crawford, 97 pages. \$5.00
- ___ Cemeteries of NW Cherokee County by Helen Wooddell Crawford Book 1 ISBN 978-1-931167-46-8 \$10.00
- ___ Cemeteries of Jacksonville, and others by Helen Wooddell Crawford Book 2 ISBN 978-1-931167-41-3 \$ 8.00
- ___ Cemeteries of NE Cherokee County by Helen Wooddell Crawford Book 3 ISBN 978-1-931167-38-3 \$11.00
- ___ Cemeteries of Mid Cherokee County by Helen Wooddell Crawford Book 4 ISBN 978-1-931167-35-2 \$10.00
- ___ Cemeteries of Southern Cherokee County by Helen Wooddell Crawford Book 5 ISBN 978-1-931167-44-4 \$ 8.00
- ___ CHEROKEE COUNTY DEATH RECORDS, 1903-1945, by IdaLee D. Edmiston (1998) 351 pgs., softbound, approximately alphabetical ISBN 1-931167-10-9 \$48.00
- ___ Church Book for Church of Christ at Salem Edgefield District South Carolina To Sardis Baptist Church at Cherokee County, Texas A.D. 1836- A.D. 1941: copy of original handwritten minutes, names of members, pastors; 260 letter-size pages, softbound, 3rd edition, (2006) indexed by Sue Taylor & Bobbie Dowling ISBN 1-931167-15-X LCCN 2006928721 \$26.00
- ___ CHURCH BOOK OF PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH CHEROKEE CO., TX. VOL. 1, Sep. 1854 to Feb. 1921. Copy of original handwritten minutes of the church, names of pastors, roster of members, obituary notices on some members, introductory pages includes a brief history of the church, surrounding area, and map of location, 452 pgs, (1992), softbound, indexed. ISBN 1-931167-01-X \$39.00
- ___ CHURCH BOOK OF PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, CHEROKEE CO., TX. VOL. II, Mar. 1921 to Apr. 1961. Copy of original handwritten minutes of the church, names of pastors, roster of members, obituary notices on some members, (Introductory pgs. the same as VOL. I above), 500 pgs, soft-bound, indexed ISBN 1-931167-02-8 Sold Out
- ___ CHURCH BOOK OF ROCKY SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, CHEROKEE CO., TX 1871-1912, copy of original handwritten minutes, names of pastors, roster of members, 351 pgs, softbound, (1991) indexed by IdaLee Derrett Edmiston ISBN 1-931167-03-6 \$33.00
- ___ CIVIL WAR RECORDS OF CHEROKEE CO., TX, VOL. 1. by Ogreta W. Huttash, 93 pgs, (1982). Most complete list from soldiers from Cherokee county available, plus interesting documents from individuals, softbound, indexed. \$11.00
- ___ CIVIL WAR RECORDS OF CHEROKEE CO., TX, VOL. 11, PENSIONS. by Ogreta W. Huttash, 115 pgs, (1982). Summary of over 700 pension applications by veterans & widows who lived in Cherokee County, softbound, indexed. \$12.00
- ___ COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES, No. 1, Cherokee co., TX, 12 Oct. 1846 through a called session 4 Feb. 1850. A verbatim copy which lists the first 37 land certificates, precincts and their boundaries, patrol captain, road workers, overseers, prisoners, etc. 86 pgs, by Ogreta W. Huttash, (1989) softbound, indexed \$12.00
- ___ Early probates & wills of Cherokee County, compiled from the original papers by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-47-5 \$14.00
- ___ Federal Census of Cherokee County, 1870 by Helen Crawford, 154 pages (1983) plus surname index. \$5.00
- ___ FIRST RECORDED MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEROKEE CO., TX A verbatim copy of the original book in the office of the Dist. clerk, Rusk, TX Oct. 1846 through Nov. 1848, by Ogreta W. Huttash, 112 pgs, (1987), softbound, indexed \$12.00
- ___ GRAVE MARKER INDEX FOR CHEROKEE COUNTY TEXAS, (2000), by Ira Gaylon White, edited by Gordon Bennett. An alphabetical listing of 29,484 markers from 15 published sources. 476 pgs., softbound, ISBN 0-9703085-7-4 \$57.00
- ___ GRAVE MARKER INDEX FOR CHEROKEE COUNTY TEXAS, (2000), by Ira Gaylon White, edited by Gordon Bennett. An alphabetical listing of 29,484 markers from 15 published sources. 1 CD-ROM, ISBN 1-931167-12-5 \$15.00
- ___ HISTORICAL MARKERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, TX. by Ogreta W. Huttash. Contains inscriptions on the 103 state approved markers erected before 1995. 2000 edition, full name index. \$12.00
- ___ Index to TREE TALK, May 1980 through December 1990, compiled by Sylvia Booth Acker and Ira Gaylon White, edited by Gordon Bennett (2004), 146 pgs., softbound, ISBN 1-931167-33-8, LCCN 2004104368 \$12.00
- ___ Jacksonville Daily Progress Obituary Index 1984-2013 compiled by staff of Jacksonville Public Library edited by Gordon Bennett. An alphabetical listing of 18,103 obituaries published in the Jacksonville Daily Progress, Jacksonville, Texas. LCCN : 2014932852, ISBN: 9781931167543 \$8.00

Publications available through CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

____ Larissa College 1857-1860 (This material is a compiled book of articles printed of Larissa College, and in 1915 it was said that this was the only material on the college. It has the names of the Board, teachers, visitors & children.) by Helen Crawford					\$ 10.00
____ Lest We Forget					Sold Out
____ Marriage Records of Cherokee County Texas 1905-1931 (2001) by Sylvia Booth Acker, Melva Hermes, and Ira Gaylon White. Edited by Gordon Bennett. A listing of 8,192 marriages 262 pgs., softbound, ISBN 1-931167-14-1					\$22.00
____ Marriage Records of Cherokee County Texas 1905-1931 (2001) by Sylvia Booth Acker, Melva Hermes, and Ira Gaylon White. Edited by Gordon Bennett. A listing of 8,192 marriages. 1 CD-ROM, ISBN 1-931167-16-8					\$15.00
____ MARRIAGE RECORDS OF CHEROKEE CO., TX, 1846-1880, VOL. 1. by Ogreta W. Huttash. 100 pgs, copyright 1974, fifth Printing, 1985, Approximately 4,000 marriages alphabetically by name of groom: full-name index of brides.					\$14.00
____ Marriage s of Cherokee County, 1884-1890 by Helen Wooddell Crawford					\$5.00
____ MARRIAGE RECORDS OF CHEROKEE CO., TX, 1881-1905, VOL. 11. by Ogreta W. Huttash. 127 pgs, copyright 1976, Approximately 5800 marriages alphabetically by name of groom: full-name index of brides. ISBN 978-1-931167-53-6					\$14.00
____ National Tomato Capital 305 pgs Tomato history in Cherokee County by Helen Wooddell Crawford					\$29.00
____ Newspaper Obituaries from early papers 1889-1908 Bk.1 166 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-18-4					\$23.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1910-1921, Bk 2 309 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-29-X					\$42.00
____ Newspaper Obits assorted dates Bk 3 260 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-30-3					\$35.00
____ Newspaper Obits Bk.4 469 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-31-1					\$63.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1972-1984 Bk 5 495 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-32-X					\$66.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1922-1925 Bk 6 182 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-25-3					\$25.00
____ Newspaper Obits assorted dates Bk 7 368 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-50-5					\$33.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1991 & part of 1990 Bk 8 256 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-49-9					\$20.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1992 Bk 9 194 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-51-2					\$16.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1993 Bk 10 209 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-23-0					\$10.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1994 Bk 11 206 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-22-2					\$10.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1995 Bk 12 205 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-43-7					\$16.00
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____ Newspaper Obits 2000 Bk 17 215 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-40-0					\$11.00
____ Newspaper Obits 2001 Bk 18 221 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford , soft cover, Indexed ISBN 1-931167-13-3					\$11.00
____ Newspaper Obits 1926-1931 Bk 19 177 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-17-6					\$25.00
____ Newspaper Obituaries Index of Cherokee County, Texas 1836-2001 BOOKS 1-19 by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-36-2					\$23.00
____ Newspaper Obituaries Index of Cherokee County, Texas 1836-2001 BOOKS 1-19 CD-ROM by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-37-0,					\$15.00

Publications available through CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

___ NORTHWEST CHEROKEE CO. CEMETERIES, VOL. 1, 20 cemeteries (1997), by Ira Gaylon White, 253 pgs, softbound, indexed ISBN 0-9703095-8-2	\$23.00
___ NORTHWEST CHEROKEE CO. CEMETERIES, VOL. 2. 25 cemeteries (1997), by Ira Gaylon White, 288 pgs, softbound, indexed ISBN 0-9703085-9-0	\$26.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 1, 250 pgs., (1982), indexed ISBN 0-9703085-1-5	\$22.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 2, 252 pgs., (1982), indexed ISBN 0-9703085-2-3	\$21.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 3, 176 pgs., (1986), indexed ISBN 0-9703085-3-1	\$14.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 4, 222 pgs., (1991), indexed ISBN 0-9703085-4-X	\$16.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 5, 247 pgs., (1996), indexed ISBN 0-9703085-5-8	\$21.00
___ OUR BEFORES - ANCESTOR CHARTS, VOL. 6, 168 pgs. (2000), indexed. ISBN 0-9703085-6-6	\$17.00
___ PROBATE RECORDS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, TX, MINUTE BOOK A, 1870-1881 and DOCKET A and DOCKET B., 1867-1887 by Ogreta W. Huttash, 125 pages (2004), Softbound, Indexed.	\$17.00
___ PROBATE RECORDS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, TX 1846- ca 1875 by Ogreta W. Huttash, 200 pages (1998) Includes estates, settlements, guardianships for minors, community property of decedents, heirs, and the name of the surviving spouse. Slaves in estate settlements are indexed under the name of the owner. Softbound, indexed 978-1-931167-52-9	\$21.00
___ Providence Cemetery Cherokee County Texas by Sylvia Booth Acker and Willie Harold Acker, Sr.,	\$12.00
___ Saga of Cherokee County, Texas. Book 1 indexed 417 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-26-5	\$33.00
___ Saga of Cherokee Book 2 1910-1921 indexed 491 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-24-9	\$43.00
___ Saga of Cherokee, Book 3 ass'td dates, indexed 433 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford	\$35.00
___ Saga of Cherokee Book 4 1922-1925, indexed 504 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-48-2	\$34.00
___ Saga of Cherokee Book 5, ass'td dates, indexed 471 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN-10 1-931167-34-6	\$45.00
___ Saga of Cherokee and World War I, Book 6 indexed 256 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford	\$57.00
___ Saga of Cherokee County and Pioneer Life Book 7, indexed, 167 pgs, by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 1-931167-28-1	\$16.00
___ Some Descendants of Isaac Lee by Ogreta W. Huttash, 1994, 144 p, ill, LCCN 94227079	Sold Out
___ TREE TALK, THE FIRST FIVE YEARS, May 12,1975 through April 30,1980. Contains a brief history of the organization of the Cherokee County Genealogical Society, charter membership roster, etc.. (1995), full name index (1998) ISBN 1-931167-11-7	\$13.00
___ Tree Talk, Volume I through Vol. 25, No. 3. (2000) Contains the complete text (about 3600 pages) of the 25 years of this publication. 1 DVD. ISBN 0-9703085-0-7, ISSN 1551-0514, LCCN 2004204271	\$30.00
___ Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph 1950 Mid Century Edition. 275 pgs by Helen Wooddell Crawford ISBN 978-1-931167-42-0	\$25.00

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