

Volume 18, Issue 2

June 28, 2001

# Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Quarterly Publication – June 2001



The Muskogee County  
Genealogical Society  
Internet E-Mail Address  
is  
[mucoges@yahoo.com](mailto:mucoges@yahoo.com)

## Muskogee High School Yearbook Roundup

Please help the Muskogee County Genealogical Society obtain yearbooks to donate to the Muskogee Public Library Grant Foreman Room.

The library would like to obtain older yearbooks for Muskogee Central High School and Muskogee Manual Training High School.

contact the Muskogee  
Public Library  
(918) 682-6657, x257

## Federation of Genealogical Societies

Geneva Taylor who is our Society's delegate to the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) notes the following FGS quarterly benefits. These benefits are for all members of the Federation of Genealogical Society members, which includes all members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society because the Society is a member of the FGS.

To take advantage of the benefit, one must use the code FGS01 in order to receive the discount from Appleton's Books. From now until December 31, 2001 Appleton's is offering a 20% discount on regularly priced items in their catalog. The offer applies to purchases made by phone, mail or the Internet. Check their web site at <http://www.shopping.com/> to view all of their products.

The FGS helps advocate a program to finance the microfilming of selected records at the National Archives. This of course makes valuable collections accessible to researchers at any National Archives Region or Family History Center. If each member would give a dollar extra with their membership dues each year to be sent on to the Malcolm Stern-NARA Gift Fund, it would help get these collections available for all of we researchers.

In the most recent FGS Delegate digest, there is another quarterly benefit valid through July 31, 2001 from Heri-

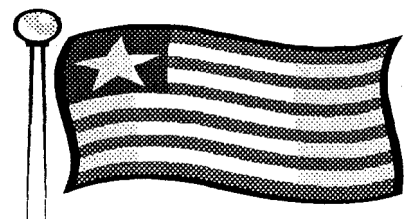
tage Quest and it is their library of digitized census records for the special price of any single CD for \$14.95. They are regularly \$19.95. If one purchases three then a fourth is free. The web site is <http://www.heritagequest.com/> to see the entire listing.

Remember to use code FGS01 on all orders to receive your discounts.

To help with surname research, Heritage Quest will prepare a custom CD-Rom that includes every head of household with a single name in the 1870 census, along with all surname variations based on Soundex code. These CDs are searchable by name, age, birthplace and locations. One CD is \$14.95 and if three are ordered then a fourth is free, just like the census CD's. Be sure and use the FGS01 code when ordering in order to receive the discount.

Geneva Taylor

Have a safe and happy July 4th!



## Purpose



The Muskogee County Genealogical Society was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars, and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

### 2001 OFFICERS:

Mary Downing, President  
 Delores Nickerson, Vice President  
 Lee Ann Langston, Secretary  
 Jean Vann, Treasurer  
 Aldena Powell, Board Member  
 Paul Betow, MCGS Editor  
 Cleo Shamblin, Past President

## Meetings and Membership

*"I don't think much  
 of a man who is not  
 wiser today than he  
 was yesterday."*

*- Abraham Lincoln*

MCGS meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00pm at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The Board of Directors meetings are held prior to each monthly meeting beginning at 5:45pm at the library. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

Membership in the MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purposes of the Society.

The membership subscription is \$20.00 for both individuals and families.

All members receive the yearly quarterlies. Members joining after January membership month will receive all previous quarterlies for that year. To defray the cost of postage, members living within Muskogee County are encouraged to pickup their Quarterly at the March, June, September and December meetings.

## Publication and Query Information



The Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly is published 4 times a year: March, June, September and December. Back issues of the Quarterlies are available at \$3.25 each, plus \$1.50 for postage.

The Society also publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory. A complete list of these books with prices is available from the Society.

The MCGS will assist with search questions from non-members. Please send your requests with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society  
 C/O The Muskogee Public Library  
 801 West Okmulgee Street  
 Muskogee, OK 74401

Queries may also be sent via email to:

mucogeso@yahoo.com

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### *Thanks to our Contributors*

In this issue of the MCGS Quarterly, we are very thankful for the material submitted by the following contributors:

Wally Waits

Susie Stout

Diane Jordon Jones

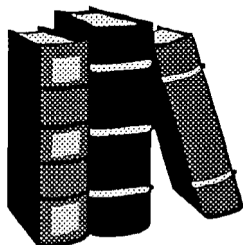
Linda Brooks

Virginia Perry

Jeff & Stacy Blundell

Mary Downing

## Muskogee County Genealogical Society Publications for Sale



### GENEALOGICAL DATA extracted from MUSKOGEE WEEKLY PHOENIX

INDIAN TERRITORY – 1888-1902, 198 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00

### GENEALOGICAL DATA extracted from BOYNTON INDEX newspaper

Boynton, Muskogee County, OK – April 8, 1921 – November 26, 1926, 100 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00

### CHEROKEE INDIAN ROLLS: Doubtful & Rejected

An alphabetical listing of Cherokee names classified as “Doubtful” and “Rejected” by the Dawes Commission. 263 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

### INDEX OF OBITUARIES AND DEATHS EXTRACTED FROM THE MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX, 1954-1992.

Volume I – Surnames A-D (11,073 names, 201 pages) \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Volume II – Surnames E-K (11,086 names, 203 pages) \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Volume III – Surnames L-R (11,648 names, 210 pages) \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Volume IV – Surnames S-Z (9,908 names – 180 pages) \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

### INDEX TO PROBATES AND GUARDIANSHIPS, MUSKOGEE COUNTY, OK

1907 – 1930. 106 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$18.00

### INDEX TO DIVORCE CASES, MUSKOGEE COUNTY, OK

1914 – 1930. 103 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$16.00

### U.S. DEPUTY MARSHALS, INDIAN & OKLAHOMA TERRITORIES

1893 – 1896. 66 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00

### CEMETERIES OF MUSKOGEE COUNTY, OK, Volume 1

\$11.50

Includes Agency, Bemo, Boynton, Brewer, Briartown, Brushy Mountain, Butler Creek, Council Hill, Doyle, Ft. Gibson/Anderson Bottom, Frozen Rock, Graves, Grayson, Plainview, Rock Grove, Starnes, Starr, Taylor, Walker, 2 Unidentified. 155 pages including index.

### CEMETERIES OF MUSKOGEE COUNTY, OK, Volume II

\$15.00

Includes Harnage, Harris, Harris Family, Haskell, Jennings, Jobe Family, McClure, Middleton Chapel, Oktaha Community, Park, South Bethel, Summitt, 1 Unidentified. 291 pages including index.

### MARRIAGE RECORDS, MUSKOGEE INDIAN TERRITORY

FIRST U.S. COURT – NORTHERN DISTRICT, Books A, B, and B-1

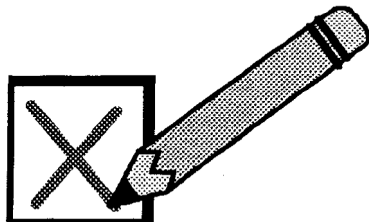
July 1890 – March 1893, 108 pages including index \_\_\_\_\_ \$11.00

### INDEX of DEATHS EXTRACTED FROM MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX

January 16, 1930 – May 4, 1935, 49 pages \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00

*“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. As by the one, health is preserved, strengthened and invigorated; by the other, virtue (which is the health of the mind) is kept alive, cherished and confirmed.”*

— Addison



Order from Muskogee County Genealogical Society  
801 West Okmulgee  
Muskogee, OK 74401

Please add \$3.00, each book, for postage and handling. All books are softbound.

## Kerr Carr Genealogy

### The Family of Lochie Carr Potter

Submitted by Susie Stout, MCGS Member

Lochie Carr Potter is the Grandmother of MCGS member Susie Stout

At the time I, Lawrence Carr, decided to do this project, I had only intended to include the descendants of our Grandparents, Lafayette Logan Kerr and Balzora Jane (Lawley) Kerr but since it has taken so long for this research, I have decided to include our direct Kerr line back to John Kerr Senior who we are certain was born in Scotland about 1710. We have been unable to find the record of when he came to the American Colonies but there is a sort of viva voce history that he came from Scotland by way of Northern Ireland about 1735.

Balzora Jane Lawley's father, John Lawley was born in Randolph County North Carolina, 20th day January 1797. His first marriage was to Kiziah Love in St. Clair County Alabama in 1819. He had 11 children by this marriage. Kiziah died about 1833-34 and he then married Mahalia Jane Seals in St. Clair County Alabama in 1834. He had 13 children by this latter marriage of which our grandmother, Balzora Jane, was the 13th child. (And John Lawley's 24th child).

I sent family group sheets to all my living cousins that I could locate but for some reason, some never bothered to complete them and send them back. I do wish to thank all who did send them back and to all others who contributed their family data to this project. A very special thanks to my cousins, Ruby (White) Richey, Lona Potter Harper and Myrtle (Carr) Wilson. Also to Jackie (Potter) Currie, daughter of Elmer Potter, to Nettie Carr, daughter of Wesley Carr, to Joye Alene (Carr) Johnson, daughter of James Logan Carr, to Karen Dasher, daughter of Curtis Carr and to Sue (Mann) Williams, daughter of Annie May Carr, all of whom not only sent their own family data but also helped me get the data for their brothers and sisters families.

I am especially indebted to my Aunt Lochie Potter of Porum, OK, Muskogee County, for her memory and recollection of early family events. Also to Bashel Lee Kerr and his son, Charles L. Kerr of Moody, St. Clair County Alabama for preserving the Bible which had belonged to our great grandparents, John and Sintha Kerr, in which was recorded all the vital statistics of their family.

Our viva voce, or oral family history has it that our great grandparents, John Kerr and Sintha Kerr were first cousins. That John was son of Hugh Kerr and that Sintha was daughter of Hugh Kerr's older brother, whose name was also John Kerr.

This Kerr family was from York District South Carolina (now York County). There was an older brother named Henry E. Kerr. There were also several daughters in this family but we were never able to find out any of their names. Brother John left York County first, about 1802 and went to Tennessee. Henry E. followed in 1817 and went to Giles County Tennessee. Hugh was

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

the last to leave York County. In late 1831 he sold his 233 acre tract of land in York County and moved with his family to St. Clair County Alabama.

In late September or early October, 1832, our great grandfather, John Kerr, rode by horseback from St. Clair County to Lauderdale County Alabama and married his cousin, Sintha Kerr. "After their marriage they returned to St. Clair County by horseback where he built her a cabin in the Pine Woods". (Quoting the words of my Auth Lochie Carr Potter).

Sintha was dedicated to keeping the family's vital statistics in the family Bible although in the early days of her marriage, she could neither read nor write. Eventually she did learn to read and write but was never able to write very well. After her death in 1884 the Bible was passed on to her

oldest son, Hugh Jackson Kerr. Then after Hugh Jackson Kerr's death it went to his daughter Annie (Kerr) King. After Annie King's death the Bible was passed on to Bashel Lee Kerr, youngest son of John Henry Kerr. Bashel Lee Kerr died in January 1975 and at that time it was given to Bashel's son, Charles L. Kerr of Moody, St. Clair County Alabama. Charles is a retired

Attorney at Law and retired District Judge of St. Clair County. He is now the unofficial Kerr family Historian. He sent xerox copies of all the data pages in this Bible and it was from these pages that much of this Kerr family Genealogy was taken.

Even though John and Sintha and their family lived in the South during the Civil War, they were anti-slavery and were loyal to the United States. In fact most of the residents of the little village of Moody where they lived were also pro Union. Their oldest son, Hugh Jackson Kerr, went North to Nashville Tennessee and joined the United States Calvery. He was discharged at Fort Leavenworth Kansas in late 1865.

Sintha's oldest brother was named Haris (or Harris) Kerr so we assume that he was probably named after his mother's maiden name, Harris. We have no proof that her maiden name was indeed Harris.

After 1832, Sintha's father and all her brothers changed the spelling of their name from Kerr to Carr but it was not until about 1886 in Arkansas that our grandfather, Lafayette Logan Kerr, changed the spelling of his name to Carr. I figure that my Uncle Hugh Samuel Logan Carr was the last child born before the spelling was changed to Carr.

Lochie Carr married William Henry Potter and lived near Porum, Oklahoma in Muskogee County until the time of her death April 4, 1979. She was 99 years old when she died and had 7 children, several step children and 40 grandchildren.

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## Muskogee Daily Phoenix Extracts

Submitted by Diane Jordan Jones, MCGS Member

**Muskogee Daily Phoenix, Wednesday, July 30, 1902**  
**SCHOOL TEACHERS APPOINTED**

Appointments Made Yesterday Include All of the Schools.

The following teachers were yesterday appointed for the Creek Indian neighborhood school, both white and colored. Miss Alice Robertson, supervisor, and Superintendent Gregoy. Indian Schools Tuskegee, Susana Grimes; Limestone, Leila Wright; Thlophthlokko, Addie Oarr; Alabama, N. 1, Hattie Brenson; Hitchita, M.J. Berryhill; Thleuarthley, No. 2, Alice U. Barnett; Tiger Creek, Ella Monahwah; Broken Arrow, Lyman J. Tiger; Artussie, Johnson R. King; Okguskee, No. 2, Nancy Scott; Arbeka, V.E. Hill; Red Fork, Corbella Radcliffe; Checotah, Nevermore Trainor; Okmulgee, Ethel Hubbard; Mounds, Pearl M. Baker; Twin Mounds, Cinnie B. Wetrick; Stone Bluff, Cora Ethel Fair; Gentry's, Pearl Pearson; Tuckabatchee, J. H. Blackwell; Coal Creek, Cooper Dawson; Eufaula, Alice H. Palmer; Weogufkey, L.A. Benton; Wetumka, Addie Orain; Salt Creek, H. H. Boulton; Salt Spring, Hattie G. Lay; Thlewarthley, Elmer Finley. The following colored teacher were also appointed: J.H. Parks, Salt Creek; Lucy Baily, Black Jack; Pearl Armstead, Spring Hill; S.B. Gilliam, Willow Springs; Mrs. B.E. Marchant, Sodom; W. M. Gay, Cane Creek; W.C. Anderson, Old Agency; Viola Matthews, Blue Creek; Rumelia R. Kinchey, Coal Creek; Geo. Davidson, Cherryville; Ww.G.McGowan, Wildcat; Mariah Pickens, Brush Hill; Linnie V. ? Little River; Mattie D. Kay, Ash Creek; Laura E. James, Sugar Creek; Richard Wood, Mt. Zion; P. R. Brown, Spring Valley; D.J.?, Marshalltown; Julia E. Brown, New Paradise; Gertrude M. Durden, Coon Creek.

(As with many of these newspapers, there were names that had black lines running across them. Made them impossible to distinguish. Have checked and double checked spelling. It is accurate).

**Muskogee Times Democrat, Wednesday, 2 December 1908**  
**MODERN WOODMEN ELECTS OFFICERS**

Modern Woodmen lodge No. 7114 held its annual election of officers last night. There was a large attendance of Woodmen from out of town as well as of local members. The election resulted as follows: A.N. Bailey, V.C. ; J.H.Talbutt, W.A.; Geo. Merriman, Clerk; Geo.I. Ball, Banker; J.T.Foster, Escort; Wm. Jenkins, Watchman; Ed Long, Sentry; Walter A. Downing, auditor. Members of the board of directors to serve for the length of time designated were elected as follows: Wm.D.Brewer, three years; J.T. Campbell, two years; W. Root, one year. The board of physicians as elected, comprises Doctors, Klass, Nichols, Woodcock, Rogers, Callahan and Blakemore.

**Muskogee Times Democrat, Wednesday 2 December 1908**  
**ANNUAL ELECTION ROYAL NEIGHBORS**

The annual election of the Royal Neighbors of America was held last night. The following officers were elected; Nellie Smith, oracle; Mrs. Keel, vice-oracle; Florenece Shepard, chancellor; Bertha Torry, recorder; Mrs. Ziegler, receiver; Mary Shaw, marshal; Addie Gibson, inner sentinel; Clara Sheffield, outside sentinel; Mrs. Hilliard, manager; Anna Jennings, camp deputy; Drs. Orvis, Nichols, Klass and Woodcock, Physicians.

## Grant Foreman Room – New Titles – 2nd Quarter, 2001

### Family Genealogies

- The Hanscom Family*, Issue # 3. Donated by New England Historic Genealogical Society.  
Hupfer, Lois Canaday. The Canaday/McCormick Families and Their Ancestors.  
Shinn, Josiah Hazen. The History of the Shinn Family.  
Crozier, William Armstrong. Keys To Southern Pedigrees, v. 8.  
Family History: Colonial Families of Maryland, 1600s-1900s. (CD).  
Family History: Virginia Genealogies #1, pre-1600 to 1900s. (CD).  
Family History: Virginia Genealogies #4, 1600s-1800s, Disk 1 & 2.  
Genealogy Records: Virginia Historical Index. (CD)  
Genealogical Records: Early Tennessee Settlers 1700s-1900s (CD)

### Foreign Resources

- Birbeck, J.D. History of Bourne. Donated by Diane Jordan Jones.  
*The Manchester Genealogist*, v, 35. Donated by New England Historic Genealogical Society.  
Mexico, Births and Christenings, A-B, Disc 1, 1 CD.  
Mexico, Births and Christenings, C-L, Disc 2, 1 CD.  
Mexico, Births and Christenings, M-Z, Disc 3, 1 CD.  
Mexico, Marriages, A-Z, Disc 4, 2 CD.  
Adam, Frank. The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands.

### United States: General

- National Society, Daughters of the American Colonists, vols. 33 & 34. Donated by the Muskogee Chapter, National Society, Daughters of the American Colonists.  
African-Americans in the 1870 U.S. Federal Census, 1 CD.  
Freedman's Bank Records, 1 CD.  
Full-Text Books on the World Wide Web, 1 CD.  
Galveston, TX Passenger Lists, 1 CD.  
Miscellaneous Ports Passenger Lists, 1 CD.  
History-United Methodist Church, Conference Journal Memoirs Index, 1 CD.  
Family History Library Catalog, 1 CD.  
Databases for Study of Afro-Louisiana History and Genealogy, 1699-1860, 1 CD.  
Hutton, Mary Louise Marshall. Seventeenth Century Colonial Ancestors.  
Linville, Leslie. My Life On The Southern Plains.  
1800 United States Census Index. (CD).

### Alabama

- 1870 Alabama Census Index (CD).

### Arizona

- 1870 Arizona Census Index (CD).



## Grant Foreman Room – New Titles – 2nd Quarter, 2001

### Arkansas

Benton County Heritage Committee. History of Benton County, Arkansas.

Goodner, Norman. A History of Scott County, Arkansas.

Chowning, Robert W. History of St. Francis County, Arkansas 1954.

Lee County Sesquicentennial Committee. History of Lee County, Arkansas.

Black, J. Dickson. History of Benton County, 1836-1936.

Marriage Index: Arkansas, 1850-1900 (CD).

### California

1870 California Census Index (CD).

### Colorado

1870 Colorado Census Index (CD).

### Connecticut

Clark, Harriet L. Supplement of the History of East Cornwall.

### Florida

1870 Florida Census Index (CD).

### Georgia

O'Kelley, Nicole M. Georgia Revolutionary Bounty Land Records. 1783-1785.

Weeks, Eve B. Georgia Land Owner's Memorials. 1758-1776.

Warren, Mary B. Georgia Governor and Council Journals. 1753-1760.

Warren, Mary B. Georgia Governor and Council Journal. 1761-1767.

### Idaho

1870 Idaho Census Index (CD).

### Illinois

Marriage Index: Illinois, 1851-1900.

### Indiana

Indiana Vital Records, Death Index, 1 CD.

Indiana Vital Records, Marriage Index, 2 CD's.

Indians Vital Records, Birth Index, 1 CD.

### Kansas

1870 Kansas Census Index (CD).

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## Grant Foreman Room – New Titles – 2nd Quarter, 2001

### Kentucky

Coutue, Jackie. Madison County, Kentucky Court Order Book B, 1791-1801.  
Coutue, Jackie. Madison County, Kentucky Court Order Book A, 1787-1791.  
Coutue, Jackie. Madison County, Kentucky Court Order Book B, 1791-1801.  
1870 Kentucky Census Index (CD).

### Maryland

*Western Maryland Genealogy*, v. 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11-12, 13.

### Minnesota

1870 Minnesota Census Index . (CD).

### Mississippi

*Northeast Mississippi Historical & Genealogical Society Quarterly*, Sep. 2000. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
*Northeast Mississippi Historical & Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1998-1999. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
*Northeast Mississippi Historical & Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1999-2000. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
*Itawamba Settlers*, Summer & Winter 1998. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
*Itawamba Settlers*, Fall 1999. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
1870 Mississippi Census Index (CD).

### Missouri

Marriage Index: Missouri, 1851-1900 (CD).

### Montana

1870 Montana Census Index (CD).

### Nebraska

1870 Nebraska Census Index (CD).

### Nevada

1870 Nevada Census Index (CD).

### New Mexico

1870 New Mexico Census Index (CD).

### New York

1870 New York Census Index (CD).

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## Grant Foreman Room – New Titles – 2nd Quarter, 2001

### North Carolina

Ingmire, Frances T. Person County North Carolina Marriage Records, 1792-1869.  
Colonial Records of North Carolina: North Carolina Higher-Court Records, 1697-1701. V. 3  
Colonial Records of North Carolina: North Carolina Higher-Court Minutes, 1709-1723. Series 2, vol. 5.  
 Neal, Lois Smathers. Abstracts of Vital Records From Raleigh, North Carolina, Newspapers, 4 volumes.  
*NCGS News*, Spring, Fall & Winter 1998. Donated by Lynn Campbell.

### North Dakota

1870 North Dakota Census Index (CD).

### Ohio

Ohio Marriage Index, 1789-1850, 1 CD.  
 Ohio Vital Records #1, 1790-1870, 1 CD.  
 Ohio Vital Records #2, 1750-1880, 1 CD.

### Oklahoma

Keith, Harold. Oklahoma Kickoff.  
 Sand Springs Cultural and Historical Museum Trust. Sand Springs, Oklahoma: A community History, v. 1.  
Second Annual Report of the State Examiner and Inspector of Oklahoma, For The Year Beginning November 1, 1908 and Ending October 31, 1909.  
 Pottawatomie County History Book Committee. Pottawatomie County Oklahoma History.  
 Dewey County Historical Society. Spanning the River: Dewey County Family Histories. 2 vols.  
 Seamans, Rev. Eldon L. Seventy-Five Years a Colony of Heaven.  
 Douglas, Clarence Brown. History of Tulsa, Oklahoma.  
 Canadian County History Book Association, Inc. History of Canadian County, Oklahoma.  
*Haskell News*, 1946-1978, 10 rolls MF.  
*Boynton Index*, 1932-1942, 4 rolls MF.  
History of Bryan County, Oklahoma.  
 Sunderland, Riley. History of the Field Artillery School. 4 vols.  
 Cosby, Hugh E. Military Biographies Of Oklahoma County  
1901 Muskogee City Directory and Gazetteer and Business Directory of the Indian Territory.  
 Sanders, Jack. General History of Coweta.  
 Fisher, Franklin D. The Story Of My Life.  
Hope Holway's History of All Souls Unitarian Church of Tulsa, 1921-1971.  
*Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, Historical & Genealogical Society Quarterly*, Jan. 1997, Jul. 1998, Jan. 1999. Donated by Lynn Campbell.  
*LeFlore County Heritage*, Oct. 1998. Donated by Lynn Campbell.

### Oregon

1870 Oregon Census Index (CD).

## Grant Foreman Room – New Titles – 2nd Quarter, 2001

### South Carolina

Genealogical Records: Early South Carolina Settlers 1600s-1800 (CD)

### South Dakota

1870 South Dakota Census Index (CD).

### Tennessee

*Greene County Pioneer*, May 1997. Donated by Lynn Campbell.

### Texas

Palo Pinto County Historical Commission. History of Palo Pinto County Texas.

1870 Texas Census Index (CD)

Marriage Index: Texas, 1850-1900 (CD).

### Utah

1870 Utah Census Index (2 CD).

### Virginia

Addington, Robert M. History of Scott County, Virginia.

Hotten, John Camden. The Original Lists of Persons of Quality.

### Washington

1870 Washington Census Index (2CD)

### West Virginia

*Harrison County Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Oct. 1994. Donated by Nadine Taylor.

*Gilmer County Historical Society Newsletter*, Nov. 1992, Jan. & Oct. 1993. Donated by Nadine Taylor.

### Wisconsin

1870 Wisconsin Census Index (CD).

### Wyoming

1870 Wyoming Census Index (CD).

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"At most living memory endures for a hundred years or so. Thereafter,  
even the barest outline of the past is forgotten, unless it is recorded in writing..."  
John Morris in Londinium: London in the Roman Empire, p. 205.

Compiled by Wally Waits, Assistant Reference Librarian, Muskogee Public Library

## Oklahoma Slave Narrative: The Interview of John Harrison

Submitted by Linda Brooks, MCGS Member

I [John Harrison] was born in 1857 on a plantation owned by **Moses Perryman**. This plantation was located near the present inland town of Clarkesville, Oklahoma or about eight miles east of the present town of Haskell, Oklahoma and is known as the Choski bottoms. **Perryman** was a Creek Indian and later his brother **Joe Perryman** became a Creek chief of the Creek Nation. I now live near the present east city limits of Haskell, Oklahoma on the Haskell-Porter Oklahoma highway. Mother, **Katie Harrison** was born in Georgia and was moved to Indian Territory as a slave in 1837, was sold on the block at a place unknown to me, shortly after her arrival from the old country (meaning Georgia). **Moses Perryman** bought mother. She is buried at Yahola, Oklahoma. Father, **Harry Harrison** was born in Georgia and came same time as mother in 1837. **Perryman** bought him and later sold him to a slave buyer just before the Civil War, took him away, and no one ever knew what become of him. I don't know much about things before the war, only what mother told me. She said she did not have to worry about food, clothing, medicines, etc., because her master cared well for all of them. There was game of all kinds, squirrel, rabbits, wild turkeys, o'possum, coon, quails, deer, etc. The cabins on the plantation were constructed of logs-stood on end and some were laid horizontally with clap board roofs, puncheon floors, shuttle windows and large stone fire places. The slaves were made to card the wool and cotton and would spin it on the spinning wheel into thread and then reel it and run it through the loom and make their own cloth. The thread was usually dyed before it was woven. The dye was made with sumac, and copperas which would make a very good tan. Indigo was purchased at trading posts and all shades of blue could be made. Sycamore and Red Oak bark would make a pink or red. They made their own shoes on the plantation. A cow hide would be freed from hair by ashes and would be tanned with bark and from these cow hides shoes were made as well as pieces of harness. As there was no shoe nails, shoe pegs were whittled out and the soles were put on with these pegs. The rest of the shoes were sewed together with waxed thread attached to hog bristles and drawn through the hole that was made by the pegging awl. The provisions for the plantation was hauled from Ft. Gibson, Indian Territory, Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and Coffeyville, Kansas, by freight wagons owned by **Moses Perryman**, who owned the plantation. The cooking of their food was done in the fire place with pots, skillets, dutch ovens, etc. Other instruments about the fire place were fire dog, hooks, and tongs. **Master Perryman** had a cook stove in his home at this time, but like the slaves cooked their food in the fire place a long time before the day of his cook stove. There were all kinds of wild fruit and berries. Blackberries, dewberries, gooseberries, strawberries, mulberries, grapes, cherries, and wild plum. Wild game was in abundance. Wild turkey, quail, rabbit, squirrel, mink, muskrat, deer, wild pigeon, and some bear, and buffalo. The streams were full of fish. There were plenty of nuts in the fall of the year. Hickory nuts, walnuts, and pecans. Mother has told me that before the war that the people as a whole were living very comfortably and satisfied. The Indians, Creek Indians had intermarried with the white and colored and became citizens of the tribe and that they, too, were satisfied with the full-blood in this new land of theirs. The slave owners which were practically all Indians or descendants of the Indians owned many slaves and naturally they were not in-

*(Continued on page 14)*

*(Continued from page 13)*

terested in the war at its beginning. They did not care to take sides with either the North or the South until the question of slavery arose. Most all of the slave owners made a treaty with **Albert Pike**, Confederate Commissioner, to fight with the South. This is also true of many of the full-blood Creeks. There was a faction, however, that did not care to be bound to the treaty and sought to take refuge in Kansas and arranged to go there taking with them all of their possessions. Enroute to Kansas they were overtaken and attacked by the Confederates. They suffered a great loss at the hands of the Confederates, and they finished their trip into Kansas in a terrible storm in the dead of winter, sick, dying, and destitute. They were very angry at the Confederates and all of them enlisted in the Northern Army. There were some, however, who enlisted in the Northern Army that stayed at home and if I remember right they organized three regiments of the Creeks and they were stationed at Ft. Gibson under the command of Mother and I were taken to Ft. Washita and finally to Texas and then returned to Indian Territory in 1886. I was about ten years old. The Negroes were freed and mother knew nothing more to do than to return to the locality in the Indian Territory where she had lived. We finally got back to what is now Yahola, Oklahoma. I don't remember the road we traveled, but it must have been the old Arbuckle Road. I remember mother and I walked across the prairie through the high grass and we came to the **Bluford Miller** ranch near the old trading post at Lee. Mother went to work there for **Mr. Miller** and I helped around the ranch as only a boy could do. We stayed there about five years and moved to the Creek Agency which was on the South side of Fern Mountain northwest of the present city of Muskogee, Oklahoma. I can't tell of any battles other than what I was told after I grew up, by my relatives. They have told me that the battle of Honey Spring which was located near the present town of Oktaha, Oklahoma, was fought in mid-summer, in July, and that the Northern Army whipped the Southern Army and drove them back into the wilderness of the North Canadian River. Many lives were lost on both sides. The battle lasted from the break of day until late that evening in July. (If you will see my nephew, **Jake Simmons**, he has all the records and can tell you more about the battle on Elk Creek or Honey Spring. See the interviewers report on Jake Simmons.) All of the Nations of the Five Tribes suffered extensively account of the war. The Choctaw, and Chickasaw Nation suffered because it was in their territory that the Confederate Army was quartered and lived during the life of the war and it was naturally a drain on the citizenship of those tribes. The Creek Nation suffered a great deal because most of the fighting and pilfering was done in the Creek Nation. Cabins were burned, horses and cattle were driven off. Part of their land was taken away from them due to a Confederate hold at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, in 1865, thus reducing the acreage. For my personal advantage, however, my folks who were slaves were freed, and more too, the slaves became citizens of the tribe and became ownership in the land as much as the Creek themselves and also, we enjoyed a part of the tribal fund. It required a number of years for the people to reestablish themselves after the war because they had to go about building cabins, schools, and churches. In short, they had to do all over again what they had done before the war. They were benefited by the railroads being built through the Territory although many objected for fear it would prevent them from retaining their ranches intact. Wild Indians began to move in from Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado. The Sac and Fox Indians came to the Creek Nation. Part of the Creek Nation had already been given to the Araphoes on the extreme west of the originally Cherokee Nation. The Sac and Fox Indian later became citizens of the Nation. We were surrounded by the Dela-

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wares, Shawnees, Osages, Quapaws, Senecas, and other small tribes in the Cherokee Nation with the Kiowas, Kickapoo, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Comanchies and other tribes to the south and west of us in the Choctaw, Seminole, and Chickasaw Nations. There was a great deal of trouble existing at all times between these wild Indians and it became necessary for the Government to send troops into the Territory and rehabilitate their forts and make additional forts to house the troops so that they could handle these wild Indians from committing all kinds of lawlessness, not only between themselves but others who lived in the Territory. It required a number of attacks on these Indians by the troops driving them back to their own reservation but they at last made them understand that the Government really meant business and little trouble was experienced thereafter. The country as a whole was of original virgin state except for clearings here and there. Wild game, wild fruit, and berries, nuts, and fish were as plentiful as they were before the war. The population had not increased to the extent that these things would be destroyed or used. Corn, Wheat, Oats, and Cotton were being raised. They raised some sheep and the cattle industry grew immensely. From the old I remember the first grist mill at Muskogee. It was located near the present sight of the Selby Mills in Muskogee which is located between Callahan Street and Little Dayton Street on North Cherokee Street. It was owned by a man named **Foreman**. **Mr. Foreman** constructed a large tank or pond at what would be now Commercial Street, between North Second and Third Streets in the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, at the present site of the Swift Packing Company. From this pond he secured his water for the mill to operate. Later on he erected a cotton gin and one day the gin broke down. While he was working on it his arm got caught in the gin, seriously injuring it, and he sold out stock, lock, and barrel and left for Texas. A little north and west of the present Veteran's Hospital on Agency Hill was located a grist mill and saw mill owned and operated by an old German named **Dresback**. He also owned a saw mill at one time up on the Verdigris River. Shortly after the war people in Texas who owned thousands of heads of cattle began driving them to the northern markets in Kansas, Missouri and some as far as Illinois. The price of meat in the Northern states was very high due to the scarcity of cattle. There were no railroads on which the cattle could be shipped and they had no other alternative than to drive them through the country, and they chose to drive them through the Territory because the grass was abundant, namely Buffalo grass, sage grass and blue stem grass and more too there were a number of Creeks, Rivers, and streams where the cattle could secure water. This method of marketing cattle started in about 1871 and ceased in 1875. The cattle at first were driven straight through the country without delay and naturally when they reached the market they were poor and un-fit for human consumption. The owners of cattle thus driven suffered great losses and they would often arrive at Wichita, Kansas, or Abilene, Kansas with what is known as Texas fever and they would spread the disease among the native cattle of Kansas and the people began to criticize this method and would often cause their herds to stampede and often times would take some of the herders and hang them which naturally spread fear among the herders. They also lost many cattle on these drives which were unprofitable. I mean they died enroute. As this system proved to be so unprofitable they got the idea that they could start grazing them through slowly and they started this practice. From herds of fifty thousand head they continued increasing the herds until I would say before they ceased this practice that it had increased to five thousand head. This proved very profitable for the cattle gradually became acclimated and with the abundance of

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grass they would arrive at the Northern markets, fat and in the best of condition. After the railroads were built this practice of grazing them through diminished and the railroad began to handle them to market. After the railroads started operation, cattle were shipped to points in Oklahoma and placed on the open range. Were fattened, reloaded into freight cars, and then to the market. These Texas cattle were of all kinds and description and were of all colors. Some were the old long horn type and some were Mexican type. In the early eighties ranches sprang up all over the Territory. They were no fences and the cattle grazed at will and naturally would mix and mingle into cattle on various ranches. I mean by that, that these ranches would overlap each other. On each ranch was a number of buildings which consisted of the owners home if he lived at the ranch and if he did not, there was a house which the foreman and his family resided in, cook shack, bunk house, sheds, and corrals. The corral was used mostly for the branding of calves and yearlings. The employees on the ranch consisted of foreman, herder, wrangler, and a group who would care for the salt licks and etc. The number of employees was of course according to the size of the ranch. They would have round ups of cattle two or three times a year, at which time they would cut out all cattle that did not belong to them and drive them back to their home range. The ranch hands as a rule were all jolly good fellows and enjoyed their work. Most of them despised lawlessness in all its forms. Very few of them were educated but they were brave men and loved to play pranks on each other. They, as a rule, enjoyed a stomp dance with the Indians as much as did the Indians themselves. Land was being opened all over the Territory to white settlers at various times but the two principal and major openings were the opening of the Oklahoma Country in 1889 and the opening of the Cherokee Strip in 1893. The settlers at these two openings had plenty of trouble in trying to make a living on the land but with perseverance and patience they succeeded. They had to construct themselves cabins, schools, dig wells, and start farming. The Indians rations consisted of all kinds of wild game, corn bread, hominy grits, and pork. They did their cooking in pots and skillets on the open fire and fire place. Having all kinds of wild fruits and berries they had what we called plenty of dessert. Many of the Indians made their dishes from clay like plates, cups, bowls, and etc., and from these they would eat their meals. They painted their fences with a solution made from barks of trees. They would take bark and boil it down to a thick liquid and in this liquid they would stir a starch made from corn meal, and in some cases there was different colored rocks that were soft enough to rub on their fences. Each year, usually in July they would have their annual stomp dances. At these stomp dances they would tie shells around their ankles and beat on a drum made from a cow hide and dance and sing. They would usually fast three days and then would take a medicine that would cause them to vomit, claiming that would cleanse their system and souls of all the impurities and then they would enjoy the roasted corn and barbecue that was in waiting for them. They had medicine men which we would call Doctors, that would administer to them in case of illness. These medicine men gathered all kinds of roots, herbs, and leaves, and prepared them into the form of medicine. They used what they called bone set, button snake roots, saffras, butterfly root, golden rods, and etc. The Indians naturally loved to make pretty things out of bark and clay. Out of clay they would make all kinds of beads. They would take the clay and roll it into little balls of all sizes and let them lay in the sun and dry. Of course, a hole would be punched through each bead so that they could string them and they were dyed with different solutions of bark in order to make them different colors. From bark they would make

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baskets of all sizes including the ladle and riddle through which they sifted their meal. I know a lot of burial grounds. I can't tell you how to get to them, however, I could take you to many of them. Every family had their own private cemetery. You can easily locate the old cemetery where my mother is buried, at the present town of Yahola, Oklahoma. There is a number of old graves there. Yahola, after whom the town is named, is buried there. As you are today interviewing **Jake Simmons**, I will not go into detail of the different ranches because he can give you those much better than I, but if you choose, I will name some of them for you and that will assist you in getting the details regarding them. The names of these ranches are as follows: **Mose Perryman** ranch, Rider Fields ranch, **Dave Anderson** ranch, Fort Sango ranch, A Choler Fife ranch, **Dave Carr** ranch, **McDermott** ranch, **Judge M. B. Moore** ranch, **Billy Brown** ranch, **Billy Harvester** ranch, **George Martin** ranch, **Jeff Davis** ranch, **Nip Blackstone** ranch, **Ed Halsell** ranch, Blue Starr ranch, **Jim Edgewood** ranch and **Hector Perryman** ranch. I will give you the names of the fords and ferries which I call to memory and will also let **Jake Simmons** give you the details as we both know them in the same way. These ferries are as follows: The Mingo ferry, Gentry ferry, Googy Soogy ferry, Fry ferry, Simon Brown ferry, and the Tobe Drew ferry. I cannot recall any particular Fords, but I do remember of hearing Jake say there was a ford across the north or south Canadian River that they called Rock Ford. In the early days there were no banks in the country and people had to do their banking with the merchant. The first bank that I can recall was in Muskogee Indian Territory and was run by a man by the name of **John Dill**. It was located on north Main street on the east side of the street between Okmulgee and Broadway, in the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and this was in about 1888 and the next year what is now the First National Bank and Trust Company of Muskogee was organized. I told you in the beginning that I moved to the old Creek Agency on the south side of Fern Mountain which is some three miles northwest of the present city of Muskogee, Oklahoma. When I first moved there it consisted of only two stores which were owned by two men by the names of **Adkinson** and **Patterson**. Later on two additional merchants came in but I do not remember their names. There was a hotel also that was run by a colored woman known to all as **Big Sarah**. She later moved to Muskogee. This was a thriving village after the war, and quite a few families lived there. I remember some of them as being **Peter Stidham**, **Simon Brown**. (Simon Brown operated the ferry) **Joe Davis**, **Jess Franklin**, **Morris Stidham**, **Tobe McIntosh**, **Nap Wiseman**, and their families together with many more. This village no longer exists. Lee Post was about three miles north of the present town of Boynton, Oklahoma, on Cedar Creek. This village consisted of a store, Post office, Stage stand, Hotel, Creek Court House, and the whipping post. It no longer exists. Sawokla was located about a mile south and a mile west of the present town of Haskell, Oklahoma and consisted of one store and the Post Office in connection. This store was first owned by a man by the name of **Bradford** and later by a man named **E. B. Harris** who is still living and runs a store at Haskell, Oklahoma. With the railroad coming through the country, the town of Haskell sprang up and the town of Sawokla passed out. The Choski Post was located about two and one half mile east of the present town of Haskell, and consisted of a store run by **C.W. Turner** and there was also a post office in connection with this store. There was a hotel there and this building still stands and is being used as a farm house. Like Sawokla, this town passed out when Haskell sprang up. There were other

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places I know but I can't recall them just now. Maybe **Jake** will be able to help you. Each tribe had their own laws and Police. In the Creek Nation they had an organization known as the Light Horsemen. The Nation was divided into three districts and in each district was a Squad of Light Horsemen of five, and one of these five was the Captain. I recall some of them as being **John Sixkiller**, **Wiley McIntosh**, **George McIntosh** and **John West**.

The Judge of the Court was **Judge Reed**, a colored man and he held Court in the one-room log cabin at Lee Post that I have spoken of as now being a ghost town. If the Light Horsemen picked up a prisoner for any offense he would be taken before **Judge Reed**. Minor offenses were usually paid out, but like stealing, or what we would call petit larceny, if found guilty would be sentenced to be whipped at the Whipping Post; for the first offense the prisoner would get twenty-five lashes. For the second offense fifty lashes, and for the third offense he would be shot. For the crime of murder he was always shot. Yes, I remember some who were whipped to the post particularly one by the name of **Charlie Adams** and others namely, **Sonny Grayson**, **Tom Canard** and many others. There was one shot as I recall it for killing his wife or his neighbor's wife, I forget which, by the name of **Jerry Stidham**.

The Green Peach War started as I recall it in 1882 and was not settled until the summer of 1884. This war started due to an entanglement between the **Ischarspieche** and the Checotah factions. An election was held in 1882 and the result of that election was that **Ischarspieche** was defeated for Creek Chief and he enlisted forces against the Checotah faction as he did not want to permit Checotah to take charge of the Creek Nation. They were hundreds of men lined up on both sides and I believe their first skirmish was near the present town of Taft, Oklahoma, and another near the present town of Yahola, Oklahoma. They continued fighting at intervals until in the late Fall of 1882, when **Ischarspieche** through his spokesman **Lee Perryman** declared to quit the rebellion. At this point things rather quieted down but Ischarspieche went to Okmulgee, Indian Territory and met one of his bosom friends, "Sleeping Rabbit" and they re-organized and again met the Checotah Army southwest of Okmulgee and a number were killed on both sides including "Sleeping Rabbit". **Ischarspieche** retreated into the Sac and Fox country and finally into the Cheyenne country where he and his organization were taken captive by the troops from Fort Gibson and held prisoners at Fort Gibson until a treaty was signed by

There is a number of Indian mounds in the vicinity of the present Bald Hill, Oklahoma, Council, Oklahoma, Summitt, Oklahoma, and about 4 miles northeast of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

I will also leave the roads and trails of which I know to Jake, to give you the details and will only name them here. The Texas Road, the Chisolm Trail, the Arbuckle Road, and the Old Stage Road.

The Crazy Snake Rebellion happened only a few years ago. The reason they called it Crazy Snake was because an old Indian by the name of **Chitto Herjo** was called crazy for his activities. He went about the country soliciting funds for the purpose of employing lawyers to defend what he called the Indian rights on account of certain treaties and that it was a violation

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for the Territory to become a state and some of the Indians were crazy enough to believe him. While in fact it was just a get-rich-quick scheme with **Chitto**, and of course, the law stepped in and took a hand and possibly one or two of the officers and a like number of the Indians were killed, but **Chitto** was arrested and things quieted down and they let him go.

I knew quite a number of the outlaws. The **James** boys, the **Dalton** Boys, **Cherokee Bill**, The **Buck** Gang, **Verdigris** Kid, and a number of others, and could tell many episodes in which they figure but will leave this to someone else to tell.

I can't recall all the Chief's, but I will say that I do remember **Ischarspieche**, **Sam Checotah**, **Joe Perryman**, **Legas Perryman**, **Pleas Porter**, **Moty Tiger**, and **Lojo Harjo**. The following railroads were built through the Territory: The M. K. & T. in 1871-2-3- The Santa Fe through the Oklahoma County in 1886. The Midland Valley Railroad in 1904, and the K. O. & G. from Miami, Indian Territory, to Dennison, Texas, in 1906-7-8.

Before the Civil War the High Spring Court House was located at what is known as Council Hill, Oklahoma. The Council House was built of logs and was a double log house. After the war, the Creek Council House was built at the present town of Okmulgee, Oklahoma, and it was out of stone construction and is still standing today.

The Wealaka Mission was located near the present town of Leonard, Oklahoma, and was of brick construction. The Pecan Mission was located on Pecan Creek about seven miles west of the present town of Muskogee, Oklahoma. The Creek School was located at the present town of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The Creek Orphanage was located and is still standing at the North-eastern city limits of the present town of Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The Asberry Mission was located at the present town of Eufaula, Oklahoma. The Boy's Seminary in the Cherokee Nation was located one and one-half miles south of the present town of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The Female Seminary in the Cherokee Nation now the North Eastern Teacher's College, is located at the north end of Main street, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The Park Hill Mission was located at about the present location of the village of Park Hill, Oklahoma.

**John Harrison** is a character all within himself. He is very supple, being a man of his age, and he does not seem to be any the worse for his laboring and striving to make the country in which we live today the country that it is, with it's towering churches and magnificent schools. He enjoys meeting his old friends and relatives and talking of the happy days as well as those of lean times with his friends, and really gets more pleasure out of it than most any one you can meet and talk to. **John** is an Uncle of **Jake Simmons** and they have lived the greater part of their lives together, and he feels a hesitancy in giving information and data unless he has his nephew **Jake Simmons** to corroborate his saying and acts. In order to get the results of this interview it will become necessary to handle in connection there with the interview of **Jake Simmons**.

Shown below is a list of Cherokees who came up from Texas when Cherokee's came from the East on the removal. This list was submitted by **Virginia Perry, MCGS Member**. The original from which this list was transcribed came from the Washington Archives. "Hipp's Village" probably refers to someone named "Hipp's". "Near Dutch's" refers to Captain William Dutch who lived on Dutch's Creek near Texana in southern Muskogee County.

Abstract of Provisions issued to Cherokee Indians who have returned to their Nation of late from Texas furnished by John Martin of the Cherokee Nation, under Contract dated 28th April 1840.

Names of Heads of Families	No. In Family	Present Residence	No. Of Rations Drawn			Price of Rations Drawn
			Beef	Corn	Salt	
Squan,han,see	12	Hipp's Village	1440	1440	1440	\$ 187.20
Stephen Vann	10	Hipp's Village	1200	1200	1200	\$ 156.00
Moses	10	Hipp's Village	1200	1200	1200	\$ 156.00
William Arnold	3	Hipp's Village	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
George	5	Hipp's Village	600	600	600	\$ 78.00
White Woman	4	Hipp's Village	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
The Wind	7	near the Derdy	840	840	840	\$ 109.20
Stinking Shin	10	near the Derdy	1200	1200	1200	\$ 156.00
Musquetoe Hawk	4	near Webbers' Falls	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
Proud Tom	11	near Mr. Leaks'	1320	1320	1320	\$ 171.60
Floating Cat	6	near Mr. Leaks'	720	720	720	\$ 93.60
The Woodpecker	10	near the Derdy	1200	1200	1200	\$ 156.00
Tobacco	1	near Webbers' Falls	120	120	120	\$ 15.60
Edwin	1	near Webbers' Falls	120	120	120	\$ 15.60
White Man Killer	3	near Webbers' Falls	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
Corn Silk Fox	5	near Greenleaf	600	600	600	\$ 78.00
Stooping Tree	4	near Dutch's'	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
Ka,la,ta,la,tee	3	near Dutch's'	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
The Bellows	3	near Dutch's'	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
Yauk,see	2	near Dutch's'	240	240	240	\$ 31.20
Lightenbug	6	near Dutch's'	720	720	720	\$ 93.60
The Dog	8	near Dutch's'	960	960	960	\$ 124.80
Co,no,wee,lee	3	near Dutch's'	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
White Man	6	near Dutch's'	720	720	720	\$ 93.60
Susana	3	near Dutch's'	360	360	360	\$ 46.80
The Bad Man	14	near Dutch's'	1680	1680	1680	\$ 218.40
The Dropper	4	Hipp's Village	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
Anna	5	Hipp's Village	600	600	600	\$ 78.00
Kah,tah,u,ah	6	Hipp's Village	720	720	720	\$ 93.60
Sauls,sa	5	Hipp's Village	600	600	600	\$ 78.00
Sarah	4	Hipp's Village	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
Hot House	4	Hipp's Village	480	480	480	\$ 62.40
Alah	2	Hipp's Village	240	240	240	\$ 31.20
The Sun	7	On the Vian	840	840	840	\$ 109.20
Seh,quah,chee,kaw,naw	1	near Webbers' Falls	120	120	120	\$ 15.60
John	2	Skin Bayou	240	240	240	\$ 31.20
Qual,lu,queh	13	Hipp's Village	1560	1560	1560	\$ 202.80
Total	207		24840	24840	24840	\$ 3,229.20

## Kathy Harmon, Genealogist



Kathy Harmon, a soft-spoken native Texan, moved to Tahlequah in 1996 to achieve a long-time dream of living in the Cherokee Capitol. Her parents, Bonnie and Charles Harmon (deceased last year) were both educators and influenced all seven of their children to obtain at least one college degree. Bonnie Harmon lives in Alice, Texas. Kathy has a Master's degree in Education from North Texas State University. Harmon's Cherokee descent is from a paternal grandmother, Elizabeth (Foreman) Harmon who was born in Tahlequah and raised in Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma. Elizabeth sold her allotment in order to marry Charles George Harmon, an oilfield "rough-neck." A personal genealogy puzzle for Kathy concerns the great-grandfather, Cholar Foreman. He is not listed on any Cherokee rolls. (She was told recently that Cholar might be a nickname, meaning tobacco in Cherokee.) His wife was Lizzie, but she had been married previously to a man named David Whitekiller. His father had been widely known for his first name of Rider, so he changed his last name to Rider. Laughing at the difficulties encountered by every genealogist, Kathy said, "I can really relate to people who come to the Cherokee Heritage Center to research their Cherokee ancestry!"

Some reasons why people visit the Genealogy Dept. are: Simple curiosity, the need for medical information, a desire to know where the family originated or see the effect of historical events on individual families (i.e., Civil War) and a desire for documentation to become a Cherokee Nation Tribal Member.

The Cherokee Heritage Center has the following policy on genealogy services: "If direct assistance is required, members of the Cherokee National Historical Society pay \$5 per hour and nonmembers pay \$15 per hour. If use of the Genealogy Dept. Library is all that is needed, Cherokee National Historical Society members pay \$5 per day and nonmembers pay \$15." It is very helpful to Kathy for people to make appointments, however, drop-ins are also welcome.

Kathy Harmon is available in the Genealogy Dept. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Virginia Vann Perry is available on Monday, 10a.m.-4 p.m. See inside pages for a list of resources in the Genealogy Dept. An update on the First Families of the Cherokee Nation (FFCN) program will be in the June 2000 issue.

(l to r)  
Virginia Vann  
Perry, volunteer,  
is served  
refreshments  
by Gwen  
Grayson,  
Volunteer  
Coordinator



the  
**Columns**

Cherokee National Historical Society  
P.O. Box 515, TSA-LA-GI  
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465-0515

**OUR  
TIES TO  
OLD GLORY !!**

**A PRESENTATION ON  
HOW TO USE  
THE INFORMATION  
THAT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATION**

**PRESENTED BY :  
JEFF & STACY BLUNDELL,  
MARY DOWNING &  
WALLY WAITS  
MAY 24th, 2001  
MUSKOGEE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY**

## The National Archives

- \* est. in 1934 in Washington, DC.
- \* repository for original federal records
- \* mission - to store and safeguard the US Government's permanent records, to classify them into record groups, and to make them available to the public for research
- \* Records Administration Program est. 1935
- \* became part of the General Service Administration in 1949
- \* Regional Federal Record Centers est. in 1950
  - National Record Center @ Suitland, MD
  - National Archives II @ College Park, MD
- \* granted independent status in 1985 - N.A.R.A.

## National Archive and Records Administration

700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20408

1-800-234-8861

<http://www.nara.gov>

What records do I have access to as a researcher?

Service Records

Bounty Land Warrants

Draft or Conscription Records

Cemetery Records

National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

Veterans' and Lineage Society Records

Awards and Decorations

Pension Records

Unit Histories

Census Records

Biographies

The major wars of the Colonial Period are:

\* King William's War (War of the League of Augsburg)  
1689-1697

\* Queen Anne's War (War of the Spanish Succession)  
1702-1713

\* King George's War (War of Austrian Succession) 1744-1748

\* French and Indian (Seven Years) War 1754-1763

The major wars of the National Period are:

\* Revolutionary War 1775-1783

\* War of 1812 1812-1815

\* Indian Wars 1780's - 1890's

\* Mexican War 1846-1848

\* Civil War 1861-1865

\* Spanish - American War 1898

\* Philippine Insurrection 1899-1902

\* World War I 1917-1918

\* World War II 1941-1945

\* Korean War 1950-1953

\* Vietnam War 1965-1973



### Records Selection Table

Once you know in which war(s) your ancestor may have served, use this table to decide which records to search. Use this table as a guide only. The information listed here is generally found in pre-20th century records, but each item is rarely found in every individual record.

Look in → If you need	Service	Pension	Bounty Land	Draft	Cemetery	Soldier Homes	Veteran/ Lineage Society	Military Biography
Age	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Birth date		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Birth place	◆	◆		◆		◆	◆	◆
Children		◆				◆	◆	
Death date	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆
Death place	◆	◆					◆	◆
Spouse, Marriage		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Military Unit	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆
Occupation	◆			◆		◆	◆	◆
Parents							◆	
Physical description	◆	◆		◆		◆		
Residence	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆
Service history	◆		◆				◆	◆

What information will I learn from the records that are available?

### **Service Records**

Document an individual's involvement with the military and can provide your ancestor's unit or organization. This information makes it easier to search the pension records.

\* Enlisted and Discharge Records --- Those who served in a military unit were listed on muster rolls (similar to attendance rosters). These records generally give the soldier's name and the date and place of enlistment and muster. You may also find descriptive rolls that provide the individual's name, rank, age, physical description, martial status, occupation, place of birth, place of residence, and service information.

Discharge certificates, however, are not usually part of the service record. If a soldier served between 1865 and 1944, the discharge certificate may be in the family's possession. Copies of the discharge were not kept in soldier's service files, but counties sometimes recorded discharges.

\* Compiled Service Records - The federal government has compiled military service records for soldiers serving in volunteer units in wars between 1775 and 1902. These records, on cards, have abstracts of information taken from unmicrofilmed original records at N. A. R. A. such as muster rolls, pay lists, hospital records, record books, orders, and correspondence.

These cards are arranged by state, then by military unit, then alphabetically by the soldier's name. They usually provide a soldier's name, rank and unit, the state from which the soldier served, the date enlisted, and the length of service. You may also find the age, residence, physical description, and date of death or discharge.

### **Pension Records**

The federal government and some state governments granted pensions or bounty land to officers, disabled veterans, needy veterans, widows or orphans of veterans, and veterans who served a certain length of time. Pension records usually contain more genealogical information than service records. However, not every veteran received or applied for bounty land or a pension.

In a person's pension application papers you may find his name (and sometimes his wife's maiden name); rank; military unit; period of service; residence; age; date and place of birth, marriage, and death; and the nature of his disability or proof of need. To prove that he served in the military, he may have included documents such as discharge papers or affidavits from those with whom he served. Widows or heirs had to prove their relationship to the veteran with marriage records and other documents, and the file may list the names of dependent children under the age of 16.

Pension files for 1775 to 1916 are available at the N. A. R. A. in Record Group 15, Records of the Veterans Administration. Only those for the Revolutionary War have been microfilmed.

### **Bounty Land Warrants**

The federal government provided bounty land for those who served in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and Indian Wars between 1790 and 1855. It was first offered as an incentive to serve in the military and later as a reward for service.

Bounty land could have been claimed by veterans or their

heirs. The federal govt. reserved tracts of land in the public domain for this purpose. The states of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia also set aside tracts of bounty land for their Revolutionary War veterans. The vet. would file an application at the local court house. If the application was approved, the individual was given either a warrant to receive land or scrip which could be exchanged for a warrant. Later laws allowed for the sale or exchange of warrants. Only a few soldiers actually received title to the bounty land or settled on it; most veterans sold or exchanged their warrants. The documents contain information similar to the pension files. Bounty land applications and warrants for the Revolutionary War and some warrants for the War of 1812 have been microfilmed.

### **Draft or Conscription Records**

Since 1863, the federal government has registered millions of men and women who may have been eligible for military service. The Civil War enrollment records and WWI draft registration cards typically give the veteran's name, residence, age, occupation, marital status, birthplace, and physical description.

### **Unit Histories**

Histories of military units may contain biographies of officers, rosters of soldiers in their unit, and clues to where the soldiers were living when they enlisted. They also may provide dates of death of the veteran or their place of residence after their service.

## **Census Records**

The federal censuses of 1840, 1890, and 1910 specifically identify veterans and pensioners. Some state censuses also have info. about soldiers and veterans. The federal censuses of 1900, 1910, and 1920 include special enumerations of personnel serving at military and naval installations, ships, and hospitals at home or overseas.

The military and naval schedule includes name of military or naval station or vessel, country, seaport, company or troop, regiment, arm of service, rank, residence in the US (state, city or town, street and number), in addition to the info. provided on the population schedules.

## **Cemetery Records**

Soldiers and veterans were often buried in private, public, church, national, and military post cemeteries. Others were buried on the battlefield or in prison or hospitals cemeteries. The first national military cemeteries were created in 1862 during the Civil War.

The National Cemetery System has a card index that identifies nearly all soldiers who were buried in national cemeteries and other cemeteries under federal jurisdiction from 1861 to the present.

National Cemetery System  
Department of Veteran Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20422  
[www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)

More helpful guides are the following:

Holt, Dean W. American Military Cemeteries: A Comprehensive Illustrated Guide to the Hallowed Grounds of the United States, including Cemeteries Overseas. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., Inc., 1992. (Family History Library Book 973 V3ho; no. 670350.)

*The American Battle Monuments Commission* was created in 1923 to maintain memorials in the US and foreign countries where American forces have served. They have the names of 124,913 WW I and WWII war dead and the names of 94,093 soldiers listed as missing in action or buried at sea from the World Wars, Korean War, and Vietnam War.

American Battle Monuments Commission  
Casimir Pulaski Building  
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20314-0300  
1-202-272-0533  
1-202-272-0532

[www.usabmc.com](http://www.usabmc.com)

The web site includes info. about the purpose, composition, and history of the commission; details about individual ABMC overseas cemeteries; and the names of persons buried at many of their cemeteries.

### *National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers*

Congress established national homes for disabled veterans in 1866. Veterans were eligible for admittance if they were honorably discharged; had served in regular, volunteer, or militia forces mustered into federal service; were disabled and without support; and were unable to earn a living. In 1930 the homes were combined with other agencies to form the Veterans Administration (now the Department of Veteran Affairs).

The registers are divided into four sections:  
Military - includes information such as enlistment, rank, company, regiment, and discharge.

Domestic - includes the veteran's birthplace, age, height, religion, occupation, residence, marital status, and name and address of nearest relative.

Home - includes the veteran's rate of pension, date of admission to the home, discharge, death date, and burial place.

General - includes reports published by the Board of Managers for the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers that contain alphabetical rosters of soldiers.

The following is a list of the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers:

Bath Branch in Bath, New York  
Biloxi Home in Biloxi, Mississippi

Danville Branch in Danville, Illinois  
Central Branch in Dayton, Ohio  
Battle Mountain Sanitarium in Hot Springs, SD  
Mountain Branch in Johnson City, Tennessee  
Southern Branch in Kecoughton, Virginia  
Western Branch in Leavenworth, Kansas  
Marion Branch in Marion, Indiana  
Roseburg Branch in Roseburg, Oregon  
St. Petersburg Home in St. Petersburg, Florida  
Pacific Branch in Sawtelle, California  
Eastern Branch in Togus, Maine  
Tuskogee Home in Tuskogee, Mississippi  
Northwestern Branch in Wood, Wisconsin

### *Veterans' and Lineage Society Records*

Records of veterans' organizations and lineage societies may be found at their national headquarters or at state archives, historical societies, and public libraries. Information from applications is typically birth, marriage, and death info., as well as establishing relationship through multiple generations from the applicant to the qualifying ancestors.

National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution  
1776 D Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
1-202-268-1776 fax 1-202-879-3252  
[www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org)



National Society, Sons of the American Revolution  
1000 South Fourth Street  
Louisville, KY 40203  
1-502-589-1776  
[www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)

Society of Cincinnati  
2118 Massachusetts Avenue , NW  
Washington, DC 20008-2810  
1-202-785-2040

Daughters of the Cincinnati  
122 East 58th Street  
New York, NY 10022  
1-212-319-6915

***Army Military History Institute***

The institute is the central repository of Army historical source material. The archivists provide reference help concerning military units (not individual soldiers) and they have a number of bibliographies of holdings.

U.S. Army Military History Institute  
Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5008  
1-717-245-3611  
<http://Carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi>

***National Personnel Records Center***

Federal military records for the twentieth century service that are not available at the N. A. R. A. may be located at the  
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National Personnel Records Center (N.P.R.C.).

National Personnel Records Center  
(Military Personnel Records)  
9700 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63132

Army Reference Branch 1-314-538-4261

Air Force Reference Branch 1-314-538-4243

Navy Reference Branch (includes Marine Corps and Coast Guard)  
1-314-538-4141

The Nat'l Personnel Record Center is also available at:  
[www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html](http://www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html)

The web site describes facilities and services; upcoming events; and records, including official military personnel files, medical records, morning reports, and unit rosters.

The N. P. R. C. also has records for:

- \* Army officers discharged after June 30, 1917 and enlisted men discharged after October 31, 1912
  
- \* Air Force officers and enlisted men completely discharged after September 1947 (Service prior to 1947 was in the Army Air Corps.)

- \* Marine Corps officers discharged after 1895 and enlisted men discharged after 1904
- \* Navy officers completely discharged after 1902 and enlisted men discharged after 1885
- \* Coast Guard officers discharged after 1928 and enlisted personnel discharged after 1914

In 1973, a fire destroyed about 80 % of the records for Army officers and enlisted men discharged from 1912 - 1959. About 75 % of the records of the Air Force from 1947 - 1963 (surnames Hubbard through Z) were also destroyed.

For more information on available records:  
Records Reconstruction Branch  
1-314-538-4261

## REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The Revolutionary War began with the confrontation between British troops and the local militia at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, on April 19, 1775. Throughout the war, state troops and local militias supplemented the Continental (federal) Army. The total number of men who served is not known.

The following are part of the Grant Foreman Collection :  
Bockstruck, L. D., Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants  
GF 973.34 Boc

Brumbaugh, G. M., Revolutionary War Records of Virginia  
GF 973.34 Bru v.1

Clark, M. J., The Pension Lists of 1792-1795  
GF 929.373 Pen

Clements, S. E., The Maryland Militia in the Revolutionary War  
GF 973.3452 Cle

D. A. R., Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution, GF 973.3456 Dau, 1984

Davis, R. S., Jr., Georgia Citizens and Soldiers of the American Revolution, GF 973.3458 Dav

Kaminkow, J., Mariners of the American Revolution,  
GF 973.35Kam

Moss, B. G., Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution, GF 973.3457 Mos

Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications in the Nat'l Archives, GF 929.3 Nat

Peterson, C. S., Known Military Dead During The American, Revolutionary War 1775-1783, GF 973.36 Pet

Scott, C., The "Lost" Pensions, GF 973.3 Sco

### CIVIL WAR

The Civil War was fought between the Northern and Southern (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolinas, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia) states, beginning on April 12th, 1861 when troops in South Carolina fired upon the garrison at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor. Approximately 3.5 million soldiers fought in the war. The war resulted in almost 600,000 deaths and affected nearly every family in those regions of the country.

There are several sites on the Internet that offer important info. about the Civil War. Two of them are :

[www.nara.gov/genealogy/civilwar.html](http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/civilwar.html)

[www.cyndislist.com/cw.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/cw.htm)

[www.civilwar.nps.gov](http://www.civilwar.nps.gov)

The following are part of our own Grant Foreman Collection :  
Allen, D. W., Index to Arkansas Confederate Pension Applications, GF 973.7467 All

Chase, M. W., Index to Civil War Service Records - Waite's Cherokee regiment, GF 929.3 Cha

Bartels, C. M., The Forgotten Men: Missouri State Guard, GF 929.3778 Bar

Cottrell, S., Civil War in the Indian Territory, GF 970.1 Abe

Dilts, B. L., 1890 Texas Census Index of Civil War Veterans or their Widows, GF 929.3764 Mil

Southern Claims Commission Claims, 1871-1888, GF microfiche

McLane, B. J., An Index to the Three Volumes, Arkansas 1911 Census of Confederate Veterans, GF 973.7467 McL

Sistler, S., Index to Tennessee Confederate Pension Applications, GF 973.7468 Sis

White, V. D., Index to Georgia Civil War Confederate Pension Files, GF 979.7458 Whi

Aimore, A. C., A User's guide to the Official Records of the American Civil War, GF 973.73 Aim

Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion: Ser. I, v.1-27: Ser. II, v.1-4, GF 973.75 Off

Also available in online data bases - *Roster of Union and Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865* (accessible on any Muskogee library computer)

### Spanish - American

The war between the United States and Spain was largely fought in Cuba and the Philippines. The conflict lasted from April to August 1898. As a result, the United States acquired Puerto Rico and Guam and bought the Philippines. Cuba became independent.

The war was fought by US regular forces and state volunteers. About 250,000 enlisted men and 11,000 officers served in this conflict. Most volunteers came from the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Ohio.

In the Grant Foreman Collection is a copy of Theodore Roosevelt's The Rough Riders, 1928, p.238-264, "Muster-Out Roll" GF 973.8 Roo.

Help and additional recourses are available upon request.

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**Muskogee County  
Genealogical Society**

*Quarterly Publication – June 2001*

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Muskogee County Genealogical Society  
C/O Muskogee Public Library  
801 West Okmulgee  
Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

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**Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the MCGS is to disseminate information and data to promote the general study of genealogy and to preserve any material that establishes and or illustrates the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

**EDITOR:** Paul Betow (PBetow@aol.com)

**BOOK REVIEWS:** Diane Jordan Kay

**NEW BOOKS/RESOURCES**

**GRANT FORMAN COLLECTION:** Wally Waits

**PRODUCTION/DISTRIBUTION:**

Paul Betow, Lee Ann Langston

**EDITORIAL POLICY:**

The Editors invite contributions of public records, articles, Bible records, and transcriptions from members and non-members. Contributions can be of general interest to those studying genealogy and family history or specifically focused on history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families. Neither the Editors nor the Board of Directors of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society take responsibility for errors of fact/data submitted. The views expressed in articles and reviews are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the Board of Directors, nor

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Persons wishing to submit manuscripts or material for publication in the MCGS Quarterlies are requested to send typed, double-spaced material with all facts and statistical information referenced as to the source. Material that has been previously published must be noted. Send all manuscripts and submissions to the address listed at the top of this page.

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