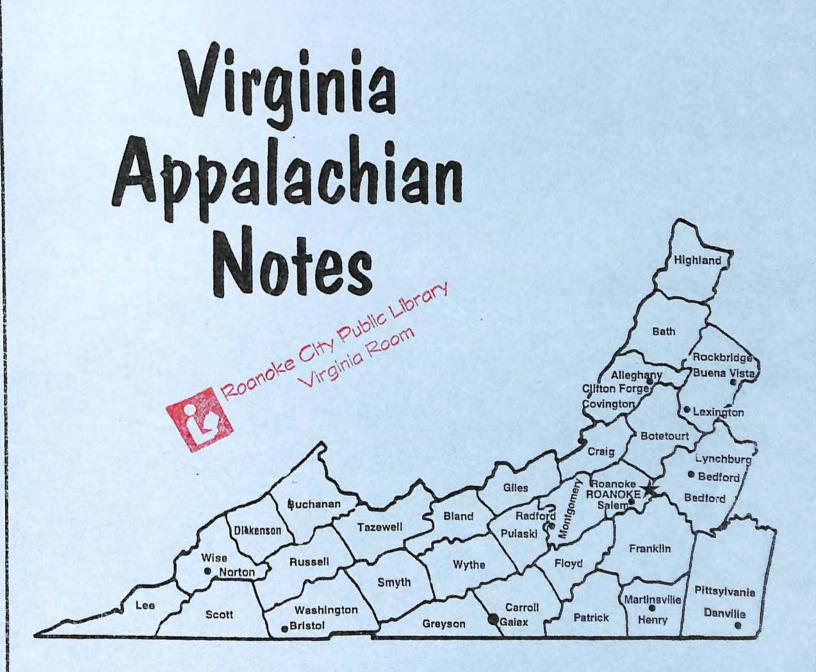
# **SUMMER 2003**



Southwestern Virginia Genealogical Society
Roanoke, Virginia

#### SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC Calendar Year 2003

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The SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. is a tax-exempt corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Income Tax Code. Section 170 of the Tax Code provides for the treatment of contributions to the SVGS as a deductible contribution by the donor. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to the SVGS may be deductible for Federal estate gift tax purposes, if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 23106, and 2522 of the Tax Code.

MEMBERSHIP: Each SVGS member will be mailed a copy of the "Society's" quarterly, the VIRGINIA APPALACHIAN NOTES (VAN). The VAN is usually published quarterly. The annual index will be included in the Fall issue of the VAN for that year. Society memberships are on a calendar year basis and those memberships, which are not renewed by January 30, will be deemed as inactive and removed from the VAN mailing list. Single or family memberships are \$20.00; Organization and Library memberships are \$15.00. Members with mailing addresses outside the United States shall add \$10.00 to the above fees and all monies are payable in U. S. currency. All payments should be made by check or money order, payable to: Southwestern Virginia Genealogical Society, Inc. or to SVGS, Inc. and mailed to: SVGS, ATT: Membership, Post Office Box 12485, Roanoke, VA 24026-2485.

BACK ISSUES of the VAN: 1995 and earlier, are available at a reimbursement cost of \$4.00 each, as long as the supply lasts. More recent issues are \$6.00 each. These prices include postage. Mailed to Virginia addresses please add 4.5% sales tax. A bulk mailing of old VANs to one address may be eligible for a discount. All payments should be made by check or money order, payable to SVGS and mailed to: SVGS, ATT: Jim Nelson, Post Office Box 12485, Roanoke, VA 24026-2485.

**BOOKS for REVIEW**: Books submitted to the Society will be reviewed and the review printed in a subsequent issue of the VAN. When submitting a book, please include the price of the book, copies of the available advertising material, and information as to where orders for additional copies may be placed. Following their review, all books will be placed in the Virginia Room of the Roanoke City Library, Roanoke, Virginia.

#### **VIRGINIA APPLACHIAN NOTES**

#### Published Quarterly

By

#### SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

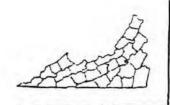
Vol. 27 - No. 3 - Summer 2003 (July, August, September)

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**Reminder...** The September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a "Social". This will give members a chance to visit and "network". Light refreshments will be served. Final plans for the October 18<sup>th</sup> Family History Celebration will be discussed along with plans and goals for the Society next year. Emily Honts will present our November program.

Long time member, Ora Belle McColman is presently at The Berkshire Health Care Center, 705 Clearview Dr. Unit 3, Vinton VA 24179 for rehabilitation therapy.



# Southwestern Virginia Genealogical Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 12485 Roanoke, Virginia 24026

Dear Fellow Members,

OOPS...We goofed!! Somehow the first page (#84) of the article "On the Trail of the Dickersons of Virginia and Indiana" was turned over so the blank back side was what printed. Since every VAN is missing this page it was decided that it would be best to simply reprint the entire article in this issue. The Society apologies to the author, member Marilynn Dickerson, and to the membership for this unfortunate mistake.

Speaking of the VAN. We have little left to print. Those of us who put the VAN together are always on the look out for material to publish. In the past we have relied on items submitted by members along with material from the Charles Burton Collection, which the Society has the right to publish. Once this material is used there will be nothing left to publish in the VAN and hence we will cease publication. Perhaps some of you have transcribed some Virginia records for your personal use or maybe you would like to tell the readers about your research on your family. PLEASE, PLEASE consider sending us material for the VAN. Help us keep publishing.

A very special event will take place October 18<sup>th</sup> here in Roanoke. Your Society along with several other groups is sponsoring "Family History Celebration Day" at the Roanoke Public Library. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend. Please see page 92 for more information.

Finally, I would like to mention two people who have left the area. Long time member, Don Martindale and his wife have moved to Arkansas to be closer to family. Don served the Society in many functions, most notable computerizing the membership records, designing the surname interest list and as publications chairperson. Elaine Powers, Virginia Room Librarian, accepted a position at the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, Virginia. She will be in charge of medical library at this new facility. We will miss them both.

Happy Hunting,

Karen Kappesser, President

514 Scalybark Drive

Blue Ridge VA 24064-1328 Telephone: (540) 977-0067

E-mail: gkkapp@infionline.net

# FAMILY HISTORY CELEBRATION

it's free

y'all come!

Saturday, October 18, 2003 9:30 a.m. - 4:30.m. Roanoke Main City Library On South Jefferson Street

# in the Auditorium

9:30 - 10:45	Welcome- Director Zaryczny,
10:45 - 1:00	"Military Records", Rebecca Warlow, NARA Archive Specialist Break
11:00 - 11:45	"Old Names of New Towns-Origins of Southwest Virginia Place Names" with George Kegley
11:45 - 1:00	lunch (on your own)
1:00 - 2:00	"Court Records", Rebecca Warlow, NARA Archive Specialist
2:00 - 2:30	Break
2:30 - 3:30	"Recording the History of Our Modern War Veterans", with Carol Tuckwiller

## Mezzanine/Second floor

Book sales/signings throughout the day

Southwest Virginia Authors and Willow Bend Books

More see next page

# Choices Choices Choices

3:45 pm - Brody RoomVideo

Family History Library - Winfred Hart

4:00 pm - Computor Room -

Genealogy Programs/Research on the WEB, Karen Kapppesser

TOUR the Virginia Room,

Jim Nelson, Brenda Finley, Susan Hays

Society members will be available to answer questions

Beginning research? \* Joining our society? \* Hereditary and Lineage Societies sample helpful forms for record keeping -----pedigree, family group etc.

#### **AUTHORS AND THEIR BOOKS**

Be sure to visit vendors during breaks and lunch time

Arleen Ollie----"African American History in Roanoke City, a compilation of records"

Charles A. Bodie, --- "Manuscript Guide for Roanoke, Craig, Floyd & Montgomery Counties"

A. Eugene Crotty--- "The Visits of Lewis & Clark to Fincastle, Virginia"

Judy & Bob Hetherington--"Bland Counties Marriages, 1861-1899" and "The Journal of Dr. John Howe Hoge"

Margaret Myers/Patricia Johnson ----"Roselawn Burials, Henry County, Martinsville, VA."

Myra-Delia D. Kagey .-- "When the past is prologue: A History of Roanoke County"

Mary B. Kegley ----"Free in Chains" (Her first novel), "I Like Molly Tynes Whether She Rode or Not", "Free People of Colour, Free Negroes, Indians, Portuguese, and Freed Slaves" and earlier books on Tax, Military, Court Orders and Church Records.

Mary C. Williams --- "Descendants of Johann Diel Bohne 1711-1764"

L.Blount will be taking orders for "Dillon, Dillion and Allied Families" by Mae Dillon Moore

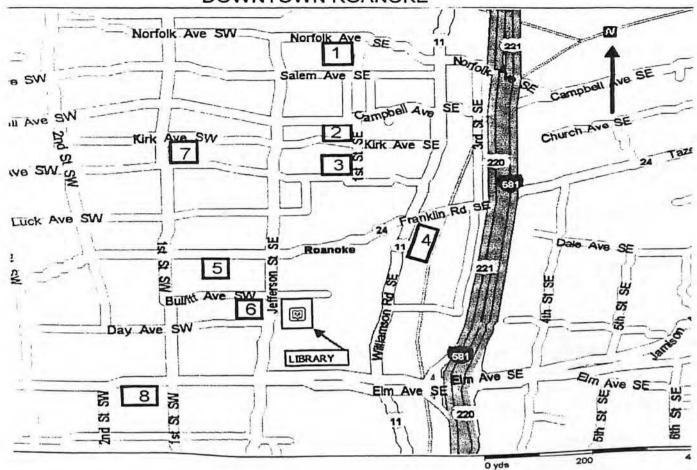
#### PARKING on SATURDAY

See Map on following page!

Presented by

Southwestern Virginia Genealogical Society, Inc., Roanoke Public Library Foundation, the Virginia Room/Roanoke City Public Libraries and in association with the History Museum and Historical Society of Western Virginia.

#### DOWNTOWN ROANOKE



### PARKING AVAILABLE

#### PARKING GARAGES

- 1. 10 NORFOLK AVE. (FREE—Saturdays and Sundays)
- 2. 15 E. CAMPBELL AVE (FREE—Saturdays and Sundays)
- 3. 25 CHURCH AVE (FREE—Saturdays and Sundays)
- 4. WILLIAMS RD AT FRANKLIN RD (FREE—Saturdays and Sundays)
- 7. 121 CHURCH AVE (FREE—Saturdays and Sundays)

#### PARKING LOTS

- 5. ALLRIGHT ON FRANKLIN BETWEEN JEFFERSON & 1<sup>ST</sup> (MUST PAY)
- 6. ALLRIGHT ON JEFFERSON ACROSS FROM LIBRARY (MUST PAY)
- 8. GRAVEL LOT ON ELM AT 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET (FREE—Courtesy of St. Johns Episcopal Ch.)

STREET PARKING IS FREE ON SATURDAY. HOWEVER, BULLET WILL BE RESERVED FOR PRESENTERS AND VENDORS.

#### ON THE TRAIL OF THE DICKERSONS OF VIRGINIA AND INDIANA

On July 16,1814 four young Dickerson men of Montgomery County, Virginia, and one of West Virginia, journeyed to Christiansburg to be mustered into the army. War had been declared in June of 1812, and the United States was at war with Great Britain for the second time.

The five joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment under the command of Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Wooding. They served as infantry privates in Captain James Hoge's Company of Virginia Militia, and were stationed at a camp in the rear of Gordon Battery at Norfolk, Virginia.

Griffith, John and Leonard returned to their families, but Reed did not live to see his young wife, Susan, and their small son, Wiggenton, again. Nothing is known about Thomas.

Griffith had a young growing family. He and Rebecca Thompson had married in 1801. Their children were: James T., born in 1802, Elijah in 1804, Mary in 1806 and Griffith Jr. in 1811. Reed, named for the deceased cousin, was born in 1816. Mathew, John and Sarah were born in the next seven years.<sup>1</sup>

Griffith and Rebeccca were Dorman Dickerson Jr's great great grandparents. Their son, Reed, was his great grandfather. According to the census, Reed and his brothers and sisters were born in Montgomery County, Virginia, in the area now called Floyd. The family settled in Hendricks County, Indiana sometime after 1823. Their first purchase of land was made on November 7, 1825 in Center Township.<sup>2</sup>

Many of their neighbors came from the same area of Virginia. Sarah Dodd, wife of John, thought to be a sister of Griffith and a cousin, Andrew, were living close by. Other neighbors were from families that had lived close to the Dickersons in the Danville, Virginia area, when the Dickerson family lived there before 1770. These people settled the area of Hendricks County that soon had a young town called Danville, Indiana.

Griffith Sr., and his son, Elijah, died in November 1845. The settlement of Griffith's estate named his wife and children and the children of Elijah, who must have passed away first. The son, James, who had married Permelia Reed in September of 1825, inherited land from his father, though he had stayed in Virginia.

In 1850 Rebecca was living in Vermilion County, Illinois with her daughter, Mary, called Polly, and her son-in-law, Ruel Dodson, a farmer and Baptist minister. Rebecca applied for bounty land, which she became entitled to because of her husband's service in the War of 1812. The law was passed in September 1850, and she received 80 acres, but apparently was not notified of the final registration of the land until August 1855.

Bounty Land Warrant 42720 for 80 acres was located on the W2 NW4 of Section 10 in T21N of R12 in Illinois, and registered in the name of Ruel Dodson at the Danville land office on the 28th of January 1853.

This registration was not without considerable communication between Milton Lesley, Justice of the Peace at Danville, Illinois, and the War Department. There had been two applications for bounty land in the name of Griffith Dickerson. One had been made from Gentry County, Missouri, and it seems that the War Department could only find one Griffith that had served in the War of 1812.

However, a Griffith and Hezekiah Dickerson were in Captain David Watson's Company of Virginia Militia from March to August 1813. They were from Louisa County. Another Griffith served in Hardaway's 35th Infantry, and received bounty land January 21, 1819. He must have

served in the Regular Army for the duration of the war, and received bounty land under the 1812 acts.

It took three trips to the National Archives to uncover the information that has answered so many questions. The first trip enabled me to find all the Dickerson men who had served in the same regiment. At that time I was able to hold their pay stubs in my hand. I learned that they had been paid \$8 a month, and that Reed had given power of attorney to his commanding officer before he died.

At that time I was interested in people living in Floyd County since a neighbor looked so much like my husband's aunts, and we found that she had a Dickerson grandmother who had lived in Floyd County. I would later find that I had held the pay stubs of the great grandfather we were searching for.

Later information came to me from a relative of our neighbor, Russell Dickerson, of Boone's Mill, Va. A letter had been received in 1923 with information, though scanty, on the young men from Floyd County whose widows, had received bounty land.

Six pages if unindexed Bounty Land Records were brought home from the National Archives by Diane Good. They concerned the applications for bounty land of Griffith Dickerson of Gentry County, Missouri. He was declared a Fraud because of the dissimilarity of his signatures. He signed his name at one time, then signed with his mark, later because of poor eyesight and fraility.

My later visit requesting the same information on the same serviceman unearthed 19 pages if revealing information, not seen by Diane. Rebecca was described as an old lady of 73, of honest simplicity; that she lived 12-15 miles up country from Danvillle, and that she remembered her husband had two relatives of the same name, but did not know if they were in the war. A statement from Jesse Jones, the minister from West Fork Primitive Baptist Church, who married Griffith and Rebecca, was included. He remembered the marriage in 1801, but he had kept no records. This information completed the picture of these people who lived so long ago.

Federal Census Indiana 1850

<sup>2</sup>Crawdordsville Land Entries Index p 19 Crawfordsville, Indiana

Marilynn Dickerson 740 N. Wagner Road Ann Arbor, Mi 48103

# Black Genealogy and Black History Go Hand In Hand

#### By ELAINE POWERS

Black genealogy presents some interesting challenges when compared to Euro-American ancestor hunting. Slavery and segregation and the 1870 stonewall are incidents of black history that often create stumbling blocks for genealogists. The lack of records and documentation are handicaps, but once you learn how to use what is available it is amazing what can be found. You simply cannot expect to have much success if you are African American and don't study black history while searching for your ancestors.

Serious searchers need to interview, interview, interview all living family members and relatives. Some information you receive through the oral tradition will never be proved, but you should collect what you can and document it because if you don't it will be lost forever. Learn to do research through guidebooks, membership in a genealogy society and published histories on African Americans and on your county, state of birth and residence. "Black Roots" (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001) by Tony Burroughs is but one example of a good handbook. Look for others at the library. Tony Burroughs is a noted black genealogist and teacher at Chicago State University who has lectured and written widely on genealogy. His website is www.tony burroughs.com. Tapes of his presentations with titles like "Jumping the Broom: African American Marriage Records," "Forty Acres and A Mule: Hidden Land Records," "Freedman's Bureau Research and Researching Pullman Porters" can be ordered from www.audiotapes.com. The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Inc. (www.rootsweb.com/%7Emdaahgs) headquartered in Washington, D.C., has two chapters in Virginia. The AAHGS-Hampton Roads Chapter in Newport News is very active. Contact for this group: SellnVa@aol.com.

Unfortunately, there is no Roanoke chapter. Someone want to start one?

#### Grandmother was Austin from Austinville

Roanoke native Samuel Hayes III, who first became interested in his family's history in 1977 after Alex Haley published "Roots," began his search by asking his grandmothers and other relatives about the past. According to Sam, both grandmothers have remarkable memories, and he used their stories to piece together the past. Next, he got copies of existing marriage and death records and viewed census records. Social Security records revealed information about his grandfathers. Sam works at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, the same building his father and his grandfather worked in as railroad employees. While Sam did his research primarily in the Virginia Room, with a few trips to the state library in Richmond and to the National Archives, his cousin visited the courthouse in Cumberland County where one branch of the family originated.

Sam said that besides the census and vital records he used at local and state facilities, he found the Mormon Website most helpful, especially being able to search the Social Security Index as well as the Family History Center's version of the 1880 census, which has more complete indexing than the National Archives' Soundex.

His research tip is to look for all possible spellings of a name. He found the surname Holmes spelled variously: Holmes, Homes, etc. He also found out that one grandmother, whose maiden name was Austin, was from Austinville in Wythe County where Stephen F. Austin of Texas fame was born.

"And I don't know the connection between why they had the same last name but I have to believe there's some kind of slave connection there," Sam said.

#### Slaves, Free blacks listed differently

If you are looking for African American ancestors in Virginia or another slave state you will want to find out if they were slaves. It makes a difference whether they can be found in the census records before 1870.

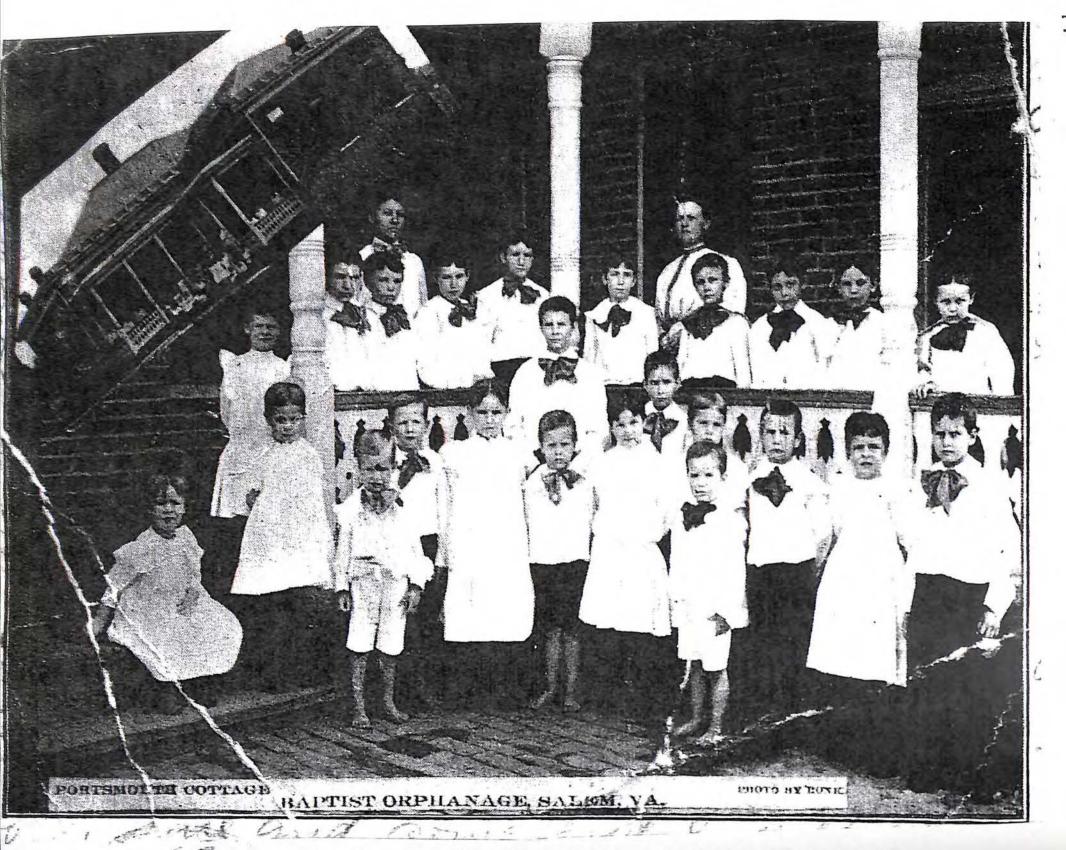
Free blacks are found in the free schedules but slaves were not included in these schedules. However, separate slave schedules do exist for the years 1850 and 1860. Slaves are found under the name of the slave owner by age group and sex, not under the individual slave's name.

After working your way through family members to local resources, then to state and federal records, you are ready to compare your "organized" original research with printed works. There are four good sources for published African American family histories and genealogies: "Index to the Journal of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Quarterly: Issues of 1980-1990" compiled by Barbara Walker; "Generations Past: A Select List of Sources for Afro-American Genealogical Research" edited by Sandra Lawson; "African American Family Histories and Related Works in the Library of Congress" (update for Generations Past and found on the Web at http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/big\_guid/aframer); and family histories in the "Negro History Bulletin" (1942-1978); and "Family History Library Bibliography of African American Sources" compiled by Marie Taylor.

#### Other local resources

Don't forget to check out the resources in the Virginia Room, which include census records. Elaina Loritts extracted the black population in two-thirds of the counties in the 1850 Virginia Census and several published volumes of registers of free blacks in Virginia. Also be aware there is a Family History Center at 6311 Wayburn Drive, Salem. The Gainsboro branch of Roanoke Public Libraries has the largest collection of black history books in Roanoke, named after Virginia Y. Lee who over a period of 40-plus years as librarian at the branch put together the materials almost single-handedly. The Harrison Museum of African American Culture has additional artifacts and resources highlighting African American heritage. The library at the Booker T. Washington National Monument in Hardy can also be a rich resource.

Elaine Powers is librarian in the Roanoke City Library's Virginia room. This column first appeared in the February 2003 edition of Prime Living magazine in Roanoke, www.primeliving.net, and is reprinted with permission.



The postmark on the card reads "Salem May 22 9am". No date shown, probably

Geneva Belle Caldwell	Radford, Virginia
Cross Millison Cornaban	Pulaski, Virginia
Ruth Margaret Charlton	Lynchburg, Virginia
Anna Eliza Clark	Chatham Hill Virginia
Anna Eliza Glark	Radford Virginia
Helen Florence Clement	Marion Virginia
Dorothy Bernice Coulthard	E Vissinia
Jessie Lee Cox	Colon Virginia
Rose Aleen Cox	Galax, Virginia
Thelma Dow Cox	Amnerst, Virginia
Vers May Dalton	Kadiord, Virginia
Belle DeHart	Woolwine, Virginia
Tommy Rakin	
Cassie Edith Gravely	
Evelyn Marie Hall	Radford, Virginia
Evelyn Marie Hall	Radford, Virginia
Many Ann Hadrick	Radford, Virginia
Nell Sharita Howery	Christiansburg, Virginia
Lucy Rowlette Jennings	Bluefield, Virginia
Myrtle Gordon Jones	Roanoke, Virginia
Vetra Corabelle Iones	
Tanka Pasma Vallar	Ruena Vista Virginia
Sarah Saunders Lovelace	Radford, Virginia
Dorothy Meade Martin	Radford, Virginia
Gladys Mae McNiel	Radford, Virginia
Sarah Saunders Lovelace	Marion, Virginia
Mary Evelyn Mottesheard	Radford, Virginia
Viola Mae Oakes	Chatham, Virginia
Viola Mae Oakes	Rocky Mount, Virginia
Danatha Man Parker	Venter Virginia
Margaret Elizabeth Patteson	Pennington Gap, Virginia
Jewel Constance Payne	North East, Maryland
Mary Virginia Porterfield	Bland, Virginia
Dorothea Eilleen Quessenberry	Floyd, Virginia
Bili Harriett Shelton	Stella, Virginia
Dorothy Mildred Shumate	Roanoke, Virginia
Alma Edna Smith	Bish Casel Vissing
Margaret Elizabeth Smith	Vissinia City Virginia
Ollie Kate Stanfield Bettie Rose Stovall	Phofold West Virginia
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Jessie Lee ThomasElla Margaret Tomlinson	Radford Virginia
Doris Ann Waddell	Ceres Virginia
Doris Ann Waddell	Apple Grove, Virginia
Elizabeth Atwood Wash	Middlebrook, Virginia
Margaret Cary Wayland	Pauls Cross Roads, Virginia
Doris Ann Waddell. Elizabeth Atwood Wash. Margaret Cary Wayland. Susan Duling Wilkerson. Merle Williams.	Galax, Virginia
Merle Williams	Constale Minding
Louella Hawkins Woodward	Asheville, North Carolina
Louella Hawkins Woodward Margaret Lenoir Worley Kathlyn Eloise Young	Roanoke, Virginia
Kathlyn Eloise Toung	Control of the contro
	OF ARTE DECREE

# CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN EDUCATION

- 1.1-1 Alexander	Newbern, Virginia
Evelyn Randolph Alexander	Radford, Virginia
Geneva Belle Galdwell	Yauco, Puerto Rico
Delia Esther Paz	Draper, Virginia
Margaret Gilmer Shelor	Greendale, Virginia
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Joyce Saunders B Glara Harwood G	rowgey	North	Tazewell,	Virginia

# State Teachers College

Radford, Virginia

Twenty-sixth Commencement Graduation Program



June Fifth
Ten-thirty o'clock
COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

## PROGRAMME

Academic Procession . . FACULTY AND CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

College Motto

Invocation

Rose, Softly Blooming (Spöhr) . . . . . . . . Corabel Jones

Address

E. LEE TRINKLE

President, State Board of Education

Music . . . . . . . . . . . . . . College Ensemble

Blue Are Her Eyes—Joseph N. Clokey The Last Song—James H. Rogers

Presentation of Candidates for Graduation
REGISTRAR WHITT AND DEAN MOFFETT

Awarding of Diplomas

Conferring of Degrees

PRESIDENT DAVID WILBUR PETERS

Alma Mater

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Jean Paige Bryant	Blairs, Virginia
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Ruth Mildred Custer	Catawba Virginia
Ina Kathleen Davis	Rose Hill. Virginia
Anita Lois Dean	Ewing, Virginia
Stella Jean Deeds	Catawba, Virginia
	Recoveration and Commercial Conference of the Commercial Conference of the Conference of Conference

Opal Frances Dixon	Galax Virginia
Rebal Dorton	Pound Virginia
Retsy Jane Draper	Pembroke Virginia
Estie Fay Edwards	Hillsville Virginia
Betsy Jane Draper	Roda Virginia
Lena Elizabeth Gardner	Hilleville Virginia
Madeline Estelle Cilbert	Saltaille Virginia
Willia Lucilla Cilly	Wire Vissinia
Lena Elizabeth Gardner.  Madeline Estelle Gilbert.  Willie Lucille Gilly.  Ruth Elizabeth Grogan.	Critz Virginia
Georgia Gertrude Harteack	Cate City Virginia
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Hester Helen Huff	Allisonia Virginia
Tile Mastin Jonnings	Hilleville Wiesis
The Paint Jennings	Fairniam, Virginia
vena Edita Jennings	Die Cte Con Virginia
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David Hurley Branch	Radford, Virginia
Alice Bryant	Buffalo Ridge, Virginia
Ethel Julina Burnett	Floyd, Virginia

#### "Along Those Lines" Alternate Resources for Confederate Soldiers

George G. Morgan Ancestry.com 11/27/2002

One of the puzzles I have faced for years is that there are no military service records at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for my great-grandfather who served in the Confederate Army. Yes, I filled out the NATF Form 86 to obtain military service records and received a response indicating that no records were found. In desperation, I even filled out an NATF Form 85 thinking that by some miracle a Confederate soldier's records might have been misfiled among the military pension records. Silly me! There would certainly be no Federal pension records for a Confederate soldier. However, hope springs eternal and desperate times call for desperate measures.

So, if I couldn't locate the military service records through NARA, where could I locate alternate records to help prove my great-grandfather really served in the Confederate Army? In "Along Those Lines . . ." this week, let's explore some alternate record sources to help document your Confederate Army ancestor whose records are MIA.

The Facts of the Case

My great-grandfather, Green Berry Holder, is a person I've discussed in this column before. He was probably my ancestor with the most remarkable personality: a soldier, first postmaster at two sites, merchant, farmer, entrepreneur, businessman, real estate speculator, representative in the Georgia state legislature, bank director, insurance salesman, husband, and father of twelve.

I know he was born near Lawrenceville, Gwinnett County, Georgia, on 22 December 1845, and he died in Rome, Floyd County, Georgia, on 18 June 1914. He was the second of two sons born to Jesse and Hepsevah/Hepsebah Langley Holder. His brother, John Thomas Holder, was born 30 August 1840. The family unit appears on the 1850 and 1860 Federal censuses.

Family legend has it that John enlisted in the Confederate Army and that Green Berry enlisted at the same time. It also was said that Green Berry was present at Appomattox when General Robert E. Lee surrendered on 9 April 1865. As I said, there are no military service records at NARA for Green Berry, so how can I prove he was or was not in the Confederate Army?

Looking For Evidence

Since family stories often contain at least a grain of truth, I decided to check other potential sources of military records. My first stop was the Georgia Department of Archives and History in Atlanta to determine what they might have on file for Green Berry Holder. Again, I came up blank and began to wonder if the family tradition was a merely a family myth. However, I knew I couldn't stop looking.

Since I couldn't find information on Green Berry, I decided to sidestep to his brother and see what I could discover. Sometimes this parallel research pays big dividends, and this time was no exception.

First, I located two books that included information about his service.

The first, Janet B. Hewitt's The Roster of Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865, indicated that John served in Confederate Army in GA 45th Infantry, Co. D, and that he enlisted 4 March 1862. The second, Lillian Henderson's Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia, 1861-1865, indicates John enlisted as Private on 4 March 1862. He appears on muster roll records of Company D, 45th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Northern Virginia, C.S.A., Monroe County, Georgia - "McCowan's Guards." This was great stuff!

Next, I headed back to contact NARA and the Georgia Department of Archives and History for John's military records. NARA again tame up blank, but the Georgia Archives came through. In 1902, John Thomas Holder applied for a Confederate soldier's pension. On 25 September 1902, Green Berry Holder appeared in Floyd County, GA, as a witness for his brother's application for a Confederate soldier's pension. He attested to knowing his brother for fifty years, and stated that John had joined the Confederate army in the Spring of 1862 in Gwinnett County, GA, enlisting in Co. D, 9th Ga. Batt. Artillery, and that he served for three years until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865. Green Berry further states that both he and his brother were members of the same company and that they were both present at the surrender. Bonanza! One piece of information located.

In order to restore their voting rights for their participation in the election of 1867, men living in the former Confederate states were required to swear an oath of allegiance to the United States. An index to the Georgia Return of Qualified Voters, prepared by John David Brandenburg and Rita Binkley Worthy includes both John and Green Berry in Floyd County, with Green Berry's oath recorded on 13 August 1867.

Military histories can be excellent resources for information, including regimental, and compiled histories. You must always consider possible bias by the author in painting a good picture. It therefore is good to look at other resources for other perspectives. In Confederate Military History, A Library of Confederate States History, in Twelve Volumes, Written by Distinguished Men of the South, and Edited by Gen. Clement A. Evans of Georgia . . . , Vol. VI, there appears an extensive biographical sketch which includes the following:

"Green B. Holder, of Rome, served as a Confederate soldier with the Ninth Georgia battalion of artillery in east Tennessee and Virginia. He was born at Lawrenceville, Ga., and left home at the age of fifteen years to fight for the South, enlisting in Capt. T. M. Peeples' company, D, of the Ninth Artillery battalion. He was mustered into the Confederate service near Bristol, Tenn., in March, 1862, and was on active duty until the surrender at Appomattox. After participating in numerous engagements in east Tennessee and southwest Virginia, among them the battle of Wytheville, Va., he took part in the operations against the Federal column under General Hunter that was threatening Lynchburg in the spring of 1864, and after the defeat of the enemy, campaigned down the Shenandoah Valley as far as Winchester. Then, under orders from Richmond, he and his comrades turned over their guns at Wayne's Gap, and went to Richmond, where they were on duty with the heavy artillery. During the siege of Richmond and Petersburg, July, 1864, to April, 1865, they were on duty at Fort Gilmer and Fort Hoke, and when the Confederate lines were finally broken, April 2, 1865, they spiked their siege guns, blew up their magazines, and marched out with Lee's army. On the evening before the surrender at Appomattox Court House, he was wounded in the wrist. Reaching home on April 29, 1865, Mr. Holder remained there for a few months, and in

December following made his home in Floyd County."

From this information, I now have both a confirmation of details of his service, and more information to compare with John Thomas Holder's pension application. I also have records of specific places on which to conduct more extensive searches.

Finally, I discovered a copy of Green Berry Holder's original application to the United Daughters of the Confederacy for a Confederate Cross of Honor, dated 28 May 1900. The document was among materials in the vertical files of the Rome-Floyd County Public Library in Rome, Georgia. The application was endorsed by the officers of the United Confederate Veterans, Camp No. 368. A booklet titled "Crosses & Medals Awarded by the Georgia Division, UDC," Volume II, page 210, also in the vertical files at that library, includes the following listing:

Holder, Green Berry Co. D, 9th Bttn, GA Artillery Southern Cross of Honor Bestowed 1912 in Rome by Chapter 28

I have since found information in other histories of the period, particularly local histories, newspaper stories, and in Green Berry Holder's obituary stating that he was, in fact, a Confederate veteran. At last, I have a sense that the family tradition is truth and not fiction!

Not Always There, But. . .

You may not have the success that I had, but it certainly is worth looking. More has been published concerning the U.S. Civil War than any other armed conflict in history. Battles have been recounted from many perspectives and, beginning in the late 1860s, regimental histories, biographies, and compilations have been generated in abundance. You never know where your next lead will be discovered. And while there may be some factual discrepancies from source to source, the essential collection of evidence indicates that Green Berry Holder was, in fact, a Confederate veteran. Keep searching for your own veteran's information. It's out there somewhere.

Happy hunting! George

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Brandenburg, John David and Rita Binkley Worthy. Index to Georgia's 1867-1867 Returns of Qualified Voters and Registration Oath Books (White). Atlanta, GA: privately published. 1995. (Located at the Largo Public Library, Largo, FL.)

Evans, Clement A., Gen., ed. Confederate Military History, A Library of Confederate States History, in Twelve Volumes, Written by Distinguished Men of the South, and Edited by Gen. Clement A. Evans of Georgia. Atlanta, Confederate Publishing Company. 1899.

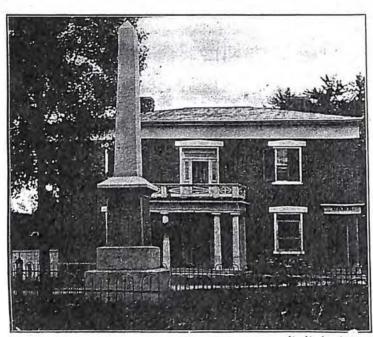
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Hewitt, Janet B. The Roster of Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865. Vol. VII. Wilmington, NC. Broadfoot Publishing Co. 1996.

George G. Morgan would like to hear from you at atl@ahaseminars.com but, due to the volume of e-mail received, he is unable to answer every e-mail message received. Please note that he cannot assist you with your individual research. Visit George's website at http://ahaseminars.com/atl for information about speaking engagements.

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D. D. Lester

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

Confederate Monument, Christiansburg, VA

The following is from "Old Time News & Newspapers in Marion County, MO

### Newspapers & Genealogy Research

Every genealogist and family researcher has their own favorite sources for information. An often overlooked window into the past is use of newspapers in genealogical research. Some newspapers date back to the 1830's and are found in state archives, libraries, and historical societies. For example, the State Historical Society of Missouri has an excellent newspaper collection. A Catalogue of Missouri Newspapers on Microfilm is available for \$10.

The Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial Building Forest Park, St. Louis, MO 63112-1099 has obituary clippings dating back more than 100 years-mostly from eastern Missouri newspapers and an almost complete collection of the Missouri Republican, which began in 1808 and the Missouri Gazette, which was published until 1919.

Of all the sources of research material, nothing can compare with old newspapers. If you want to get a good feel for the lives and times of the families you're investigating, consider reading some old newspapers. Further information on using newspapers for genealogical information can be found by clicking this link: http://www.rootsweb.com/~momarion/newstopic.htm

#### Preserving Newspaper Articles & Clippings

Dissolve a Milk of Magnesia tablet in a quarter cup of club soda overnight. Pour into a pan large enough to hold the flattened clipping. Soak the clipping for one hour, then pat dry. Do not move the clipping until completely dry. Estimated life: 200 years

### **Steps for Preserving Documents**

The basic premise for preservation of any clipping or photo is simple. Air and light do damage. Keep the documents enclosed, preferably in sealed archival quality page protectors, then keep in a box (archival quality storage box).

DO NOT LAMINATE!!! The glue will eventually start to eat away at the document.

Newspapers (but not photos!) must be deacidified, before you enclose them in plastic. (Note - newspaper ink needs one fell year to dry, so do not seal clippings from the past 365 days)

- Enclose in an archival quality page protector (if using regular page protectors, purchase those with greatest thickness of plastic.)
- Label on the outside of the page protector.
- · Store collection in a box, away from the light

#### Louisiana Land Title

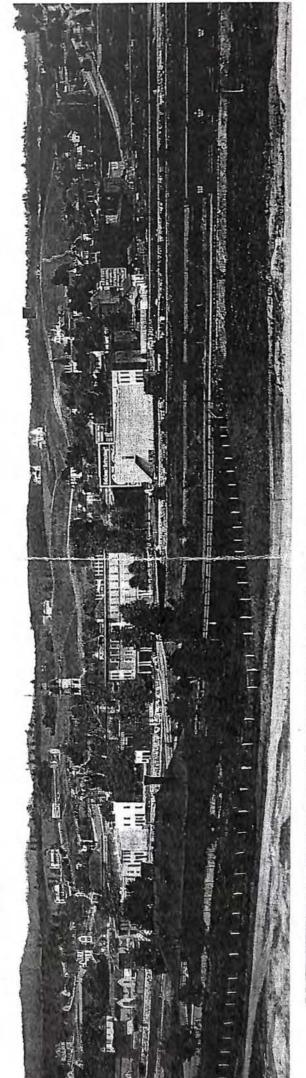
A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA loan for a client. He was told the loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to a parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the Lawyer three months to track down. After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply (actual letter): "Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner inwhich you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin." Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows (actual letter):

"Your letter regarding title in Case No. 189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have the title extended further than the 194 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased, by the U.S., from France in 1803, the year of origin identified in our application. For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France, which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain. The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Isabella. The good queen, Isabella, being pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus' expedition. Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back, to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it AND the FHA. I hope that you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our cotton picking loan?"

The loan was approved.

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Grammar School Building, Pulaski VA 1910



Pulaski from Locust Hill, Pulaski, VA 1909

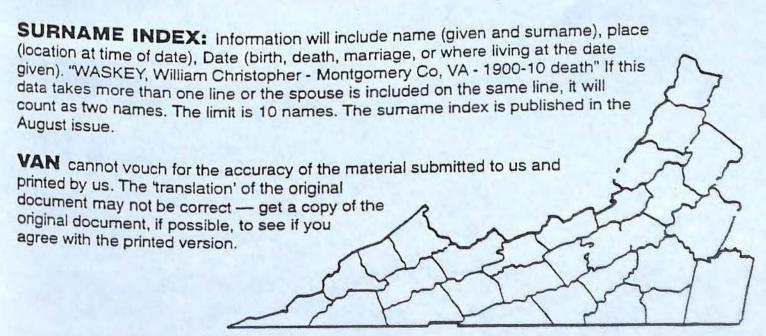


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