### The Pathfinder

1996

Vol. I

The Grundy County Historical Society Grundy County, Tennessee

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## A Note from the Editor Anna G. Goforth

Our first attempt to produce a newsletter has been a learning experience. My thanks to those who contributed articles for this first issue: James L. Nicholson, Bobby Thompson, Frances S. Tate, David Patton, Dorothy Hobbs Irvin, and John E. Sweeton; to fellow G.C.H.S. members Inez Winton, Catherine Flury, Mary Brooks, Leslie Coppinger, and Marianne Schroeder; and to co-editors Mona Moreland and Katie Goforth. Thanks also to Ken Snyder for his invaluable knowledge and assistance with computers.

Future issues will include articles from County Historian William Ray Turner, Beersheba Springs Historical Society President and local historian Margaret Coppinger, more "Early Grundy County Marriages" by John E. Sweeton, ancestor charts, church and cemetery records, and more. We welcome your input, articles and queries. Please let us hear your suggestions on how we might make <u>The Pathfinder</u> a better paper.

#### President's Message

We are very excited here at the "Root Cellar" as this is the first newsletter from the Grundy County Historical Society. We hope you will be pleased to receive it.

I would like to tell you a little about our Historical Society. It was organized on February 22, 1988. There were seven charter members; Amedia Conry, president; Inez Winton, secretary; and Clydene Douglas, treasurer. Others were Anna Goforth, Renice Curtis, Boots Hunziker and Madge Baggenstoss. The Society's initial funds were obtained through a bake sale and a book sale, netting \$195.70.

In the years since, we have worked to establish a genealogy library and to preserve historic records of Grundy County. A room in the Tracy City Library, "The Root Cellar", houses our collection of genealogical material. Census books and historical references were purchased or donated. We published a book called Reminiscence, a collection of interviews with Tracy City citizens. We began organizing old court records stored in the attic of the Grundy County Courthouse, but completed only a small part of this project before the courthouse burned in 1990. The surviving records were sent to the State Archives and placed on microfilm.

We want to recognize two former members, now deceased, who contributed much to our Society. Margaret Parsons, an experienced genealogist, guided us through the early stages of our organization. Renice Curtis, a past-president of the society, organized the court files while in the last stages of her illness. She also published an obituary book, <u>Deaths and Funerals of Grundy County</u>. It is available in our library.

We look forward to receiving your comments, suggestions and contributions for future newsletters.

Catherine Flury
President, Grundy County Historical Society

# The Founding of Grundy County (1843-1844) by James L. Nicholson

By the year 1843 sentiment for a new county had developed to such a pitch in Collins River Valley, on Cumberland Plateau, and in Elk River Valley that steps began to be taken to establish one. A petition setting forth the need for a new county and outlining its proposed boundaries made the rounds and collected more than 300 signatures. It was submitted to State Senator Samuel H. Laughlin, representing Warren County, who duly brought it before the Tennessee Senate. The matter received expeditious handling in the General Assembly, suggesting that interested parties had laid the groundwork for gaining the needed authorization.

On December 29, 1843, the petition was referred to the House Committee on New Counties and County Lines, in which there originated House Bill 314: "A Bill to Establish the County of Grundy." The bill set boundaries, directed that Beersheba Springs be the temporary seat of justice, and appointed fine commissioners to organize Grundy County.

Three of the commissioners were Warren County men: William Dugan, the early investor in mountain land; James Tate; and Adrian Northcutt (Adren Northcut on old tax rolls, but known to posterity by the spelling used). Northcutt is an interesting study. At the age of seven-about 1806--Northcutt's people brought him from Virginia to Warren County. His father never was accounted for after the Battle of New Orleans (1815), and Adrian reached young manhood poor. He soon prospered, however, mainly through an ability to trade profitably in livestock; and he acquired thousands of acres of land, much of it in the cove which today bears his surname. The other two commissioners were Coffee County men: Alfred Brawley and John Burrows.

H.B. 314 encountered no trouble in the House, but in the Senate it was tagged with an important amendment. Josiah Anderson of Marion County, Speaker of the Senate, pronounced himself in favor of the bill, "Provided that nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to authorize or attach any portion of the territory now belonging to Marion County to the County of Grundy." The bill was so amended and passed into law January 29, 1844, a month to the day after Senator Laughlin presented the petition. Even if Grundy County was to be blocked for about the next ten years from filling

out its southern and eastern boundaries on the plateau, and it would take a constitutional amendment to do so, it did now have a legal existence.

The five commissioners hastened to get the county organized. Meeting February 17 at the home of Major William Armstrong, they elected Northcutt their president and Burrows secretary. They also issued a notice concerning the running of the dividing between Grundy and Coffee and between Grundy and Warren.

Convening again at Major Armstrong's on May 11, the commissioners set May 25 as the date on which residents of the territories stricken from Coffee and Warren counties might vote to approve or disapprove the new county. In those days of poor roads and slow means of travel, in a place where getting around was made all the more difficult by having to walk out of coves and hollows, to ford streams and rivers, and even to climb mountains, it was of course necessary to set up a number of voting places. On the plateau these were at the homes of Daniel Fults and Robert Tate; on Collins River at John Gross's; in Northcutt's Cove at Adrian Northcutt's; in Hubbard's Cove at James Winton's; and at a place (or places) unnamed in the Elk River area. Two days after the voting, the commissioners certified the results; 210 in favor of the new county, 37 against it. At the same meeting a new commission was appointed to divide the new county into civil districts. Its members were John Fults, William S. Mooney, Phillip Roberts, William B. Smartt, and Robert Tate.

The first election of officials in Grundy County was held July 6, 1844, the results of which were canvassed at Jesse Wooten's the following Monday. Emerging as the county's first "high sheriff' was Phillip Roberts. Other officers were Reuben Webb, county court clerk; Abraham Jones, registrar of deeds; and John Burrows, trustee. The first constables were Solomon P. Goodman, John C. Lockhart, Alexander Nunley, John Tipton, and Elijah Walker. Now Grundy County, Tennessee, not only was a bounded place on earth, it was also a functioning government.

From "The Grundy County Herald", January 8, 1953:

The Rev. Alfonso Constantine Adamz, retired Episcopal minister, died December 28th after a long illness. He was 57. Father Adamz graduated from the University of the South in the class of 1928. He began his work at Christ Church Mission in Tracy City 25 years ago. In 1941, he came to Sewance as rector in charge of Otey Memorial Church. His fame as a taxidermist spread across the Cumberland Plateau and his favorite outing was a hike with boys in the forests he knew so well. He was awarded the Silver Beaver from the Cherokee Area Boy Scout Council for outstanding leadership in this area. He was honored last year by the mountain people, who built a memorial community center on the grounds of Christ Church. Tracy City and the mountain has lost one of it's best boosters and servant.

#### Volume 1 G.C.H.S. "THE PATHFINDER" 1996 Number 1

#### World War II Salute: A Big Success

by David Patton

This past summer, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, citizens of Grundy County worked together to salute the local men and women who served in that war.

In September, 1995 the Grundy County Post published a special World War II edition. It included lists of Grundy County World War II veterans still living in Grundy County, those now living elsewhere, and those now deceased. About 190 veterans were found to still be living in the county. The paper also featured photos, local stories and other anecdotes from the war.

We were honored to head up this special project, and if you know of any names which were left off the list, please write us at Rt. 1, Box 71-B, Palmer, TN, 37365. Please include the person's name and hometown.

The Grundy County Historical Society should make it easier to gather our local history and exchange information and contacts in an organized manner. For as one television host says, "For every mystery, there's someone who has the answer."



#### From "The Cumberland Sun", March 31, 1949:

Sgt. Alvin C. York, the nationally famous World War I hero, was an all day visitor in Grundy County this week. He was the guest of Messers. W.G. Mullican, V.L. Northcutt, and Levoy Bivens. Sergeant York is engaged in varied industries in his home community--largely farming and as he says, "the oil business" in a small way. He is convinced that there is oil in this (Grundy Co.) vicinity. He was most favorably impressed with the possibilities for growth and development in this area. He saw some of the fine timber still in Grundy County. The Sergeant is very optimistic over the economic outlook. He believes this Spring will bring one of the largest building programs ever known

#### Sewanee Lodge #405

by Bobby A. Thompson

The Sewanee Lodge #405 was chartered on November 16, 1870. The Lodge hall is located in Tracy City, Tennessee. Membership totals in 1995 were 171. The present Lodge officers are Worshipful Master Gerald Wood, Senior Warden Gary Nunley, Junior Warden Ralph Nunley, Treasurer Larry Shipps, Secretary Willie Hargis, Senior Deacon Wayne Johnson, Junior Deacon Harold Johnson, Chaplain Oscar McDaniel, Junior Steward James Walker, Senior Steward James Holt, Tiler Sam Comer, and Trustees Bobby Thompson, Charles Fults, and Ralph Burnett. The Sewanee Lodge #405 meets in regular session on the second Thursday of each month.

In 1985, State of Tennessee Grand Master Sam Chandler of Charlotte began a program to recognize Lodges which had all officers present at their district meetings. These Lodges received a plaque and year tag at the Grand Lodge Annual Meeting. Sewanee Lodge #405 has had all their officers present at their district meetings since the beginning. Sewanee #405 and St. John's #332 are the only lodges in Tennessee to accomplish this feat, and are presently tied. The race goes on, and who the winner will be, no one knows.

#### Sewanee Lodge Living Past Masters

#### From "The Grundy County Herald", June 28, 1956:

Mrs. Mary Pratt Kilby, age 65, passed away June 22nd after a lingering illness of several months. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, a past Worthy Matron of the Order of Eastern Star, a member of the Ladies Memorial Association, and president of the Mountain Beautiful Garden Club. She was buried at Plainview Cemetery.

#### The Order of the Eastern Star

by Frances S. Tate

The benevolent Order of the Eastern Star has a long, proud history in Grundy County. The Tracy City Chapter 266 Order of the Eastern Star was instituted August 23, 1923 with Fannie and J.W. Beakley (members of the Sewanee Eastern Star) presiding. Charter members installed as officers were Worthy Matron Gertrude Tidman, Worthy Patron W.J. Jossi, Associate Matron Ida Smith, Associate Patron George Boyd, Secretary Bessie Cheek, and Treasurer Maggie Shook. Other officers were Conductress Minnie Hassler, Associate Conductress Ethel Arbuckle, Chaplain Martha Henley, and Marshal Cecil Merritt. Filling these stations were: Adah - Naomi Langley; Ruth - Esther Sitz; Esther - Mary Jossi; Martha - Oxie Crick; Electa - Buena Shook; Warden - Pearl Griswold; - Sentinel - George Tidman, and Organist - Maude Roddy. Other charter members were Mary Bonholzer, Priscilla Crick, Ida Henderson, Myrtis London, George Sitz, and Myrtle Roberts Marler.

The first Masonic Hall burned in April, 1935. The Eastern Stars met in the Redman Building until they moved into the new Masonic Building in November, 1935. In 1967 the Sewanee Chapter was terminated and its members affiliated with our chapter.

Esther Sitz, Pearl Griswold and Buena Shook served over fifty years as officers. Frances Beakley, Hazel Douglas, Hazel Geary, Henrietta Green, Anna Marie Sanders, Nellie Geary, Marie Flury Tate, Una McBee, and Veola Heard are all current 50-years-plus members. A list of Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons for the Tracy City Chapter of the Eastern Star since 1923 is available through the "Root Cellar". Copies will be sent upon request.

The Order of the Eastern Star is a benevolent order. Through the years we have purchased eyeglasses and clothing for children and needy adults, assisted two young adults in their quests to enter the ministry and assisted our own members financially. Our main project now is making quilts for children diagnosed with cancer at Vanderbilt Hospital. In the past two years we have made over 200 children a little happier.

To become a member of the Eastern Star one must be 18 years of age and an affiliated Master Mason in good standing or the wives, daughters, legally adopted daughters, mothers, widows, sisters, half-sisters, grandmothers, great-granddaughters, nieces and daughters-in-law of master masons. You may contact the secretary if you wish to petition to become a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Please address correspondence to Frances S. Tate, HCR 76, Box 92, Gruetli-Laager, TN, 37339.

# Tarlton Methodist Episcopal Church History by Dorothy Hobbs Irvin

In the late 1800's, the New Union Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in Tarlton, Grundy County, Tennessee. It was organized by John Morton, John Dugan, Sarah Dykes, Robert Dykes and Zebedee Banes. Meetings were held in private homes. In May, 1894, John and Adeline Morton donated land for a church and graveyard on the banks of the Collins River "for the natural love and appreciation of the Methodist Episcopal Church".

According to the deed dated May 3, 1894, trustees were W.T. Dugan, William Creighton, P.H. Rodgers and J.C. Morton. A German immigrant, Mr. Schoon, furnished the logs for the church building. Many names of early pioneer settlers appear on tombstones in the old cemetery--among them are Hobbs, Dykes, Morton, Wanamaker, Bess, Tate, and Scruggs. This cemetery will be surveyed and the names printed in a future issue of *The Pathfinder*.

In 1947, E.J. Morton, a son of the Reverend John Morton, renovated the church. The exterior walls were covered with brick and stained glass windows were installed. Pastors serving the church since its renovation were: D.R. Poole (1944-51), Henry Neal (1951), Leo Parker (1952), Henry Davis (1953), Ollie Binkley (1954), Dewey Carr (1956-59), James Martin (1959-60), W. I. Holder (1961-62), G.C. Self (1963), J.D. Spencer (1964-66), C.E. Benderman (1967), Rob McPeak (1968), W.B. Nunley (1969), and Herman Buchanon (1974). The church continued to serve the small community of Tarlton until 1974, when it closed for lack of attendance.

In April, 1994, decendents of church members formed the Tarlton Cemetery Association. The Methodist Episcopal Diocese gave the church and cemetery to this association, whose mission is to maintain them. Jim Wanamaker is president, and Dorothy Irvin is secretary/treasurer. Donations are welcomed for this worthy cause. Please direct correspondence to The Tarlton Cemetery Association, Dorothy Irvin, Hwy 56, Beersheba Springs, TN, 37305.

#### Volume 1 G.C.H.S. "THE PATHFINDER" 1996 Number 1

#### GRUNDY COUNTY TENNESSEE MARRIAGES 1850 - 1874

Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date, By Whom Solemnized
Page 1 April 25, 1850	James M. Rielly Elizabeth Tate	April 25, 1850 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
May 29, 1850	Lakin Winton Mary E. Crouch	May 30, 1850 William McCraw, J.P.
June 30, 1850	Caldean G. Narry Elizabeth A. Mentrest	June 30, 1850 Richard Bradford, J.P.
May 20, 1850	Garrison Harrison Florence McGovern	May 2, 1850 (sic) W. G. Guinn, J.P.
July 1, 1850	Archibald Tucker Elijah Thomas	July 3, 1850 H. Gilliam, J.P.
July 13, 1850	Jake Northcutt Lucinda Hobbs	July 14, 1850 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
July 6, 1850	Levi Phipps Elizabeth Moon	Not given
July 23, 1850	Asa Gross Sarah L. Bast	July 25, 1850 John Lugand, J.P.
Dage 2		
Page 2 July 24, 1850	Benjamin G. Ranson Martha Bost	July 24, 1850 R. M. Stepp, J.P.
August 20, 1850	James Thompson Mary Jane Willis	August 20, 1850 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
October 21, 1850	James L. Priest Mary Park	October 22, 1850 William G. Guinn
October 21, 1850	Seborn Rand Eliza Parks	October 22, 1850 William G. Guinn

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Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date, By Whom Solemnized
October 26, 1850	John Winton Delphia Crosslius	October 27, 1850 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
October 26, 1850	Chesley Webb Rosannah Thompson	October 27, 1850 A. S. Goodman, J.P.
Page 2 (sic) October 28, 1850	Marquis D. Boss Elizabeth Tate	October 31, 1850 Jake Dugan, J.P.
October 12, 1850	Thomas Scott Eliza Bone	Not given
November 23, 1850	Lewis Sanders Nancy Cope	November 24, 1850 A. S. Goodman, J.P.
November 28, 1850	Josial Tate Fanny Sitz	December 28, 1850 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
December 5, 1850	Zacharrah McGeorge Jane Talbert	December 6, 1850 William Guinn, M.G.
December 13, 1850	John Cliavilano Louisa Moore	December 15, 1850 A. S. Goodman, J.P.
Page 3 January 15, 1851	William Lawson Abigail Parks	January 16, 1851 William Guinn, M.G.
January 17, 1851	William Winton Nancy Wooten	January 19, 1851 Samuel Christian, J.P.
March 4, 1851	William Tucker Sarah Kilgore	March 9, 1851 Daniel Mosely, J.P.
February 27, 1851	Jonathan L. Duglap Nancy Winton	February 27, 1851 William McCraw, J.P.
May 5, 1851	William Cox Mary Ann Johnson Crabtree	May 11, 1851 Benjamin Roberts
May 5, 1851	Joseph Lawson Eliza Tucker	May 4, 1851 (sic) William G. Guinn, J.P.

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Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date, By Whom Solemnized
February 20, 1851	Martin F. Walker Eliza Walker	February 20, 1851 John Dugan, J.P.
July 17, 1851	Thomas Sanders Rosannah Tucker	July 20, 1851 Benjamin Roberts, J.P.
August 3, 1851	Thomas Johnson Jane Nunley	August 6, 1851 D. P. Ritchey, M.G.
August 9, 1852	Thomas Harrison Louisa Turner	Not given
September 3, 1852	Joseph C. Cunningham Virginia Mooney	Not given
September 9, 1852	Christopher Hobbs Nancy Reynolds	September 10, 1852 A. Northcutt, J.P.
September 10, 1852	James Simmons Mariah Mullins	September 10, 1852 Daniel Moseley, J.P.
September 12, 1852	Pleasant G. Myers Lyda M. McPherson	September 18, 1852 Thomas Warren, J.P.
October 12, 1852	Reuben Hampton Sarah C. Ritchey	October 12, 1852 Benjamin Roberts, J.P.
October 16, 1852	William Crabtree Martha Campbell	October 16, 1852 Benjamin Roberts, J.P.
October 27, 1852	John Morton Adaline Smith	October 29, 1852 John Dugan, J.P.
February 3, 1852	Thomas Harrison Malinda M. Blair	February 4, 1852 William G. Guinn
Page 6		
February 16, 1852	Stephen Cope, Jr. Lydia Phipps	February 18, 1852 A. S. Goodman, J.P.
February 21, 1852	James M. Nunley Mary E. Sanders	February 22, 1852 Richard Bradford, J.P.

Volume 1 G.C.H.S.	"THE PATHFINDER"	1996 Number 1
Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date, By Whom Solemnized
February 24, 1852	James Gilbert Sarah Sandridge	Not given
December 19, 1852	Benjamin A. Bennett Nancy Arnold	December 19, 1852 Daniel Mosely, J.P.
February 11, 1852	Stephen Perry H. E. Warren	February 11, 1852 James Walker
November 5, 1851	William A. Nesbitt Eveline W. Duley	Not given
Page 7		
February 24, 1852	James Gilbert Sarah Sandridge	February 25, 1852 William Guinn
February 16, 1851	Stephen Cope Lydia Phillips	Not given
March 3, 1852	Samuel Walker Elizabeth Bond	March 3, 1852 Abraham Jones, J.P.
March 27, 1852	William C. Nunley Delia Sanders	March 28, 1852 Richard Bradford, J.P.
July 4, 1852	Archibald Northcut Louisa Scott	July 4, 1852 Carter Scruggs, J.P.
August 14, 1852	James W. Tate Linda Tipton	August 14, 1852 James Reed, M.G.
Page 8		
January 1, 1852	Thomas Dugan Sarah Knight	January 1, 1852 John Dugan, J.P.
November 5, 1851	William A. Nesbitt Evaline W. Sula	November 6, 1851 W. G. Guinn
August 21,	John Vanderfrift Sarah Sitze	August 21, 1853 Richard Bradford, J.P.
August 10, 1853	William King Nancy Perry 11	August 11, 1853 John Smith, J.P.

Volume 1 G.C.H.S.	"THE PATHFINDER"	1996 Number 1
Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date, By Whom Solemnized
August 17, 1853	William R. Nunly Margaret Jane Meeks	August 18, 1853 Richard Bradford, J.P.
September 9, 1853	Warren Pelts Sarah M. Arnold	September 9, 1853 Daniel Mosely, J.P.
Page 9 April 21, 1853	Robert S. Myers Sarah Jane Caulsen	April 28, 1853 William Guest, J.P.
April 14, 1853	Hiram Kilgore Malinda Summers	Not given
April 24, 1853	Hollin Myers Martha Jane Henson	April 24, 1853 Adrian Northcut, J.P.
May 22, 1852	Casper Myers Mary M. Howard	Not given
July 31, 1853	John D. Brawley Caroline Parks	August 1, 1853 Samuel Christian, J.P.
August 13, 1852	Moses F. Woods Sarah Wooton	"not properly filed"
Page 10		
August 20, 1852	Anderson Winton Mary Ann Merricks	August 22, 1852 William McCraw, J.P.
September 2, 1852	Andrew J. Tate Lurany Hobbs	September 2, 1852 Abraham James, J.P.
September 6, 1852	Thomas Wiley Elizabeth Harrison	September 6, 1852 W. G. Guinn
April 14, 1852	Hiram Kilgore Malinda Summers	April 15, 1852 H. Gilliam, J.P.
September 11, 1852	Jonathan Tipton Marja Levan	September 23, 1852 Carter Scruggs, J.P.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Grundy County Marriages, 1850-1874" will be continued in the next issue.

#### Queries

Queries are free to members; non-member queries will be printed as space permits. Give enough information to determine the line you are researching. Be sure your name, address and the date is on each page of your inquiry. We request that each query be submitted on a 3"X5" index card. Address inquiries to: Editor, G.C.H.S., Box 1422, Tracy City, TN 37387.

1/96 CARDEN, Reuben L.; b. ca 1805 in NC; m. 15 Jan. 1825 in Coffee County, TN to Sarah (Sally) Adams, b. 28 Feb. 1805. Was a surveyor and a Methodist. Glenn A. King, 18 Tree Crest Circle, The Woodlands, TX 77381.

2/96 PRICE/MEEKS: Seeking information on William Price, b. 1826 in (TN, NC, or VA); d. 1861 in Rockport, Hot Springs Co., Ark.; m. Matilda Jane Meeks b. ca 1830, d. July 1914 in St. Louis, MO.; had ch.: George M. Price b. 1844; Issac Henry Price b. 17 Sept. 1846 in Pelham, Grundy County, TN., m. Laura Margaret Mangan 1872.

Ellen Moore, 110 Deerborn Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27534.

3/96 PURDOM, Elisha. m. Nancy Murphy (?); Elisha d. 1823 in Franklin County, TN: Nancy d. 1839. Where are they buried? Had ch.: Sarah, m. S.M. Griswold in 1822, Franklin County, TN. Any information on this family needed. Anna G. Goforth, Rt. 1, Box 2709, Monteagle, TN 37356.

4/96 BYRUM, Jesse B., d. 24 Oct. 1904 in Tracy City, TN. Looking for obituary or other information. John Byrum, P.O. Box 1587, Russellville, Ark. 72811

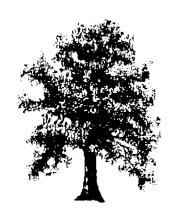
5/96 RICHMOND, Phoebe, b. March 1836 in NC. Listed in 1900 Grundy Co. Census with ch.: Hattie, b. June 1873; gr. ch. Verah I b. 1891; Ruthy b. Feb. 1893. Any information appreciated. John E. Sweeton, 607 No. Grundy, Tullahoma, TN 37388

6/96 SUMMERS-BELT: Need information on Summers families who lived in or near Tracy City. Also Jane Bell, m. Luzaar Belt. Wanda Claywell, 16 Willowbrook Lane, Carthage, TN 37030

7/96 DYKES, Calvin Calhoon, b. 24 Aug. 1842 to Sanders and Jane Lockhart Dykes, in Warren Co.; d. 16 Sept. 1929; m. Nellie Birch Coleston (d. 2 Feb. 1928) on 13 Oct. 1861; 13 ch. Need any information on this family. Kirby B. Green Jr., 704 N.E. 12th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601-3715

8/96 WOOTEN, Benjamin, living on a farm on Cumberland Mountain, Warren Co., TN. (Now Tracy City, Grundy Co., TN). Had ch: son Thomas b. 1839; dau. Claressa Eveline b. 1825. Need any information on this family. Catherine Flury, R.R. Box 1A, Tracy City, TN 37387

9/96 ALTAMONT ACADEMY: This school operated in the 1800's and had students from the Altamont area. Any information needed. Anna G. Goforth, Rt. 1, Box 2709, Monteagle, TN 37356



## Grundy County Historical Society

Box 1422 Tracy City, Tennessee 37387

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP NEW \_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_

Please print or type the name as desired on membership card.

M		Maiden Na	me
			ZIP
		to June 1,	
Individual - \$10.00	per year	Family - \$15.00 p	er year
Additional Contribu			
Please mal	ce checks payable	to Grundy County	Historical Society and
mail to the addre	ss above. Your ca	anceled check is yo	our receipt.
Membership card	ls may be picked	up at the monthly r	neeting, at the Tracy
City Library, or r	nailed to you.		
Material in	the Root Cellar,	Archives of the Gr	undy County Historical
		public for research	
		=	out these materials
from the librarian	-	•	
In conside	ration of being ac	cepted as a membe	er, and for the duration
of membership in	the Grundy Cou	nty Historical Soci	ety, I pledge that:
1. I will assis	t in locating and	reserving public o	and private records and
in making such r	ecords available i	to members of this	society and to the
general public.		·	·
2. I will care	fully refrain from	mutilating, markin	g or otherwise defacing
•	• • •	olic or private reco	
3. I will supp	ort the programs	and policies of this	s society.
Date	Signature		
(for Society use)	Date received		Amount
Cand Namehan	Tr.		

# ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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#### A Note From The Editor

Anna G. Goforth

What a great response we've had from our first newsletter! As of this date (June 1996) 54 people have joined - 44 are new members. Would you like to see the membership list printed? Let us know. My thanks to those who contributed to this second issue: Margaret B. Coppinger, Catherine Flury, James F. Carver, Mona Brittingham, John E. Sweeton, Dola Tylor for articles; Delores Knott of the Monteagle Library for all her help; Ken Snyder again and again; co-editors Mona Moreland and Katie Goforth, fellow members of the G.C.H.S. To Peggy Hammons of Jasper - a special Thank You! To those who contributed to our fund raiser on June 8th - thank you. Our bake/yard sale netted \$285.00. We plan to purchase more census records of adjoining counties.

Please continue to send in your articles, group sheets, queries, etc.

This issue of "The Pathfinder" is dedicated to the memory of Ruth Clydene Douglas.

#### **President's Message**

We are so pleased at the response that we have received from our first issue of the *Pathfinder*. We are looking forward to the next issue and we hope it will be even more informative and helpful. We now have 44 new members that we want to welcome to our Historical Society and we encourage you to share any suggestions, queries and articles that you might like to send for future issues. We are looking forward to meeting as many of our new members as possible. We invite you to attend any of our regular monthly meetings or come by the Tracy City Library.

We would like to extend our condolences to the family of Clydene Douglas. Clydene passed away March 28, 1996. She was a charter member of the Grundy County Historical Society and had recently retired as Librarian at the Tracy City Library.

Catherine Flury President, Grundy County Historical Society

#### - Memorials -

#### In Memory of Clydene Douglas

by: Anna G. Goforth

by: Mr. & Mrs. Karl Moreland

by: Katie Goforth by: Nancy Blair by: Catherine Flury

In Memory of Joy Singleton

by: Mary Tate Brooks

#### Number 2

#### Beersheba Springs, Tennessee

Margaret Brown Coppinger

The South's oldest, best known, and most historic summer resort, Beersheba Springs was once inhabited by the Cherokee Indians. Situated on the plateau of Cumberland Mountain, about 90 miles from Nashville and 60 miles from Chattanooga, it has an altitude of about 2000 feet.

Because of the bountiful wildlife, Indian tribes from other states used the plateau to hunt for deer and bear. The Indian Reservation of Cumberland Mountain was called the Wilderness. This part was not open to white settlement and hunting until after 1805. According to Indian Trails Of The Southeast by W. E. Myer, a Tennessee archaeologist, there was an ancient Indian Village in the vicinity of Beersheba Springs. The Chickamauga Indians used the old trail across the plateau which descended near the Chalybeate and Indian Springs, on their way to Rock Island. Around these two springs. could be found many arrowheads thirty-five or forty years ago.

As early as 1794 Reuben Roberts, a Revolutionary war soldier, told of coming to a small settlement near the Horseshoe Bend which is a few miles from the present day Beersheba Springs. It is not known whether this settlement was Indian or whites. Near the foot of the Beersheba Mountain in 1955 a large Indian mound on the Scott property was bulldozed down revealing the skeleton of a huge man, locally believed to be an Indian chief. Smaller graves were around it.

By 1806 White County containing both Warren and Grundy Counties had been erected from Smith County. It was not until 1844 that Grundy was made a county.

The records of Warren County show that an entry of 150 acres of land made for William Dugan in 1824 in the Horseshoe known as Charley's Camp was south of Little Laurel Creek. In a later deed Charley's Camp is given as being two and one-half miles southwest of Beersheba Springs. According to tradition William Dugan and his wife rode horseback all the way from North Carolina to the Beersheba area to take up this land. Mrs. Dugan is said to have carried a child in her arms.

In 1833 Bersheba Porter Cain accompanied her husband John Cain on a business trip to the home of William Dugan. While her husband consulted with Dugan she followed a path to the Chalybeate (iron water) Spring. She returned to drink of its healing waters and brought others with her. Later she persuaded her husband and other business men of McMinnville to buy the land and build a tavern.

In 1836 William Dugan conveys to Dr. Alfred Pain a certain tract of land in consideration of Dr. Paine bringing into use the waters of a Chalybeate spring on Cumberland Mountain. In the same year William Dugan conveys to George R. Smartt 1,500 acres leading from Dugans to the Horseshoe (Charley's Camp) except six square poles sold to John Cain and six square poles sold to Dr. Paine. In October of 1836 Alfred Paine conveys to George R. Smartt six square poles upon which George R. Smartt is erecting a house for a tavern at the springs. In 1838 John Dugan conveys to William B. Smartt a tract of 150 acres in the Horseshoe.

The tavern and cabins were patterned after the popular Virginia resorts and in 1839 the Beersheba Springs Company was incorporated by the Tennessee General Assembly as a summer resort.

In the same year 1839, a turnpike road was authorized to be built across the mountain to begin at William Dugans and cross Cumberland Mountain by way of Beersheba Springs to Ross Landing with one toll gate to be erected two miles south of Beersheba.

At this time guests began to arrive by stagecoach from Nashville, Clarksville, and Murfreesboro as well as McMinnville. Andrew Jackson is known to have stopped over at the tavern on his way to Chattanooga.

Another visitor was John Armfield, business partner of Issac Franklin who owned a slave establishment in Alexandria, Virginia. It has been estimated that they sold an average of 1,200 negroes to the southern planters each year between 1828 and 1835. When about to be sold many of them requested that they be sold to Mr. Armfield because he never separated families. At one time this firm had a fleet of at least five vessels which could carry about 150 slaves each.

After the coming of the Dugans many other pioneers followed from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Some familiar local names such as Brown, Hill, Dykes, Green, Gross, Roberts, Tate and Walker were found in the 1840 census. The life of the pioneer was hard. He found the valleys and coves covered with tall cane and the hills and mountains with heavy timber. First he had to clear a piece of land and build a house of logs, hewn with a common axe. The furniture also was hand hewn and the floors were of puncheons.

On January 29, 1844 the Tennessee Legislature created Grundy County from Warren and Coffee and set Beersheba Springs as the county seat. William Dugan was appointed one of the commissioners to help organize the new county. The first County Court was held August 5, 1844 at Beersheba.

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According to John Armfield of Beersheba Springs by Isabel Howell, on December 7, 1854 Armfield purchased the tavern, a row of cabins and 1000 acres of land for \$3,750 from Dr. H. R. Robards of Memphis by paying off his debt to John H. French. He immediately began making plans for improvement. Tradition says he brought one hundred blacks from Louisiana to begin work. Ben Cagle was brought from Irving College to be foreman of the building. The plans were to lease lots for an annual rent of \$1.00 and have Armfield use his own workmen and materials to build about 20 houses for his friends.

Two of these houses were built for Bishop Leonidas Polk of Louisiana and Bishop James H. Otey of Tennessee. Armfield was instrumental in getting the university of the South located at Swanee. The first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Beersheba Hotel. Armfield pledged \$25,000 a year for the University during his lifetime.

From 1858 to 1860 the hotel was at its best with as many as 400 guests at a time. A French band was brought from New Orleans to play for the dancing. It was the custom for the band to play for the stagecoach coming up the mountain with mail and passengers. At a certain spot in the valley the driver sounded his horn once for each passenger, enabling the proprietor to know how many to be prepared for.

Before another season, the tragic war began. Bishop Polk became a major in the Confederacy. John Armfield, who was too old for active duty, equipped a company of Grundy men for the Confederate army. The people began to hide their valuables. The hotel silverware was dropped in one of the wells and Armfield had his faithful slave Nathan and foreman, Ben Cagle bury his money, some of which was never found after the war, however the silverware was saved. Mrs. Armfield gave packages of coffee to each of the Confederate soldiers as they were passing through. During the war there was divided loyalty, even among families, and much guerilla warfare. According to Lucy Virginia French, a well known Tennessee authoress who kept a diary at Beersheba during the war years, the mountains were filled with deserters from both sides. They were known as bushwhackers who raided the homes, carrying off food and clothing.

In 1867 Captain Eugene H. Plumacher arrived in America, sent by the Swiss government to the United States with the purpose of finding a spot for a colony. When Captain Plumacher went by the White House to say good-bye to President Andrew Johnson, the president expressed regret that they had not visited Tennessee - "the pearl of the United States in climate, richness of soil and mineral wealth." The president offered to give Captain Plumacher recommendations to his friends in Tennessee. On his visit to Tennessee he made the acquaintance of Colonel John Armfield and was invited to his home in Beersheba. He was so impressed with the location that he at once began

making the arrangements for the Swiss Colony, located at Gruetli. Captain Plumacher built his own home near Beersheba which is called "Dan". He became the only Grundy Countian to represent the United States in a foreign country, having served as United States Consul to Venezuela, South America from 1877 until his death in 1910. In addition to the United States he represented Norway, Sweden and France in all of their dealings with Venezuela.

In 1868 Richard Clark of Cleveland, Ohio a former partner of John D. Rockefeller in the oil business came to Beersheba and purchased the hotel and several of the old homes which had been lost by the former owners as a result of the war. The hotel was reopened in 1870 and continued to operate under different managements as a hotel until the Methodist Church bought it in 1941.

A brochure for the season of 1875 lists the rates as \$2.50 a day or \$50.00 a month, with children and servants half price. The aim of the proprietors will be to make Beersheba a plain, quiet home for families rather than a place of gaiety and fashion.

Slowly the scars of the Civil War were beginning to heal but Beersheba was never to be the same again. The clean up task was enormous. Even the hotel dining room had to be scraped out with hoes where horses had been kept. In the next few years the old hotel changed ownership many times.

A letter of recommendation follows:

Nashville, Tenn. April 25, 1873

Messrs. S. M. Scott and Co.

#### Gentlemen:

Having spent the two past seasons at Beersheba, in charge of the health of its guest, I have had ample opportunity to judge and form opinions based on facts and to my mind conclusive, that the teething children, enemick females, and the broken down and exhausted in constitution of all classes, particularity those from the Miasmatic districts of the extreme South and our large cities, Beersheba Springs merit a position as a healthful and pleasant summer resort, equal, if not superior to any on the continent. Its waters, both mineral and freestone, are of the best quality. The mineral springs contain iron, iodine, and arcenite of potassa the two latter ingredients in minute proportions - so delicately blended as to set agreeably on the

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stomachs of all. I cannot speak quantitively of the ingredients of this water, as no minute analysis has ever been made.

The effects of a transfer of enfeebled and delicate children. and the broken down and exhausted invalids of all classes, some of whom I had in charge before leaving Nashville, was a rapid improvement from the date of their arrival without the aid of medicine, and due alone to the effects of the water (which is peculiarly suited to weak bowels) and the general surroundings of Reersheba.

> Very respectfully, John D. Winston, M. D.

Beersheba has long been renowned as a summer resort where the wealthy could come to get away from the heat and diseases of the low lands. There has never been any malaria or yellow fever which had been prevalent in the cities. In the years before the war, when there had been no room in the hotel, tents had been stretched over the area to take care of the overflow.

Today the major attractions are miles of hiking trails, Laurel Falls, Longs Mill Falls, now called Greeter Falls and the Great Stone Door a scenic attraction for over 150 years. Stone Door, "the crowning glory of the mountain," is a cleft leading down between solid walls of rock to a point about 200 feet below the top. It looks as if a part of the mountain has split off leaving a wide open space between the two sections. Standing on the edge of the cliff one can look into three gulches, commonly called "Gulfs". The view from this point is almost indescribable.

Another attraction is the old ante bellum homes now included in the Arm Field Historic District, on the national Register since 1980. Some of these old buildings have been included in the Historic American Buildings Survey Project H.A.B.S., which is a federal program of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. According to Herbert L. Harper of the Tennessee Historical Commission, photographs of these buildings are on file in the Library of Congress as well as the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

As a part of the Bicentennial of 1976, an old store building has been opened as a museum where artifacts, pictures, and history pertaining to Beersheba Springs are on display. This is open to the public during the summer months.

A walking tour of the Historic District is also offered during the summer months.

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#### Military Story Pvt. Albert D. Roddy - Confederate States Army

by James F. Carver

Albert D. Roddy enlisted into the Confederate States Army on 4 November 1861. He joined "Company L" (subsequently known as Company G), 24th Tennessee Infantry, serving under Captain W. W. Mays (Company L) and Captain W. M. Bennett (Company G).

Albert Roddy joined his fellow soldiers along with his two brothers, B. F. Roddy and J. G. Roddy, at Camp Anderson, TN. From Camp Anderson the Roddy brothers marched to Bowling Green, KY, then on to Cave City, KY, finally to Camp Joe Underwood, Kentucky.

While at Camp Joe Underwood, Roddy's unit engaged in battle with Federal Troops (Union Soldiers) where many Federal Soldiers were captured and killed. From here in February 1862 Company L began their march to Corinth, MS. During this march Albert Roddy and brother, J. G. Roddy became ill, with Albert getting the measles. (Albert, born on 15 July 1840, was just 21 years old at this time.)

Because of Albert and J. G. Roddy's illnesses they were transported by railroad to Nashville, TN. Later they joined their CSA unit as they were retreating through Nashville, TN. The Roddy brothers then began a march with their Company to Shelbyville, TN where Albert Roddy was then sent to a hospital in Atlanta, GA. Although weak Albert Roddy recovered from the measles and rejoined his brother's and his unit.

Albert Roddy and his brothers and their CSA unit (now Company G) fought on 6 April 1862 at the Battle of Shiloh (TN). According to the commander of Company G, Captain W. M. Bennett, J. G. Roddy was shot in the arm and brother B. F. Roddy was shot in the chin and tip of tongue. Due to these wounds brother Albert D. Roddy was "left behind to take care of them" as well as other wounded Confederate soldiers were left behind as Company G withdrew (retreated) to Corinth, MS. All the wounded, including the Roddy brothers, were captured by the Federal Troops (Union Army).

Due to the gun-shot wounds of J. G. and B. F. Roddy and the fact that poor old Albert Roddy was still ill the Federals released the Roddy brothers. Since it was obvious they were not in any condition to fight, they were released without even taking the "Oath of Allegiance" (and the promise not to rage war against the Union). At this moment it appears the brothers separated, possibly due to their physical conditions, one couldn't keep up with the other, and they headed home.

J. G. Roddy returned home to Hillsboro, TN first on furlough due to his arm wound. Later Albert Roddy (1863) still listed as "absent without leave" on CSA records returned home. There briefly Albert Roddy was able to see his father, Daniel Roddy. (Albert Roddy, now 23 years old, would take time to marry his first wife, Louisa Fadden, on 7 October 1863).

In the fall of 1863 Federal Troops began marching and raiding the Hillsboro, TN area. J. G. and Albert Roddy slipped into the mountain area near Hillsboro, TN. It was here that J. G. Roddy noticed that brother Albert was once again feeling ill. Due to pressure the two brothers separated for fear of both being captured.

Albert D. Roddy was again captured by the Federa: Troops at Hillsboro, TN. He was caught hiding in the mountains. He was taken to Tullahoma, TN and then to Nashville, TN when and where he contacted smallpox. It appears that Albert Roddy was given time to recover from the case of smallpox before he was transported to a P.O. W. camp.

Albert D. Roddy was transported to Johnson Island, OH and held as a Prisoner of War until the end of the war between the States (Civil War). Albert Roddy was released on 22 June 1865.

With the war over Albert D. Roddy returned home to Hillsboro, TN, not returning to his CSA unit (Company G) since the Confederate Army no longer existed. (This action would cause him not to receive his soldier's pension which he applied for on 26 April 1909. The government on 26 May 1911 rejected Albert Roddy's application [#11,197] based upon this lame excuse of failure to return to active duty . . . and the fact that he was still listed as "absent without leave", yet the government knew where he was . . . they had him!)

Albert would arrive home to Hillsboro, TN in time to father three children with his wife, Louisa Fadden, and move to Tracy City, Grundy County, TN before his wife died in 1869. Albert would remarry on 1 January 1879 to Parlee Bailey (daughter of Reverent John W. Bailey and Sarah A. McClung) and would father two more children.

Albert D. Roddy would spend the rest of his life in Tracy City, Grundy County, TN, working for the railroad and working hard at the coal mines of the TN Consolidated Coal Company. Albert passed away on 31 March 1914.

#### Women of Grundy County - Minnie Simpson Northcutt

Mona Lee Moore Brittingham

Minnie Simpson was born in Grundy County on May 31, 1878, the daughter of Civil War veteran John Simpson and the former Lydia Clementine Purdom. She was raised in Tracy City and educated at Shook College there. She became a school teacher and in time married a fellow teacher and parttime circuit preacher, Jonathan Davis Northcutt. They had five children. In 1918, J. D. Northcutt fell victim to the influenza epidemic and Minnie became a widow with four living children under the age of twelve. In the following years she managed to raise and educate the children alone, and to maintain an active role in her community and church. She was an early member of the Tracy City Ladies Memorial Cemetery Association, an interdenominational organization whose goal was the preservation of the city cemetery. She also served as treasurer of the Tennessee Crippled Cildren and was active in child welfare work in Grundy County. Her most impressive achievement may be the fact that at age 62, she ran for public office and was elected as Circuit Court Clerk of Grundy County, a post which she held for twelve years until her retirement. The accompanying newspaper clipping. written on the occasion of a visit to Nashville by Minnie Northcutt for an annual meeting of the Tennessee Circuit Court Clerks, is interesting because the newspaper found her service and retirement to be newsworthy.

Minnie Northcutt was remarkable not only for her ability to overcome the inherent difficulties of raising four children during the war years and the Great Depression without assistance, but also for her energetic career as a social activist, as an advocate for education, and as a popular elected public official, the latter at the twilight age that most women of the time are known to have been content to spend at home.

#### **Jonathan Davis Northcutt**

Born 14 June 1875

Married 23 December 1897

Died 2 November 1918

Buried Tracy City Cemetery

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#### Minnie Nye Simpson

Born

31 May 1878

Married-

23 December 1897

**Jonathan Davis** 

Northcutt

Died

23 September 1955

Buried

Tracy City Cemetery

**Grundy County** 

No. of Children

Five (5)

# Children of Jonathan Davis Northcutt and Minnie Simpson Northcutt

#### **Terrell Simpson Northcutt**

Born

25 February 1902

Died

21 February 1905

Buried

**Tracy City Cemetery** 

**Grundy County** 

#### **Mary Evelyn Northcutt**

Born

4 February 1907

Married -

15 October 1925

James Horace Moore, Sr.

Married -

8 March 1968

James Beggs Apperson

Children

James Horace Moore, Jr. Thomas Davis Moore, Sr.

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#### John Lawson Northcutt

Born

18 November 1910

Married -

18 April 1931

**Lucy Catherine Rust** 

Died

23 March 1991

**Buried** 

Hebron Cemetery Warren County

Children

John Lawson Northcutt, II

**Jimmie Northcutt** 

#### **Martha Clematine Northcutt**

Born

22 May 1914

Married -

8 June 1935

**Auburn King** 

Children

Martha King

Charlotte King Rosalind King

#### **Frances Alinda Northcutt**

Born

7 September 1916

Married -

2 May 1936

Marvin Rhea

Children

Marvin Rhea, Jr.

David Rhea

Minnie Evelyn Rhea

# Grandmother, 75, Ending 12 Years in Public Office

A 75-year-old grandmather, who rest one term and try again."
has spent the fact 12 years in Friends of the grey-haired little politics and spublic service, and lady—considered a strong politically old.



Mrs. Minnie Northcutt "Maybe I'll rest and try again"

Nashville yesterday from home to attend the annual meet-to serve the clerk's association ing of the state circuit court!

"If my leg didn't bother me," The group went on record as the said, "I'd be in there running favoring the legislature which again this time.

politics and public service. an lady—considered a strong politinounced yesterday sin is retiring the leader as well as a kindly old the public set, and shert lady in her home county—said she had desired to seek the job not as young as I county—said she had desired to seek the job not as young as I county—court clerk made the 100 mile trip to apply—Mrs. Northcutt entered the lady man elected by

clerk's race and was elected by a good majority.

Ran Office & Parms

For three terms she has run the

doffice efficiently.

Beveral relatives and friends bame with her to Nashville vesheres for the semi-annual meeting of the state's clerks. She selden his missed one of these occasions since she was first elected.

Alf Rutherford, president of the clerk's group said vesterday that Mrs. Northcutt has been named a lifetime member of the association and has a standing invitation to attend all meetings of the group after her term expires.

In addition to her duties as clerk Mrs. Northcutt has also found time to serve as treasurer of Tennessee Crippled children since 1940 and has also been active

in child welfare work.

New officers named yesterday were: Rutherford, president; R. L. Clerks.

Has a Bad Leg
Suffering from rheumatism.

Mrs. Northcutt said she has had "a bad leg for sometime" which led her to decide to give up her

Mest. Rutherrord, president, No. L.

Ellis. Tipton county, vice president: Vance Griffin, Shelby county vice president: Dabney Anderson, Maury county, vice president; Sara DeLaschmidt, Lauderdale county, secretary, and

Lynn Freeman, treasurer.
The group went on record as would make micro-filming of Then she added: "Maybe I'll records a state general law.

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#### The Improved Order of Red Men

Catherine Kilgore Flury

It is a patriotic, fraternal, beneficial society established in every state in the Union. They maintain no orphan asylums but provide a home for every orphan. No candidate shall be subjected to any discourteous treatment or to any indignity whatever. Any tribe subjecting a candidate to any indignity or discourteous treatment or administrating anything additional to the plain instructions of the Ritual, shall be deemed guilty of bad conduct and shall have the charter thereof suspended or revoked.

Why should you be a member of the Improved Order of Red Men.

- 1. Its founders were the patriots of 1776.
- 2. It preserves American traditions.
- 3. It exists only under the American flag.
- 4. It requires you to make no obligations interfering with religious or political beliefs.
- 5. Its ceremonies are aboriginal, dramatic, beautiful and historical.
- 6. It is original, patriotic and charitable.
- 7. It is humanitarian, educational, beneficial and social.
- 8. It cares for it sick and distressed and buries its dead.
- 9. It places the orphans of its members in homes, not asylums, and guards their interest in an efficient manner.
- 10. It is good enough for any American and no American is too good for it.

#### Wampunala - Tribe #90

The improved Order Of The Red Men was chartered in Tracy City in 1920 or 1921. The first records began February 4, 1921. Some of the early

members were W. H. Payne, J. C. Summers, Will Thorpe, L. G. Henderson, Gordon Wright, Joe Marier, Joe A. Summers, Educar Cagle, Ed Hunziker, Dee Roast, D. C. Bryant, W. T. Roberts, Charlie Hargis, John Wright, Jo Nunley, Sam Hargis, Robert Baggenstoss and Vick Flury. Later other active members were Clarence Kilgore, Douglas Goforth, Herman Baggenstoss, Henry Thompson, Authur Green, Claude Gross and Roy Wright.

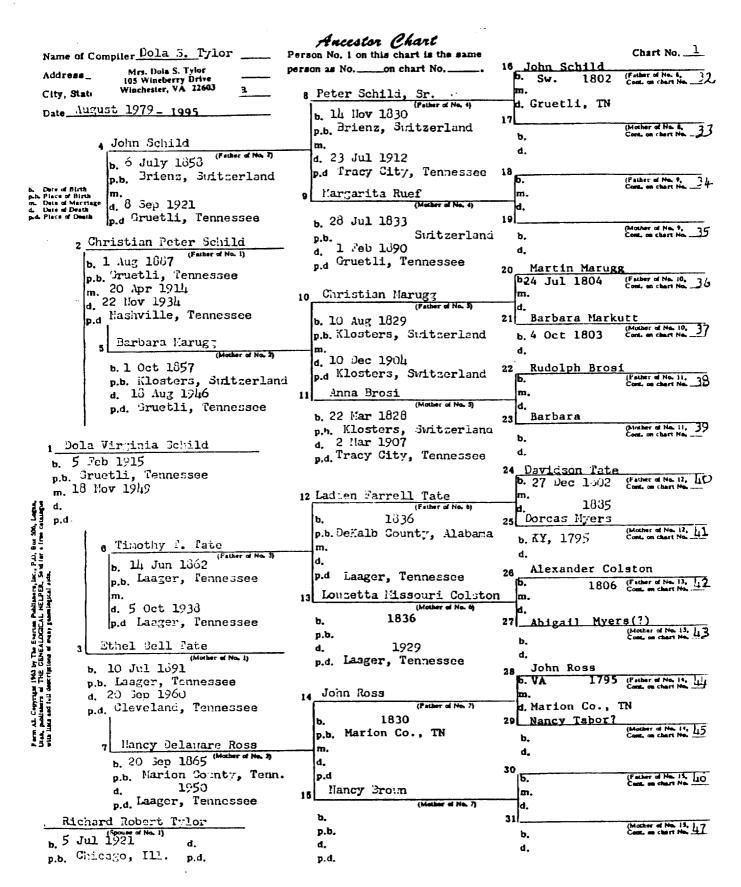
Dues were fifty cents and there was always a collection for widows and orphans. Officers names and terms used were Indian. The leader for the nation was "Great Incohonce". Tribal leaders were Grand Sachem, Keeper of the Wampum and Guard of Forest. They purchased the United Mine Worker Building on July 18, 1930 where their meetings and socials were held.

On December 10, 1949 a motion was made that Wampumola #90 finally submit the surrender of their charter to the Grand Council of the United States and that the Chief of Records write the Great Chief of Records for instructions on surrendering the Charter. Motion carried. On February 27, 1950 the charter, seal and other documents along with whatever monies they had on hand were surrendered to the Great Council of Records. Thus ended the Improved Order of the Red Men, Wampunola - Tribe #90 of Tracy City, but long will be remembered the benevolent deeds that are noted in their record book.

Complied from the old records by Catherine Kilgore Flury.



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#### Grundy County Tennessee Marriages 1850 - 1874

#### Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

#### Continued from Volume 1 No. 1

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & By Whom Solemnized
September 20, 1852	Wade H. Hughes Elizabeth Fitzpatrick	September 20, 1852 Abraham James, J. P.
December 20, 1853	John Barber Eliza Guinn	December 21, 1853 Thomas Warren, J. P.
November 6, 1853	James M. Bell Martha King	November 25 (marked out) Carter Scruggs, J. P
November 25, 1853	John Hughes Sarah Ann Elizabeth Smith	November 25, 1853 Carter Scruggs, J. P.
January 25, 1853	Benjamin Todd Margaret Stone	January 27, 1853 Thomas Warren, J. P
February 17, 1853	Isaac Scott Nancy Scott	February 17, 1853 A. Northcut, J. P
February 25, 1853	Poindexter Burrows Martha Jane Burrows	Not Given
May 18, 1852	John Whitman Malinda Fults	May 26, 1852 A. Northcut, J. P.
March 18, 1853	James M. Lenare Mary Brewer	March 20, 1853 John L. Smith, J. P.
December 22, 1852	Marshall Fults Nancy Campbell	December 23, 1852 Wm. McCrane, J. P.
May 5, 1853	John R. Robinson Nancy C. Brawley	May 5, 1853 A. D. Parks
May 7, 1853	Bailey Turner Sarah Sanders	May 8, 1853 John Burrows, J. P.
May 28, 1853	Johnathan Wooten Eliza Rhea	May 29, 1853 Sam'l J. Christian, J. P.
June 23, 1853	Joseph Reed P. W. Hill	June 23, 1853 Carter Scruggs, J. P.

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# **Grundy County Tennessee Marriages** 1850 - 1874

#### Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

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Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & By Whom Solemnized
June 11, 1853	James Meeks Selina Turner	July 14, 1853 Richard Bradford, J. P.
July 26, 1853	Charles W. Higgenbothan Emelia Perry	July 27, 1853 John L. Smith, J. P.
September 18, 1853	Thomas J. Davis Artimissia Campbell	September 29, 1853 Richard Bradford, J. P.
October 7, 1853	George Campbell Mary Ann Davis	October 7, 1853 Richard Bradford, J. P.
April 5, 1853	A. C. Smith Sally Thomas	April 6, 1853 Harris Gilliam, J. P.
September 28, 1853	Thos. J. Davis Artimissia Davis	Not Given
October 14, 1853	Vance H. Lockhart Prudence Tate	October 18, 1853 John Lockhart, J. P.
October 19, 1853	John G. Tate Malinda Bouldin	October 19, 1853 Jermiah Walker, M. G.
October 26, 1853	A. J. Sanders Louisa Cope	October 27, 1853 John Burrows, J. P.
October 22, 1853	Noah James Mary Adaline Countess	October 23, 1853 John Burrows, J. P.
October 26, 1853	James Cunningham Ann Elizabeth Burrows	October 30, 1853 John Burrows, J. P.
October 26, 1853	Wm. Lain Eliza Cox	October 27, 1853 Stephen Cope, J. P.
October 30, 1853	Abraham Jones Clarisen Adams	October 30, 1853 Jermiah Walker, M. B.
November 5, 1853	Josiah Cox Eliza Gibson	Not Given

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#### **Grundy County Tennessee Marriages** 1850 - 1874 Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

Date & By Whom Solemnized Date License Issued Couple Married January 12, 1854 January 10, 1854 James P. Summers Martha M. Nesbitt Stephen Cope, J. P. December 14, 1853 **December 14, 1853** John Bond Martha Dykes Abraham Jones, J. P. Samuel Scott January 4, 1854 January 2, 1854 **Heziah Still** Alexander Nunley, J. P. Jess Savage February 2, 1854 January 30, 1854 Martha E. Night John Lockhart, J. P. Marian McPherson November 20, 1853 November 19, 1853 Jane Care Stephen Cope, J. P. February 2, 1854 Joseph Moore February 2, 1854 Roleena Clifton Samuel Christian, J. P. March 4, 1854 **Chesby Webb** March 5, 1854 Mary Ann Christian George Roberts, O. M. Wm. Burnett January 20, 1854 **Not Given** Minerva Burrows January 20, 1854 Solomon Meeks March 19, 1854 **Nancy Brown** Richard Bradford, J. P. April 16, 1854 **Christopher Myers** April 16, 1854 **Nancy Smartt** Richard Bradford, J. P. April 18, 1854 **Thomas Nunley** April 19, 1854 **Nancy Timons** Richard Bradford, J. P. **Garrison Sutherland** May 15, 1854 May 21, 1854 Sarah Green Daniel Mosely, J. P. March 18, 1853 James H. Larmore **Not Given Mary Brewer** April 22, 1854 John Crabtree April 23, 1854 Melinda Tucker

S. T. Roberts, J. P.

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# Grundy County Tennessee Marriages 1850 - 1874

	1030 - 1074	
	Transcribed by John E. Sv	veeton
Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & By Whom Solemnized
May 25, 1854	James Tate Sarah Stoner	May 25, 1854 Richard Bradford, J. P.
March 26, 1854	Silas Sanders Philadelphia Thompson	March 27, 1854 Stephen Cope, J. P.
June 3, 1854	John Smartt Eliza Nunley	June 3, 1854 Jonathan Tipton, J. P.
June 7, 1854	John King Nancy E. Sutherland	June 7, 1854 Daniel Mosley, J. P.
July 13, 1854	Markeori Paxton Mary Sarah Hammons	July 13, 1854 Samuel J. Christian, J. P.
August 3, 1854	T. J. Powell Sarah Wooten	August 3, 1854 Jonathan Tipton, J. P.
August 20, 1854	Wm. Brown Mary E. Tate	September 3, 1854 J. T. Brown, M. G.
August 28, 1854	Leonard Cagle Mary Ann Cagle	September 2, 1854 J. L. Brown, Ord. Minister
September 3, 1854	J. B. Caldwell Sarah Morgan	September 3, 1854 Harris Gilliam, J. P.
July 3, 1854	George W. Roberts Malinda L. Rust	August 3, 1854 Phillip Roberts, J. P.
August 24, 1854	John Burnett Martha Jane Rust	August 26, 1854 Phillip Roberts, J. P.
July 15, 1854	Franklin Cox Mary A. Janes	Not Given
August 3, 1854	Felix G. Meeks Nancy Tucker	Not Given
September 30, 1854	Calvin Tate Frances Christian	October 5, 1854

John Lockhart, J. P.

**Frances Christian** 

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# **Grundy County Tennessee Marriages** 1850 - 1874

## Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & By Whom Solemnized
October 5, 1854	Stephen P. Tipton Louisa Griswald	October 5, 1854 D. P. Ritchey, M. G.
November 2, 1854	John Thompson Lucy Griswald	November 3, 1854 Jonathan Tipton, J. P.
November 1, 1854	Joseph T. Cunningham Martha Lark	November 2, 1854 Samuel L. Christian, J. P.
October 25, 1854	J. P. Dixson Dorcas E. Birdhan	Not Given
November 3, 1854	Wm. T. Blair Violet L. Baird	November 7, 1854 Not Given
November 17, 1854	John Nunley Mary Jane Smith	November 17, 1854 Jonathan Tipton, J. P.
October 30, 1854	J. R. Scott Malinda Holder	November 11, 1854 Richard Bradford, J. P.
December 7, 1854	Robert Sanders Nancy Griswald	December 7, 1854 Isaac Garretson, J. P.
October 12, 1854	David Wagner Eliza Wootan	October 12, 1854 Samuel J. Christian, J. P.
October 25, 1854	Samuel Savage Beersheba Savage	October 27, 1854 Abraham Jones, J. P.
January 4, 1855	Enoch Crouch Amanda Stoner	January 4, 1855 J. C. Lockhart, J. P.
January 9, 1855	Pleasant H. Tate Sally Dykes	January 11, 1855 Jonathan Tipton, J. P.
January 10, 1855	James L. Tate Rachel Myers	January 10, 1855 A. Northcut, J. P.
March 5, 1855	Stephen Burnett Louisa Clark	March 7, 1855 D. S. Roberts, J. P.

### Queries

Queries are free to members: non-member queries will be printed as space permits. Give enough information to determine the line you are researching. Be sure your name, address and the date is on each page of you inquiry. We request that each query be submitted on a 3" x 5" index card. Address inquiries to: Editor, G.C.H.S., Box 1422, Tracy City, TN 37387.

10/96 SARTAIN, Luke A.: (Parents: James and Rebecca Isabell Tucker Sartain), born 11 Jun 1855, died 8 Jun 1896, Married Sarah Cope 30 May 1875, buried Clouse Hill. Children: sons, R. E. and W. E. What became of wife and children? Any information appreciated. Inez Winton, P. O. Box 453, Tracy City, TN 37387.

11/96 BAILEY, John W., born 1810 NC, died 14 Nov 1913, Grundy Co., TN. Spent last 18 years living with the John & Caroline (Bailey) and Josie (Russel) Ogelvie in Summerfield, TN. Seeking any information and Photos and descendants.

James F. Carver, 610 Gay Street, Box 214, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662-0214.

12/96 BAILEY, Samuel, born 1860 Marion County, TN, died ca 1892 in Tracy City, TN, married 23 December 1880 Helan Collins. One known son - Milton Bailey. After Sam died, widow Helan Bailey married William Leverton and moved to Alabama. Seeking ANY information on this family unit. (Samuel son of John W. Bailey and Sarah McClung) James F. Carver, 610 Gay Street, Box 214, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662-0214.

13/96 BROWN, Ross. Seeking parents, descendant, Any information. Nancy Brown born March 1832, married John Edward "Ed" Ross, Grundy, TN. Children are James M. married Martha Ramsey, John Harrison married Malinda Massengale, Sarah M. married G. W. Pickett, Mary Jane married Sammy Brown, Nancy Delaware married Timothy Tate, Wm. Leroy married Samantha Chambers, Anna, George married Kizzie Layne, Samuel married Gertrude Nunley, Jobe married Delisha Speagle, Gemina married John Van Hooser. Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313, Phone (615) 692-2490.

14/96 STREET/TURNER. Seeking parents of Benson Street born 1817 NC and Sarah M. Turner born 1819, SC, died 7 Nov 1889 married ca 1838. Both died in Coffee County. Children are Jeritha Ann married James Fletcher, Dulcino married Jack Myers, Matilda married Wm. Oldfield, John W. married Lucinda R. Cinderella Kennedy, Jobery or ? John Berry.

Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313

15/96 ROSS/TABOR or TABER. Seeking parents of John Ross born ca 1795 VA, died before August 1871, Marion County and parents of his spouse Nancy Tabor/Taber born ca 1796 VA, died before 1850. Children are Mary "Polly" married Calvin Pickett, Angeline married George Pickett, Delila married 1st ?Phillips, 2nd ?Pennley, John Edward married Nancy Brown, Leroy married 1st Frances Lewis, 2nd Mary Gillliam, Elizabeth married Robert Lewis, Martha. Any information appreciated.

Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313.

16/96 BYNUM, Jesse B., died 24 October 1904 in Tracy City, TN. Looking for descendants or family information.
John Bynum, P. O. Box 1587, Russellville, AR 72811.

17/96 TATE. Wish to exchange on the 5 Tate brothers who came from Virginia to settle, about 1804, on what would later become Warren and Grundy Counties. They were Alexander, James, Robert, John, and Aaron, all born in the 1780s. Sister, Mary, born c1787, married Meridith Price.

Mrs. Dola S. Tylor, 105 Wineberry Drive, Winchester, VA 22603.



# Grundy County Historical Society

## Bar 1422 Tracy City, Tennessee 37387

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP	NEW	RENEWAL
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r lease print (	or type the name as desired o	on membership card.
M	Maiden Name	<b>:</b>
Street	County	
City	State	ZIP
Home Phone ( )	Bus. Phone ( )	
Membership year is from June 1,	to June 1,	
Individual - \$10.00 per year	Family - \$15.00 per y	-· /ear
Additional Contribution \$		
Please make checks paya	able to Grundy County H	istorical Society and
mail to the address above. You	r canceled check is your	receint.
Membership cards may be pick	ed up at the monthly med	eting, at the Tracy
City Library, or mailed to you.		, at any 1140y
Material in the Root Cell	ar, Archives of the Grund	dy County Historical
Society, is available to the gene	ral public for research by	if may not be
removed from the Library. Only	y members may check or	it these materials
from the librarian.	, and the second of	st diese materials
In consideration of being	accepted as a member	and for the duration
of membership in the Grundy C	ounty Historical Society	I pledoe that
1. I will assist in locating an	nd preserving public and	nrivate records and
in making such records available	le to members of this soc	riety and to the
general public.	is the monitoria by initia soc	iety una to the
2. I will carefully refrain fro	om mutilating marking o	er athamuisa dafaaina
or destroying any part of such p	oublic or private records	r omerwise dejucing
3. I will support the program	ns and noticies of this so	ciatu
17	ns and policies of mis so	ciery.
Date Signature		
(for Society use) Date received	An	nount
Card Number	T	

Grundy County Historical Society Box 1422 Tracy City, TN 37387 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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### Note from the Editor

Anna G. Goforth

I am very pleased by the new memberships in the Grundy County Historical Society which the Pathfinder has brought us. It is important that we try to preserve our family histories. A hundred years down the road, our descendants are going to thank us for the information which we are gathering together.

My thanks to those who contributed to this third issue: Catherine Flury, John E. Sweeton, Mary Tate Brooks, Diana Roberts, to fellow members for collecting material, addressing, and delivering the newsletter; to co-editors Mona Moreland and Katie Goforth. A special thank you to Diana Roberts. Ken Snyder from Duncan, OK continues to give advice, long distance; thanks, Ken!

My apologies if you received a bad copy of the second Pathfinder (v.1 n.2). I will include replacement pages in the fourth Pathfinder (v.1 n.4) if you will let me know you need them.

From our members we need articles, ancestor charts, family group sheets. Your contributions are the key to the success of The Pathfinder. Please continue to send materials for publication and to add to our collection in The Root Cellar.

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## President's Message

Our membership continues to grow. We now have 67 members in the Historical Society. We are looking forward to hearing from you from time to time with suggestions and contributions to the *Pathfinder*.

We are adding lots of new books to the Root Cellar. Our project is to get additional shelving and rearrange the Root Cellar for easier research. In addition to this project we are working on acquiring a copy machine as now there is none available to people who use our Root Cellar and need to make copies. We would like to provide this service for them

If you are an out-of-town member and are in the Tracy City area, we encourage you to come by and visit the Root Cellar or attend one of our regular monthly meetings. The Library hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12 noon until 4:30 p.m. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday in each month at the Tracy City Library at 2 p.m.

Catherine Flury
President, Grundy County Historical Society

### **Memorials**

In Memory of David Winfred Griswold by Mary Tate Brooks by Catherine Flury by Leslie Coppinger

In Memory of Eleanor Lobdell Adamz by Anna G. Goforth by Maude R. Melton

Number 3

**Grundy County Wills** 

Hobbs Hill Cemetery

### Saturday, November 16, 6:30 p.m., Tracy City

Dr. J. M. Russell of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga will present a talk on "The Search for Southern Identity" in Tracy City in mid-November. He will discuss historians' efforts to identify what has made the South and Southerners "unique" over time.

**Upcoming Activities** 

The talk will be on Saturday evening, November 16, at 7:30 p.m., in the Parish House of Christ Church (Episcopal Church) in Tracy City. Admission is \$3.00; advanced purchase is recommended. Please contact the Grundy County Historical Society or call (615) 592-2951 to order tickets. All tickets purchased by phone will be held under your name at the door.

Share your questions about the history of the South with our speaker over refreshments in the Parish House after the talk has finished.

You might make a weekend trip of it -- a visit to the Root Cellar on Friday afternoon, walking the trails of South Cumberland State Park on Saturday, and attending the talk in the evening. Overnight accommodations are available ten minutes away at motels and bed and breakfasts in Monteagle -- at the North Gate Inn, the Adams Edgeworth Inn, the Smoke House, Days' Inn, and Budget Host Inn. In Altamont, slightly farther away, are the Manor House and the Woodlee House, both bed and breakfasts.

Diana Roberts, Appalachian Language and Cultural Exchange

from John E. Sweeton

from Mona G. Moreland

### Recent Acquisitions of the Root Cellar Collection

from Inez Winton and from John E. Sweeton 1995 Obituaries of Grundy County 1862 Tax List of Marion County from Lloyd Tate Old newspapers and collected clippings from Mrs. Addie Mae Flynn First Court Records of Grundy County from Martin and Gail King The first "Mountain Laurel" copied from the original 1925 issue from Lois Shook The second "Mountain Laurel" copied from the original 1929 issue from Alice Foster Slayton Warren County Census Records 1950 from Margaret Coppinger The 1840, 1850, 1860, and 1870 Census records of Coffee County, TN purchased by Grundy County Historical Society

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### History of the United Methodist Church of Tracy City

by Catherine Kilgore Flury

According to the <u>Holsten Conference Journal</u> of 1868, Tracy City and Altamont were on the same mission. In 1874, Tracy City became a station with 96 members. Rev. James I. Cash was the first minister after it became a station. There was no church building, and services were held in the Temperance Hall.

In 1877, a need for a Methodist Church building was expressed, and the T.C.I. donated the land. A building was started at once. In April 1880, the church building was dedicated and was named "Therese Chapel" after Mrs. A.M. Shook. The first Sunday School superintendent was Jim Ried. According to a Sunday School record book dating from June 1887 through September 1888, there were over 200 enrolled each year. In 1880, Mr. Joe Shook and Miss Maggie Ried were the first couple to be married in the church. In 1890, the parsonage was built. In 1905, Sunday School additions were added on either side of the church. One of these rooms belonged to the Big Brothers class that was chartered in 1919. In addition to meeting on Sunday, this class has always been concerned about the welfare of the community.

At this time, the communion service used two cups, but during the flu epidemic, Dr. Hayes stated a need for individual cups. Mrs. Mable Metcalfe was appointed to solicit money for the new service. In 1920, the Sunday School had grown to an enrollment of 350. In 1925, the increasing number of children in the church furthered the plan for a vacation Bible School. Mrs. Metcalfe stated, "we shall never forget that first vacation Bible school. A small group was anticipated, but to our bewilderment, 100 children registered. We had not planned a program and we didn't even have literature. The children learned hymns and Bible verses. They evidently enjoyed it, for it lasted two weeks."

In 1927, the local Missionary Society was organized and was to take the place of the Willing Workers that was organized in 1890, but both remained quite active for many years. The Willing Workers did local charity work, while the Missionary Society carried out the conference laws. Later they became the Women's Society of Christian Service. In recent years, the WSCS and the Wesleyan Service Guild, organized in 1948, became the United Methodist Women. These women's organizations have always been active in meeting the needs of the church spiritually as well as helping with the physical and financial needs.

The youth organization, first called the Epworth League, was very active in the church when it was first organized in 1927. They were responsible for building the retaining wall on the south side and in front of the old church. They went to the woods in groups and carried the stones to build the wall. They told of the good times they had building the

wall a few feet at a time. We are happy to say that from 1927 to this day the youth, now the MYF, have remained very active in the church, contributing much to the life of the church and the community.

In 1943, the need for a new church was realized as the old church was badly in need of repairs. A building fund was started. In 1950, services were held in the Shook school auditorium. The MYF helped tear down the old church. They saved the nails and sold them for souvenirs to make money for the new building.

In the fall of 1950, a new pastor came to our church. The Rev. W. E. Newman had a growing reputation as a "builder" of churches. We saw the fruition of his many hours of labor on Dec. 24, 1950 when the first service was held in the new church even though the building was just a shell. Through Rev. Newman's tireless work and the work of many volunteers, the church was completed: a large basement and recreation center and a complete kitchen were finished, and the sanctuary was furnished, thanks to ladies' organizations, by June 1955.

1954 was a big year in our church. The Layman's Club was organized in Grundy County and our church had a prominent leadership in this club. The church sanctuary was furnished by special gifts, most of these memorials. The Charles Cope house was purchased for a parsonage as the present one was past repair. Dr. J. W. L. Matlock was the first pastor to live there.

In September 1954, Rev. Waddell Roberts was killed in a helicopter accident while serving as a Chaplain in Korea. His body was brought back to Tracy City Methodist church for funeral services. He had served as pastor of this church on two separate appointments for a total of six years.

The dedication of the church was held in 1954, but the debt was not paid off until June 1957. In June 1959, Rev. Jacob Gardner came to our church and was our pastor for seven years. During this time, the Sunday school addition was added to the church. This addition has served our community well, first as a Day Care Center and now as Head Start. We learned that Bro. Gardner was a fine carpenter. He built the furniture for the Sunday school rooms and remodeled the parsonage.

A new parsonage was built, as the present one was in need of repair and more space was needed. Rev. J. T. Johnson was the first pastor to occupy the new parsonage. During his stay, a steeple, bell and cross were added to the church. They were dedicated on July 4, 1976.

Since 1975, the First Methodist Church has continued to make history. The picture behind the choir is in memory of Mrs. Fred Hunziker, who was a faithful member until her death at the age of 100. The grand piano is in memory of Craig Graham, the music

director at the time of his death. The baptismal pool is in memory of Derek Arbuckle, whose life was shortened by a tragic accident. The stained glass windows were placed in honor and memory of loved ones. We have a beautiful ladies' lounge dedicated to Ella Lewis Dillon, whose contribution made it possible.

The most important part of our history, both past and present, are the people who have passed through these doors - the dedicated Ministers and their families, Sunday school teachers, youth workers, those who served wherever they were needed, those who supported the church with their faithful presence and tithes and ministered in the community, the youth who are the future life of the church who, although some of them move away, we find working in other churches. We have a rich heritage; the church has faithfully served the Lord and this community through these many years.

The following are a few interesting facts in the history of the church. A number of our young people and some older ones go into full- or part-time service in the church. We would like to recognize them.

Steve Winton Ingram (Bud) Parmley Leroy Wright James Martin C. H. Kilby Turney Roddy

Roy Partin

A number of young ladies have married ministers:

Carrie Sue Marler - Jack Sides Jessie Harley - B.F. Argo Maudie Hargis - Robert Armstrong Dottie Hampton - Jerry Hilton Ruth Myers - Douglas Sanders Lou Agnes Wright - Thomas DeRamus Peggy Green - Steve Winton Laura Schaerer - Joe Lay

Some things of interest not mentioned in the history:

The first District Superintendent when Tracy City was a mission 1862-1868 Fayetteville District

The first District Superintendent after Tracy City became a station Rev. R. M. Haggard 1880-1883 McMinnville District

First Pastor of the Tracy City Mission ---- Rev. W. B. McKelvie First Pastor of the Tracy City Station ----- Rev. J. I. Cash, Jr.

The first Christening (new church) ------ Fritz Leon Flury Dec. 24, 1950 The first funeral (new Church) ----- Fritz Leon Flury Jan. 8, 1951

The first wedding (new Church) ----- Jerry Hilton and Dottie Hampton 1954

### Women of Grundy County: Florence Rollings Scruggs

by Mary Tate Brooks

Florence Rollings was born in Pelham, Grundy County, Tennessee, the daughter of James Lewis Rollings and Pearl Cox Rollings. In 1917, the Rollings family moved to Altamont. She attended the schools of Grundy, graduating from the Grundy County High School in 1930. She began her teaching career in 1931 and retired in 1976. At that time she was honored for her forty three years of teaching; in her own words we share her experiences with our readers.

SCHOOL DAYS: A history of "Miss Florence's" teaching career, 1933 - 76 The following was written just prior to her retirement in 1976

Forty-three years ago last September, I started my teaching career in a one room school house. I went there, armed with my temporary certificate based on three months training in Murfreesboro, to teach everything from first through the eight grade. Located in Payne's Cove, it was attended by children from all the surrounding farm country. They came bringing their lunches in tin buckets to sit from "can" to "can't" to listen to the "fount of knowledge" I was so certain I could impart. I've never been so certain since. One thing that stands out in my memory regarding my tenure at Payne's Cove School is the bull who roamed the country side, bellowing and pawing. Terrified, I had to dodge him on my two mile walk from the affluent farm house (where I was boarded for \$12.00 per month), to the school. I'm sure it was this bull who influenced my decision to move to Hobbs Hill later in the year when that school was opened and a teacher was needed there.

It was in the depth of the Depression and my \$45.00 per month salary on paper had no money to back it up. If we were lucky, someone with a little money and a lot of faith would buy the school warrants at a 10% discount. Somehow we managed, and even had fun. Money bought much more. You could buy an outfit for ten dollars, including \$1.98 for new shoes.

There were many young teachers who, like me, worked all school year then borrowed the money to go back to college over the summer in order to renew our certificates for the fall. Eventually we got permanent certificates and some of us continued to go on until we got degrees.

I stayed at Hobbs Hill two years, then went to Freemont for two years. Staying two or three years in each place, I taught at Tatesville, Mt. Vernon, then came home to Altamont. I remember once in the early years at Altamont, I enrolled around one hundred pupils in the first four grades. I pieced the register by pasting an extension on it to add the names of all those children. We took up at eight o'clock and taught until everyone had completed a class. We got a third teacher later. You know, interestingly enough, I don't remember anyone complaining. There was a job to be done and we did it. The children worked hard and were patient. I don't recall any major behavior problem. Going

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to school was a privilege and most appreciated the opportunity. Our students, whose grandchildren now ride the bus, walked three and four miles to school.

I continued to teach at Altamont until World War II broke out. I then decided to join the WACC to "See the world." I was promised by the recruiters that I could teach abroad. When I got to Ft. Oglethorpe, GA, I was put in an office testing and grading the soldiers, with no hope for a change. I didn't stay when the WACC became part of the regular army. If you stayed or joined at that time, you were in for the duration of the war- plus six months. The Japanese War Lords were talking about another Hundred Years War. I surely didn't want to be in that long!

Just before leaving the WACC, I married March 20, 1942 Thomas B. Scruggs who was also a soldier. He was also discharged soon after our marriage. We lived in Chattanooga and I taught at Daisy Elementary. We later moved to Oak Ridge and I taught the first grade for a number of years there. My daughter Susan was born there in 1947.

Shortly after Susan was born, we came back to Altamont and I have taught in the capacity of first grade teacher and a few years as principal here ever since. I have taught three generations at Altamont (mother, daughter, son) and can truthfully say that I have enjoyed it all. My daughter Jennifer was born in 1956.

After completing my BS, I began work on my Master's degree, but failed to finish at the time as my husband had a first heart attack, which led to a fatal attack in 1969.

Jenny and I live alone in a rambling old house next door to Altamont school. There is a well-traveled path leading from our front door to Altamont school. Jenny now attends Middle Tennessee State University and is majoring in Special Education. My daughter Susan attended the University of Tennessee and completed her degree in Secondary Education Mathematics. Susan is married and has two children. She does not teach although I expect her to some day.

There have been many changes in education in the four plus decades I have been teaching, but basically it is the same. You teach children, watch them grow, and feel that they are part yours forever.

Next May the school bells will ring for me no more. I am retiring. I shall miss it: Chalk dust, rebellion, recess, operettas, but most of all "children's faces looking up holding wonder like a cup."

POSTSCRIPT: Nearly 20 years since her retirement, "Miss Florence," who is now almost 84 years young, continues to live in her rambling old house next door to the old Altamont School. She enjoys hearing from her former students and takes as much pride as a parent in their accomplishments. Truly, she feels that these former students are essentially her treasured "children" forever.

Mrs. Scruggs watched with great anticipation when the renovation of the old Altamont school building began in 1988. The building houses City Hall, the Altamont Library and Museum, and several other businesses. Because of a combined effort of citizens of Altamont, "Miss Florence" has seen her dream fulfilled with the halls of the old school building still bounding with activity. The pinnacle of this dream was reached

G.C.H.S.

on Sunday, August 4, 1996, when the building was dedicated and renamed "The Florence R. Scruggs Municipal Building."

Florence Rollings Scruggs

b. Feb. 7, 1912

m. Mar. 20, 1942

Thomas B. Scruggs

b. May. 30, 1900

m. Mar. 20, 1942

d. July 6, 1969

Children:

Susan m. Tim Ramsey

Their children: Cathy, Tommie,

Ashley and Abi

Jennifer m. Jerry Don Thomas

Their children: Ben and Lauren

Parents of Florence Rollings Scruggs:

James Lewis Rollings

b. July 3, 1879

m. September 15, 1904 by J. D.

Northcutt

d. July 9, 1961

Pearl Cox Rollings

b. Jan. 4, 1881

d. Mar. 4, 1917 bur. Red Hill

Children:

Louise m. Clyde Jacobs

Adolphus m. Alene Standifer

Rachel m. Charles Geary

Frank m. Timmie Scruggs
Florence m. Thomas Scruggs

David Ashley m. Mary N. Burke

James Lewis Rollings m. 2

b. July 3, 1879

m. May 21, 1920 by J. M. Gurik,

J.P.

d. July 9, 1961

Eva Walker

b. August 6, 1901

d. October 29, 1993

Their children:

Mary Ellen m. Jim Wheeler

Jessie Evelyn m. Jack Green

James Lewis, Jr. m. Joyce Nunley

Thelma Ruth m. Richard Hill

Genie m. Bill Valentine

Lydia m. Mason Hale

1996

## **Grundy County Tennessee Marriages**

1850 - 1874

Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

### Continued from Volume 1, Number 2

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & by whom Solemnized
February 5,1855	Christopher Hobbs Elizabeth Smith	February 5, 1855 Jonathon Tipton,J.P.
February 3, 1855	Samuel Tucker Susanah Warren	February 10, 1855 D.P.Ritchey, M.G.
March 2, 1855	Stephen Wooten Elizabeth Cinningham	March 6, 1855 S.L. Christen,J.P.
April 10, 1855	Samuel E.H. Fults Elizabeth Hobbs	April 10,1855 A. Northcut, J.P.
March 5, 1855	Elijah Harrison Sarah Gilbert	March 5, 1855 B. Burrows, J.P.
January 13, 1855	Aaron Sartin Eliza Hamby	January 13, 1855 D.P.Ritchey, M.G.
April 5, 1855	A.C.Smith Sally Thomas	-on another page
February 3,1855	James Thomas Mary Tucker	February 4,1855 Harris Gilliam, J.P
May 16, 1855	Levi Keel E.E. Warreen	May 16, 1855 S.T. Roberts, J.P.
May 21, 1855	Wm. Fults Alice Whitman	May 24, 1855 Abraham Jones, J.P.
March 29, 1855	David Meeks Elizabeth Ann Payne	March 29, 1855 S.T. Roberts, J.P.
June 30, 1855	James Winton Elizabeth Pursell	July 1, 1855 Samuel Christan J.P.
July 4, 1855	John Turner M.G. Hornesby	July 10, 1855 B. Burrows, J.P.
July 14, 1855	Adrian Smartt Rachel Nunley	Not given
July 14,1855	Benjamin Meek Abigail Burrows	July 19, 1855 D.P. Ritchey, M.G

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & by whom Solemnized
July 31, 1855	Thomas Stone Caroline C. Hill	August 1, 1855 Harris Gilliam, J.P.
August 6, 1855	Emery Braley Elizabeth Wooten	August 16, 1855 Samuel J. Christian, J.P.
August 19, 1855	Henry Goodman Margaret Roberts	August 19, 1855 D.P. Ritchey, M.G.
September 13, 1855	John Coulson Sarah Brewer	September 13, 1855 J.C. Rickett, Esq.
September 19, 1855	Charles H. Pearson Catherine Harrison	not given Wm. G. Guinn
October 31, 1855	W.T. Parks Nancy Pattie	not given
November 3, 1855	Richard W. Childress Delpha Nunley	November 4, 1855 Richard Bradford, J.P.
October 23, 1855	John Weaver Sarah Caldwell	October 25, 1855 Harris Gilliam, J.P.
January 22, 1856	Wm. C. Nunley Nancy Killian	January 31, 1856 J.A.Walker, J.P.
January 14, 1856	Jesse Winton Caroline Northcut	January 17, 1856 Samuel Christian, J.P
January 29, 1856	Isaac Sweeton Mary Sanders	January 30, 1856 Richard Bradford, J.P.
December 18, 1856	Wm. Woodlee Mary Ann Smith	December 19, 1856 David P. Ritchey,M.G.
February 18, 1856	Smith Fults Tiney Sanders	February 21, 1856 Richard Bradford, J.P.
February 23, 1856	Phillip Roberts Jincey Burrows	not given
January 18, 1856	Isaac Scott Minerva Fitchpatrick	not given
February 26, 1856	George W. Parks Caroline Motlow	February 27, 1856 Wm. G. Guinn, J.P.
March 24, 1856	Martin Armstrong Mary Caroline Goodman	March 24, 1856 D.P.Ritchey, M.G.
April 5, 1856	Edward Whitman Martha Bost	April 5, 1856 J.A.Walker, J.P.

G.C.H.S.

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & by whom Solemnized
April 15, 1856	John W. Eavens Martha F. Hensley	April 16, 1856 William McGehee M.G.
May 10, 1856	Hiram Kilgore Jane Talbert	May 11, 1856 T.J. Wagoner, J.P.
May 29, 1856	Wm. H. Crouch Anny Robert	May 29,1856 Richard Bradford, J.P.
August 2, 1856	John Cope Eliza Tucker	August 3, 1856 John Burrows, J.P.
August 21, 1856	E.W. Hamby Arkansas Sartin	August 21, 1856 John Burrows, J.P.
October 4, 1856	Poindexter Payne Martha C. Meeks	October 8, 1856 T.J. Wagoner, J.P.
November 12, 1856	James S.F. Walker Elizabeth S. Walker	November 13, 1856 Abraham Jones, J.P.
December 10, 1856	Alexander Meeks Amy Johnson	December 11, 1856 Richard Bradford,J.P.
December 10, 1856	Commodore Fults Mary Coulston	December 11, 1856 H.A. Campbell, J.P.
December 24, 1856	Henry P. Fults Jane Nunley	December 24, 1856 A. Northcut, J.P.
December 29, 1856	John R. Sanders Sabina Goodman	December 31, 1856 J. Roberts, C.J.
December 30, 1856	Alexander Cox Sarah A. Smith	December 31, 1856 S. Cope, J.P.
January 1, 1857	Henry Overturf Nancy Scruggs	January 1, 1857 Jonathan Tipton, J.P.
January 5, 1857	Jesse Nunley Diadia Hobbs	January 6, 1857 H. Smith, J.P.
January 9, 1857	James Cope Manervay Roberts	January 11, 1857 John Burrows, J.P.
January 9, 1857	Steward Fults Nancy Myers	January 9, 1857 H.A. Campbell
February 16, 1857	G.W. Garner Mary H. Gilliam	not given
February 8, 1857	George Oliver Amanda Meeks	February 8, 1857 Phillip Roberts, J.P.

G.C.H.S.	7he	Pathfinder	
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1996

Number 3

Volume 1

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & by whom Solemnized
March 3, 1857	Wm. C. Fults Caroline Fults	March 9, 1857 H.A. Campbell, J.P.
March 7, 1857	John Coffelt Elizabeth Watley	March 8, 1857 J.C. Lockhart, J.P.
April 2, 1857	F.M.Cox Barbary Lane	not given
March 7,1857	John Coffelt Elizabeth Watley	J.C. Lockhart, J.P.
April 7, 1857	F.M.Cox Barbary Lane	not given
April 7, 1857	Wm. A. Griswold Martha Warren	April 7, 1857 John Burrows, J.P.
June 16, 1857	John Hill Mary Newman	not given
June 17, 1857	John Fitzgerald Ryan Allison	no date given H.V. Brown, Priest
June 19, 1857	Phillip Roberts Arleen H. Pearson	June 21, 1857 Stephen Cope, J.P.
July 14, 1857	Andrew Caldwell Mary L. White	not given William Givens, J.P.
July 18, 1857	Anderson Lusk Louisa Ann Cunningham	July 19, 1857 Greek Braly, J.P.
August 3, 1857	Demish Fitzgerald Bridgett Fitzgett	August 4, 1857 H.V. Brown, C.P.
August 15, 1857	William Myers Sealy Nunley	August 27, 1857 John Burrows, J.P.
August 18, 1857	Thomas Sweeton Caroline Davis	August 20, 1857 Richard Bradford, J.P.
August 22, 1857	Michial Bayrne Bridget Kamner	August 23, 1857 H.V. Brown, C.P.
September 3, 1857	Elisha Rogers Mary Ann Fults	September 3, 1857 Stephen Cope, J.P.
September 10, 1857	Elijah Sanders Mary Roberts	September 10, 1857 Thomas Spring, M.G.
September 16, 1857	Isiah Brown Elizabeth Crossland	September 17, 1857 Enoch Woodlee, J.P.

1996

### Queries

Queries are free to members; non-member queries will be printed as space permits. Give enough information to determine the line you are researching. Be sure your name and address and the date are on each page of your inquiry. We request that each query be submitted on a 3"x5" index card. Address inquiries to: Editor, G.C.H.S., Box 1422, Tracy City, TN 37387

18/96 NUNLEY/SWEETON/PARSONS, Seeking parents family of Hiram Nunley, b.1824 Grundy County, m. 1st. Anna Sweeton abt. 1850. Anna b. 1824, Grundy County., d. ca. 1862. m. 2nd Minerva J. Parsons Nov. 1870. Had ch. 1) Wm., 2)Amanda, 3) Chris, 4) Henderson Monroe, 5)Margaret C., 6)Green. Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81. Coalmont, TN. 37313

19/96 MARTIN, Thomas Arthur "Bud" b. 15 Jan. 1863 TN. d. 25 Nov. 1937 Grundy County. m. Mattie Shelton, had ch. 1) Arthur B. b 19 Sept. 1889 Coffee Co., 2) Charlie W. Martin b. 1896 d. 29 March 1981, Grundy Co. m. Annie Hilda Nunley. Who are her parents? Any info on family appreciated.

Mary Tate Brooks, HRS 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313

20/96 HAWKINS, Irena/Irene; Any information on Irena/Irene Hawkins b. ca 1853, Grundy County, TN m. Columbus Albert Norman, believed to have lived in the Gruetli area, possibly the Swiss Colony.

Sandra Hawkins, 166 Egret Rd., St. Augustine, FL 32086

21/96 WANAMAKER, Mariah, m. Amasa Countiss. Was in Marion Co. Census after 1860. Had ch. Newman b. 1846, Peter b. 1848, Nancy b. 1850. Nancy m. Dave Layne. Where are they buried? Any information on this family needed.

Jacine Wanamaker Denton, 200 Wanamaker Lane, McMinnville, TN 37110

22/96 BROWN, Ledder m. Arena Louisa Crossland. They were living in Grundy Co. in 1860. Any information appreciated.

Jacine Denton, 200 Wanamaker Lane, McMinnville, TN 37110

23/96 REED, Jane b. ca. 1810, m. John Alexander Cannon 1833. Had ch. 1) John Alexander Jr., 2) Joel B., 3) James, 4) Benjamin J., 5) George W., 6) Rhoda Ann, 7) Victoria, 8) Mary, 9) Susan, 10) Minerva, 11) Lafayette, 12) I. Houston, 13) Anderson, 14) Ellick. Any info on her parents and descendants appreciated.

Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313

24/96 GRISWOLD, David Murphy b. Altamont, TN Feb. 29, 1848. Parents were Stephen M. and Sarah (Purdom) Griswold. Had twin brother George Gilbert Griswold. David M. mar. Mary Braley, Grundy County. Believed to have gone to AL. Any info appreciated. Anna G. Goforth, Rt. 1, Box 2709, Monteagle, TN 37356

25/96 LAYNE, Monroe b. cr. 1880, M. Esta? Estil? Richey; she was born about 1894. Lived in Grundy County / Marion County. Need names of their children, where they are buried, etc.

Leslie Stanton, 2610 Cheverny Dr., McKinney, Texas 75070



# Grundy County Historical Society Box 1422 Tracy City, Tennessee 37387

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP NEW \_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_

Please print or type the name as desired on membership card.

M	·	Maiden Na	me
Stre	et	County	
City		State	ZIP
Hon	ne Phone ( )	Bus. Phone ( )	
Men	nbership year is from June 1, _	to June 1.	
Indiv	vidual - \$10.00 per year	Family - \$15.00 pe	L AGAL
Addi	itional Contribution \$	,	. ,
mail	Please make checks pay to the address above. You	yable to Grundy County our canceled check is you	ur receint
Men	nbership cards may be pic	ked up at the monthly m	eeting, at the Tracy
City	Library, or mailed to you	•	
	Material in the Root Ce	llar, Archives of the Gru	ndy County Historical
Soci	ety, is available to the gen	eral public for research l	but may not be
remo	oved from the Library. On	nly members may check	out these materials
from	the librarian.		
	In consideration of bein	g accepted as a member	. and for the duration
of me	embership in the Grundy (	County Historical Societ	v. I pledge that:
1.	I will assist in locating a	and preserving public an	nd private records and
in mo	aking such records availa	ble to members of this se	ociety and to the
gene	ral public.		orely una to the
<i>2</i> .	I will carefully refrain fi	rom mutilating, marking	or otherwise defacing
or de	estroying any part of such	public or private record	le
<i>3</i> .	I will support the progra	ams and policies of this s	society.
Date	Signature	e	
(for S	Society use) Date received	·····	
Card	Number	Т	Amount
		_ IICasulci	

Grundy County Historical Society Rox 1422 Tracy City, TN 37387 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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### Note from the Editor

Anna G. Goforth

Happy New Year!! May it be the best one ever for you!

This is the last publication of The Pathfinder for the year. We made a few mistakes, but hopefully we learned from them and the next issues will be better. Speaking of mistakes; on page 3 of The Pathfinder, no. 3, under "Acquisitions", the Warren County Census Records should be 1850, not 1950. Please make this change in your copy.

We are grateful for your generous contributions of money, books, family histories, group sheets, articles, office supplies, and furniture for *The Root Cellar*. Thanks to each and every one who helped: Dola Tylor, Helen Sanders, Steven Hargis, Mary Brooks, Leslie and Mike Coppinger, Maude Melton, Helen Dykes, Gregory Harris, James Palmer, Mona and Karl Moreland, Ken Snyder, Carlton and Nancy Parmley, Tom Campbell, Jacine Denton, Charles Sherrill, Diana Roberts, Ruth Ann Fults, Inez Winton, Catherine Flury, and Millie Griswold. Thanks also to the Tracy City Council: Mayor Charles Fults and Council members Charlotte Scott, Glen Bishop, Diane Meeks and Danny Thomas for money to make the payment on the paper copier. A special thank you to Katie Goforth for typing this issue.

Please continue to send your queries and articles for next year's publications.

Number 4

### President's Message

Seasons Greetings to all the Grundy County Historical Society members and friends. May the wonderful blessings of Christmas be with you through the New Year.

The Grundy County Historical Society has grown by leaps and bounds. Our *Root Cellar* has taken on a new look; there are lots of new shelves to make room for more books for our genealogy seekers. A copy machine has been purchased; this was a much-needed addition to our room.

We want to thank you for your membership, support and contributions this past year. We are looking forward to seeing you or hearing from you this coming year.

Catherine Flury
President, Grundy County Historical Society

### Memorials

In Memory of Dorothy Hunziker by Inez Winton by Anna Goforth

In Memory of William Edward Pirtle by Inez Winton by Anna Goforth

In Memory of David Winfred Griswold by Martin Johnson

This issue is dedicated to the memory of our deceased members:

Margaret Parson

Renice Curtis

Herman Baggenstoss

Clydene Douglas

Pat Bennett

Sid Baggenstoss

### Recent Acquisitions

New shelves and paint for the room, from Tracy City Council

A work table and chair, acquired from Gregory Harris and James Palmer

Two Civil War Histories, from Tom Campbell

The Hargis Family, compiled by and from Steven M. Hargis

Warren County 1870 Census, and Warren County 1880 Census, from Helen K. Sanders

Warren County 1860 Census, from Mona G. Moreland

Family Records Sheets of the Roddy, Eller and Berry families, from Maude R. Melton

History of Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church, from Mary Tate Brooks

History of Latter Day Saints Church in Grundy County, from Mary Tate Brooks

Plat of the Town of Altamont 1855, from Jacine W. Denton

History of Pelham Post Office, from Jacine W. Denton

Grundy County Tax Rolls 1850's, from Jacine W. Denton

Sheriffs of Warren County 1808-1846, from Jacine W. Denton

Before Grundy County, early 1800's, from Jacine W. Denton

The History of Absolom Brown and Joyce Green and Mary Jane Green and their

Descendants, material compiled by and from Dan Willis Brown

Copies of 1939, 1940 and 1942 Grundy County Hi-Seniors pictures, from Inez Winton

Dola S. Tylor sent a number of things:

Research on: Elizabeth Tate, 1 page; Francis Marion Tate, 1 page; Calvin G. S. Tate, 1 page; Pleasant H. Tate, 1 page; Elisha Tate, 1 page; Luke A. Sartain, 1 page; Ike Sartain, 2 pages; Nolan family, 3 pages; Flury family, 1 page; Street family, 2 pages; John W. Bailey, 1 page; David Morrow, 1 page; Myers Family, 2 pages; William H. Hampton family, 3 pages; Jesse Bynum, 1 page; The Berry family, 5 pages; Index to Gruetli, Tennessee Residents, 2 pages; The 1914 James K. Shook Commencement Program of Miss Dola Hamby.

Marriage Book No. 1 1853--1931, City of Winchester, Virginia, by Dola Tylor Winchester, Virginia Abstracts of Wills, 1794 - 1894, by Dola Tylor John Ross of Marion County, Tennessee, by Dola. S. Tylor Earliest Grundy County Deeds 1852-1867, by Charles Sherrill, from Dola S. Tylor

Special Census of Grundy County, Tennessee 1850-1880, by Charles Sherrill, from Dola Tylor

For all the above we are deeply grateful; to me it means you are all interested in our Historical Society and working to make it successful. We have started a Family History section in the Root Cellar. We ask each member to send in their Family History. Include ancestor charts, group sheets, memories, quotes, traditions, pictures, gatherings, genealogical data, etc. Let's make this section a really interesting as well as informative part of our library. Several members and non-members have already sent in such material. We now have 75 members, and if everyone will respond just think what a wealth of information we will have about Grundy County and its people!

# The History of the Palmer United Methodist Church

By Frances Conry

The deed to the Palmer United Methodist Church is recorded as October 2, 1919. The church was built by Mr. Henry Brown, a native of Beersheba Springs, Tennessee. The land was donated by the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company. This was the first church in Palmer. Prior to this building, worship services were held in the school, where many adults led activities that provided warm religious fellowship.

The first trustees were Dr. Bryan, Mr. Charlie Patrick and Mr. R.D. Swan. Brother Elbert Thomas was the first pastor. Mr. Charlie Patrick served as first Church School Superintendent. Mr. R.D. Swan served as teacher of the Big Brothers and Sisters class.

Mrs. Rachel Patrick taught the older boys' class. She led groups of young people on hikes to Goat Rock and supervised parties and picnics to entertain and encourage Christian fellowship and leadership. She was known fondly as "Granny Patrick". Mr. Hatfield, a merchant, opened the first silent picture show in his store in Palmer. Mrs. Patrick would chaperon her class and their dates. Later, when the new theater was built, she was given a lifetime pass in appreciation of her efforts.

There were a number of Festival days during the church year. Children's Day was observed in the Spring. Weeks before the celebration, Mrs. Clarence Nunley and Mrs. Walter Tate worked with rehearsals and costumes that were very effective. Before the performances, the church was decorated with flowers picked from the nearby creek.

On summer Sunday afternoons, games preceded the meeting of the Epworth League. There was a great mingling of denominations in the group. Methodist young folks were joined by members of other churches for fellowship and worship. Later the Epworth League became the Methodist Youth Fellowship. There were many years of Christian Training and Fellowship under the direction of Martha Hampton.

There were many joint activities among the local churches. The most notable of these was the annual singing convention. This involved the entire mountain top. Normally, there was no train service on Sundays, but on the day the Palmer Church was the host, a special train ran to bring folks from Tracy City, Coalmont, and stops between. Each town would contribute to the singing. The men's quartet was the pride of Palmer-John Barker, Charlie Patrick, Henry Hampton and Frank Shockley.

### The History of the Palmer United Methodist Church (con't)

The Women's Society of Christian Service was organized by Mrs. R.D. Swan. Mrs. Josie Nunley, Mrs. Henry Hampton, Mrs. Albert Nunley, Mrs. Joe Geary, Mrs. Rachel Patrick and Mrs. Louie Geary were the first members. They contributed much to the upkeep and interior decorating of the church building. Church suppers and fundraising activities helped pay for this.

In later years, Mrs. R. B. Ivey, Mrs. Vaudie Barker, Mrs. H.C. Nichols, Mrs. James Brooks, Mrs. O.H. Clements and church members provided a runner for the floor, upholstery for the chancel rail, and drapery for the large front window. All members also helped in the purchase of organ chimes, hymn books, an organ and other needed properties.

The next project was painting the walls, siding on the front of the building, a new roof, furnace and upholstered pews. Those working on this project were Mickey and John Suter, Darlene Brooks, Betty Layne, Kathleen Brooks, Marie Nunley, Frances Conry, Joyce Conry, Nancy Oliver, Velma Jean Grooms, Louie Geary, Randall Nolan, Mrs. Coy Cleek, Tavie Sanders, Eddie Mae McCullough, Joy Grooms, Lillie Nichols, and Charlotte Cannon.

In the mid 80's shrubbery was added to the front of the building and hand rails added to the steps. Earl and Ann Creighton, together with Frances and Joyce Conry, began interior work in the small class room, completed by Doug Grooms and Jack Sissy. From that began work on the Hospitality Room, in which are held many nice functions. Our other class room was completed by Earl and Ann Creighton and Frances and Joyce Conry. A new central heating system was installed and vents added. The foundation was replaced.

Now to the outside, renovations that were absolutely necessary --a new roof, new front doors, three remaining sides of vinyl, and trimming. The bell tower had to be rebuilt, redesigned, and covered to stop leaks to the interior. The bell was taken down, repaired and reanchored. Every window had to be removed and replaced along with frames and sashes. The beautiful mural on the front window was designed and painted by Nancy Robert Lesser in loving memory of deceased members of her family.

We gratefully acknowledge all contributions from the community, other churches and people from near and far who helped with the restoration of this old church, and all who supported the yard sales for the fund raising for this work.

## Women of Grundy County: Nancy Jane Morton Dykes

by Anna G. Goforth

Nancy Jane Morton was born December 25, 1865, the child of The Rev. John J. Morton (b. Jan. 10, 1829; d. March 16, 1905) and Mary Adaline Smith Morton (b. Jan. 10, 1833; d. July 22, 1909). The family lived in Tarlton Valley, where John Morton held church services in their home. He later founded the First Methodist Church in Tarlton, where he, his wife, and his children are now buried. Their children:

James Carroll Morton	b. 10 June, 1853	d. 3 August, 1951
md. Charity Woodlee	b. 5 April, 1861	d. 18 August, 1951
William (Wid) Morton	b. 20 February, 1856	d. 25 May, 1944
md. Elmira Dykes	b. 29 September, 1860	d. 19 August, 1949
Monroe Morton	birth and death dates_unknown	
md. Susan Brown	b. 1858	d. 1910
George Washington Morton	b. 19 November, 1861	d. 2 Nov., 1946
md. Prudence Dykes	b. 15 November, 1869	d. 21 Oct., 1901
Nancy Jane Morton	b. 25 December, 1865	d. 20 April, 1957
md. John Wilkerson Dykes	b. 17 June, 1857	d. 19 November, 1919
Elias (E.J.) Morton	b. 14 April, 1870	d. 19 April, 1950
md. Rosa Bess	b. 12 July, 1878	d. 5 April, 1961
Mary E. Morton	b. 17 September, 1873	d. 30 July, 1937
md. George F. Clendenon	b. 10 August, 1869	d. 24 December, 1948

Children of John Wilkerson Dykes and Nancy Jane Morton Dykes:

Anna Belle Dykes, b. 11 March, 1885; d. Sept. 2, 1936; m. David Murphy Griswold. (h: 1) Marietta Ellene, 2) David Winfred, 3) Anna Vivian, 4) John Vernon, 5) Nancy Bernice.

Rosa Bee Dykes, b. July 2, 1890; d. Nov. 17, 1922; m. John B. Stephens
Daisy Gustava Dykes, b. July 2, 1895; d. June 25, 1951; Never married
Hallie May Dykes, b. April 4, 1898; d. Nov. 19, 1898; Died young
Louise Beth Dykes, b. June 12, 1901; d. June 11, 1978; m. Herbert Ross. Ch: 1)
Herbert Conway, 2) Norma Louise, 3) John Carroll, 4) Lew Allen, 5) Beverly Ann, 6)
Joseph Morton, 7) Eugene Westley, 8) Julia Elmyra, 9) James Rudolph.
Nancy Wilkerson Dykes, b. April 7, 1907; d. March 19, 1964; m. Albert Ross. Ch: 1)
Albert Larry, 2) Iris Christine, 3) John Jacob, 4) Rosemary, 5) Bettye Janice, 6) Jerry
Ivan, 7) Nancy Carole.

Women of GrundyCounty: Nancy Jane Morton Dykes (con't)

### **Memories of Grannie Dykes**

After the death of her husband, Nancy Jane Dykes (Grannie Dykes) was left to raise three children. She ran three boarding houses, one in Coalmont called "The Wigwam", one in Tracy City at the Stepp Place, and then later, the "Big Onion" in Coalmont. Boarders were travelling salesmen, miners, and railroaders. One man boarded at the Big Onion for over seven years.

I have many fond childhood memories of the Big Onion. The Big Onion was huge, with five bedrooms but no bathrooms. The home was heated by fireplaces in the living room, downstairs bedroom, dining room, and by a woodburning stove in the kitchen. The Home Comfort Stove had a warming oven and a reservoir to keep water hot. Grannie Dykes would take an "eye" off, put a big iron kettle down in the hole, and cook the most wonderful foods--dried beans with ham hocks, green beans with little new potatoes and maybe several pods of new okra or yellow squash cooked on top of the beans. Grannie always had a bowl of sliced onions on the table for her midday meal; I asked Willie Mae (Curtis) Mullican if that was the reason Grannie's boarding house was called The Big Onion--"Well, of course!"

I remember that big old house with the stairs just made for sliding down. There was a finial at the end that kept you from sliding off. Under the stairs, Grannie kept apples wrapped in paper to last her all winter. I suppose there were other foods stored there, but I only remember the apples and canning jars full of vegetables, berries, and other fruits. Grannie had a cow, chickens and pigs. She bought fresh beef from meat venders who came by wagon each Saturday. We'd have steak for breakfast the following Sunday morning. In November when it was hog killing time we had tenderloin with biscuits and milk gravy ...no knowledge then of cholesterol or fat being bad for you! It must not have made any difference back then; all the Mortons lived to be in their nineties! Grannie lived to be 93. Her children were not so fortunate; most died of cancer and only Aunt Weeze (Louise Dykes Ross) lived to be 70.

## Women of GrundyCounty: Nancy Jane Morton Dykes (con't)

I can remember some of the meals we had at Grannie's house--big bowls of mashed or fried potatoes, homemade pickles, pepper relish and chowchow, cornbread or biscuits, beans, fried round steak, ham or chicken fried or stewed with dumplings. Several of Grannie's granddaughters and great grand-daughters still make chicken and homemade dumplings. My sister Bernice Gross is noted for her chicken and dumplings, as is Ann Brazelton's daughter Sharon. Sharon always brings a big pot of chicken and dumplings to the Ross Reunion. Janice Ross Oliver says, "You'd better get in line early to get some!"

Other foods we have tried to duplicate are Grannie's apple cobbler, apple stack cake and fried apple pies. Bernice recently made a stack cake from dried apples Esther Hembree had given her, and after tasting it we all said, "That just about does it!", a saying handed down from Pib Campbell. But that's another story!

A big pantry held all the dishes Grannie used when the boarders gathered to eat. A lot of those dishes eventually ended up under the back steps! It was Grannie's daughter Daisy's job to carry the dishes from the dining room to the kitchen for washing. If Daisy carried too many at a time and they crashed, she would pick up the pieces, go out the back door, and shove the broken dishes up under the steps of the house. Apparently Grannie had so many dishes that she never noticed the loss!

Some of our best times at Grannie's house were with Bill Sparkman, a boarder who played the piano. He could play almost any song from memory, and we would gather around the piano and sing. When Bill didn't play, Aunt Weeze or Mama would, although my mother was trained to play the organ. Aunt Weeze played the piano beautifully.

Granddaughter Ann once said, "Grannie Dykes was my idol." Except for short periods, none of Grannie's children lived with her after their marriages, but all lived nearby. Our mothers were busy with babies and household chores, and Grannie just took us all under her wing. I cannot remember her ever scolding or fussing at me, although I am sure she did. She was a strong- willed woman, very outspoken, with powerful beliefs about what she thought was right. She thought you should go to church, pay your bills, save your money, obey your parents and elders without question, and work for what you got. In fact, Grannie Dykes was the idol of all her grandchildren.

# **Grundy County Tennessee Marriages** 1850-1874

Transcribed by John E. Sweeton

Continued from Vol. 1, No. 3

Date License Issued	Couple Married	Date & by whom Solemnized
Scpt. 19, 1857	Poindexter Goodman Tanesses Powel	September 20, 1857 John Burrows, J.P.
October 6, 1857	Alexander Kilgore Barber McCray	October 7, 1857 J.C. Lockhart, J.P.
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October 12, 1857	John Talbert Margaret Brannon	October 13, 1857 T.J. Wagoner, J.P.
October 15, 1857	Wm. B. Stone Sarah Jane Meeks	not given
November 14, 1857	Calvin Myers Louisa Northcut	November 15, 1857 A. Northeut, J.P.
November 14, 1857	Abraham Wilson Amy Pearson	not given
November 16, 1857	William Cray Elizabeth Stewart	November 17, 1857 Wm. G. Guinn, J.P.
November 20, 1857	P.H. Hughes T.A. Northcut	November 20, 1857 H.N. Campbell, J.P.
November 21, 1857	Alexander Starling Margaret Turner	not given
December 2, 1857	John F. Duncan Mary M. Farrar	December 10, 1857 Wm. G. Guinn
December 10, 1857	Andrew Coggins Nancy Sitz	December 10, 1857 Richard Bradford, J.P.
Page 30		
January 12, 1858	N.B. Hobbs Jane Nunley	January 13, 1858 H.A. Campbell, J.P.
January 23, 1858	James Mecks Margaret Tucker	January 24, 1858 John Burrows, J.P.

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January 30, 1858	James A. Coggins Mary Brown	January 31, 1858 J.C. Lockhart, J.P.
February 9, 1858	Jackson A. Dykes Mary Barker	February 11, 1858 D.C. Ritchey, J.P.
February 23, 1858	Jacob Dykes Sauson J. Gilly	February 23, 1858 Jonathan Tipton. J.P.
February 23, 1858	G.B. Moon Louisa Miller	February 23, 1858 Thomas B. Spring, M.G.
February 14, 1858	Isiah Marton Elizabeth Smith	February 14, 1848 Enoch Woodlee, J.P.
February 6, 1858	George Sitz Peggy Ann Layne or Margaret Layne	February 8, 1858 Richard Bradford, J.P.
Page 31 April 5, 1858	B.H. Adams Elizabeth Crossland	April 19, 1858 Greek Braly, J.P.
April 20, 1858	Adrian Auglin Elizabeth Nunley	not given
March 4, 1858	P.B. Long Sophia Griswold	March 11, 1858 John Lockhart, J.P.
March 6, 1858	Hiram Lane Perleathia Ann Stygall	March 14, 1858 Richard Bradford, J.P.
March 9, 1858	James Mecks Almira Dickson	March 9, 1858 Jas. Sartin, J.P.
April 27, 1858	James Kilgore Bertha Meeks	"Return not satisfied"
May 15, 1858	James Oden Janette Caldwell	April 27, 1858 G.W. Oliver, J.P.
May 19, 1858	James Winton Amy Warren	May 23, 1958 John Burrows, J.P.
Page 32 May 20, 1858	James Oye Nancy Jinkins	May 20, 1858 G.W. Cherry, J.P.
May 29, 1858	Wm. H.P. Smith Mauray E. Coggins	May 30, 1858 J.F. McCutchen, M.G.

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### Queries

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Editor, G.C.H.S., Box 1422, Tracy City, TN 37387

26/96 CONRY. Daniel b. 1827 in Rosecommon, Ireland, d. 1894 in Pelham Valley, TN.; m. Betty Frances Keeling, b. 1837 in Wartrace, Bedford Co., TN, d. 1875 in Pelham Valley, Grundy Co. TN. Both are buried in Warren (Red Hill) Cemetery in Pelham. Seeking any info, esp. exact dates of births and deaths. I am happy to share what information I have on the Conry and related families. Diana R. Conry, 1965 Peach Street, St. Peters, MO 63376-6735.

27/96 BROOKS. Calvin C. Seeking parents: mother was Jane? b. May 1819, Franklin Co., TN., d. Jan. 9, 1890, buried in Tracy City Cemetery. They had ch. 1) James, 2) Clenintine, (m. John Warren); 3) Polk; 4) David; 5) Calvin C. (m. Mollie Warren Nov. 25, 1883. They were parents of Bailey, Sutton and Ralph Brooks. Any info appreciated.

Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313.

28/96 SIMS. Issac, b. 1804, Warren Co., TN.; m. Sally?, b. 1809, Warren Co., TN. Had ch. 1) Mary A., 2) Elenza G., 3) James W., 4) Rebecca B., 5) Virginia H, 6) Palestine C., 7) Victoria E. Need any info.

Mary Tate Brooks, HCR 77, Box 81, Coalmont, TN 37313.

29/96 WALKER. Wm. C., b. 1800; m. Polly Lamb. Was a college teacher in Seq. Co., TN. He was the son of Jeremiah Walker, Sr. and Sarah Campbell Walker. Any info appreciated.

Helen F. Sanders, HCR 76, Box 26, Coalmont, TN 37313.

30/96 GUINN. William G. and George D. Both were Methodist ministers in the Grundy Co. area in the mid-1800's. Who were their children? Their siblings? Who has Bible records? Will share info on this family.

Sharon Guynn Wiley, 553 Misty Meadow Dr., Winchester, VA 22603.

31/96 PERRY. Martha b.1848, m. John Yarworth. Any info appreciated. Helen F. Sanders, HCR 76, Box 26, Coalmont, TN 37313.

### Queries

32/96 BARNES. William Carrol. Any info on Dr. William Carrol Barnes, who lived in Beersheba Springs and Tracy City. m. Annie Laurie Nearn. Also the Nearn family of Tracy City: Ora Bonner, Lois Nearn, Lela Williams, Otto Nearn. Mrs. Ann Scott, P.O. Box 100, Monteagle, TN 37356.

33/96 McCARVER. Seeking info on children/descendents of James R. and Martha King McCarver. Matalda Jane, b. Oct. 14, 1874, Grundy County, TN; Mary Malenda, b. Oct. 13, 1884, Grundy County, TN. Kay Fults Barrett, HCR 77, Altamont, TN 37301.

34/96 BARRETT. Seeking info on children of Thomas Jefferson Barrett and Louisa Myers. Thomas Jefferson Barrett, Jr., b. Feb.1893, Grundy County, m. Tonie or Tomie Hamby of Pelham, Grundy County, TN; Gustavas Adolphus and Augustas Garfield who may have moved to Florida. Where are they buried? Lafayette Barrett, b. March, 1898, Grundy County, TN. He may have moved to Alabama. Kay Fults Barrett, HCR 77, Box 76, Altamont, TN 37301.

35/96 JONES. John m. Anna Yarworth. Anna b. 1876, Grundy County, TN. Divorced. Would like into about John. Ch. were: Wm. B., b. 1895, m. Mary Dyer; Emma, b. 1898, Coalmont, TN, m. Matthew Sanders; Bessie, b.1894, m. Miles Campbell; Lovella, b. 1891.

Helen F. Sanders, HCR 76, Box 26, Coalmont, TN 37313.

36/96 FULTS, HASSLER, HASKINS. Fults, Ruth, b.1864--1885, d. 9/20/1920. (Washwoman) Had ch.: Myrtle Eleanore b. 1906, d.Oct. 1956; Marie or Margaret b.1902; Tressie b.1909-1910. Ruth's sisters were Bertha, b.1874 or 1880, and Viola b.1897. Ruth's mother was Mary A. Hassler or Haskins? b. 1850, widow, had 5 ch. Who was Ruth's father? 1 am especially interested in any info about a Cherokee Indian who lived with Ruth between 1900 and 1910 and fathered Myrtle and possibly Tessie. He was referred to as "Ole Indian" and was looking for the burial grounds of his ancestors near Tracy City. What was his name?

Vanessa G. Selewski, 8165 Browning Cir., Ackworth, GA 30101.

37/96 HARGIS. William b. July 16, 1760, Fairfax Co., VA, d. Mar. 11, 1836, Sparta, White Co., TN. Patriarch of the Hargis family. Any info on family appreciated. Steven M. Hargis, 2237 General Motors Rd., Milford, MI 48380-3643. e-mail SHargis @ix.netcom.com



# Grundy County Historical Society

Box 1422 Tracy City, Tennessee 37387

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP NEW \_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_

Please print or type the name as desired on membership card.

M	Maiden Name		
Street	County		
City	State	ZIP	
Home Phone ( )	Bus. Phone ( )		
Membership year is from June 1,	to June 1,		
Individual - \$10.00 per year	Family - \$15.00 per y	ear	
Additional Contribution \$			
Please make checks payal	ole to Grundy County Hi	istorical Society and	
mail to the address above. Your	canceled check is your	receipt.	
Membership cards may be picke	d up at the monthly mee	eting, at the Tracy	
City Library, or mailed to you.	•		
Material in the Root Cella	r, Archives of the Grund	ly County Historical	
Society, is available to the general	al public for research bu	t may not be	
removed from the Library. Only	members may check ou	it these materials	
from the librarian.	<b>,</b>		
In consideration of being	accepted as a member, e	and for the duration	
of membership in the Grundy Co	ounty Historical Society.	I pledge that:	
1. I will assist in locating and	d preserving public and	private records and	
in making such records available	e to members of this soc	iety and to the	
general public.		ioly una lo me	
2. I will carefully refrain from	m mutilating, marking o	r otherwise defacing	
or destroying any part of such pi			
3. I will support the program			
Ti and Fredami	s and porteres of mis so	ciciy.	
Date Signature			
(for Society use) Date received _	An	nount _	
Card Number	Freasurer		

Grundy County Historical Society Box 1422 Tracy City, TN 37387 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED