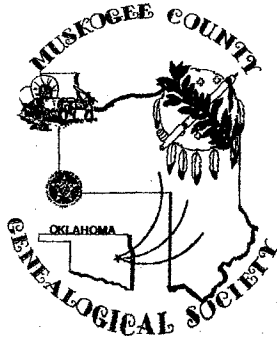


Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Quarterly Publication – September 1999



This publication was paid for by private donations through the sale of advertising space.

Make a difference in the life of a fellow genealogist by making a monetary or book donation to the Muskogee County Genealogical Society.

Join Us!

**Upcoming
1999 MCGS
Members Meetings**

**Muskogee Public
Library**

7:00 PM

**September 23
Civil War Research
Wally Waits, Speaker**

**October 28
Internet Genealogy
Vicki Lang, Speaker**

Preparing our Genealogy Society for the Millennium

Dear Members:

I hope this summer has been a good one for everyone and that you have had some success in pursuing your lost ancestors.

We will start the fall meetings in September and I have scheduled programs for September and October to help you in your searches. If you have any ideas for programs, please contact Cleo Shamblin. We need ideas for programs and workshops. If you could volunteer to be on a program or workshop committee, please give your name and telephone number to one of the board members.

Our programs for the remainder of the year are as follows:

September 23:
Wally Waits-Civil War Records

October 28:
Vicki Lang-Internet Sources for Genealogical Research

November 18: (open)

December 16:
Christmas Party and Show 'n' Tell

Please remember to save your Sun Fresh receipts, and leave them in the Genealogy Cabinet in the Grant Foreman Room, or give them to Stacy

Blundell. We now have about 30 receipts collected, and need only 970 more!

The board will soon be appointing a committee to nominate a slate of officers for the year 2000 ... the Millennium. If you would consider serving on the committee, we could use your help. Please give much thoughtful consideration, if you are asked to serve a position on our board. Any of the offices carry a great responsibility. We need help from all our members who are all so important to us.

Our dues increase to \$20 beginning Jan. 1, 2000.

If you missed our annual Salad Supper and Show 'n' Tell in June, you missed a delightful treat. Thanks to everyone for providing the delicious salads. That day was a very stressful day for me as that was the day of the funeral for my only remaining uncle. He was the only one of my mother's siblings to be born in Muskogee, and I am writing an obituary/tribute for him to be included in this issue of the quarterly.

Have a great rest of the year and continue to give the great support to MCGS that has been given this year.

Diane Jordan Jones, President

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.

1999 OFFICERS:

Diane Jordan Jones, President
 Cleo Shamblin, Vice President
 Joanne Thompson, Secretary
 B. J. Brooks, Treasurer
 Aldena Powell, Board Member
 Geneva Taylor, Board Member
 Paul Betow, MCGS Editor
 Stacy Blundell, 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 \$12.00 per individual and \$14.00 for families living at the same address. Effective January 1, 2000, dues will be \$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 pick up 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



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| President's Letter | 1 |
| Muskogee County Genealogical Society Statement of Purpose and Membership Information | 2 |
| Thank-you's and New Members | 3 |
| Publications Available from Muskogee County Genealogical Society | 4 |
| Obituary Tribute, Levi Harrison (Jack) Pigg, Jr. | 5 |
| The History of the Bemo Family | 6 |
| Ancestor Chart - Peggy Ellen Groover | 17 |
| Photo, Deputy Marshals | 19 |
| Muskogee County School Enumeration Report, 1912 | 20 |
| Marriage Records, Muskogee, Indian Territory, 1893 | 23 |
| Broken Arrow Genealogical Society Workshop | 27 |
| Oklahoma War Mothers | 27 |
| Muskogee Eagle Scouts | 28 |
| Muskogee County School District, No. 1 Boynton, 1920 | 28 |
| New Titles, Grant Foreman Room, 3rd Qtr | 29 |
| Influenza in Muskogee | 36 |
| Taft State Hospital Cemetery | 37 |
| Book Review, <u>Cherokee by Blood</u> | 38 |
| Advertisement, Promoting Animal Welfare Society of Muskogee | 39 |
| Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly Policies | 40 |

Thanks to our Contributors

In this issue of the MCGS Quarterly, we are pleased to have such a wide variety of original material from numerous sources.

A big Thank-You to the following contributors:

Aldena B. Powell, Diane Jordan Jones, Deone Penquite, Wally Waits, Joanne Thompson, Virginia Perry and Peggy and Billy Gentry

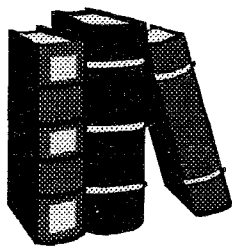
Welcome our New Members:

Peggy and Billy Gentry

Cowboy Johnson

Time Capsule

S. G. Cumberledge of the Cumberledge & English drug store left on the flyer today for Houston, Texas, where he was called on account of the critical illness of Mrs. Grooms, Mrs. Cumberledge's mother.
Muskogee Evening Time, 17 Jan 1902, p. 3, c. 4.



Muskogee County Genealogical Society Publications for Sale

NEW 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 \$15.00

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

\$25.00
 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

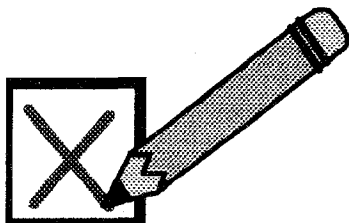
FIRST U.S. COURT – NORTHERN DISTRICT, Books A, B, and B-1
 July 1890 – March 1893, 108 pages including index \$11.00

INDEX of DEATHS EXTRACTED FROM MUSKOGEE DAILY PHOENIX

January 16, 1930 – May 4, 1935, 49 pages \$3.00

“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.

Obituary Tribute

To

LEVI HARRISON (JACK) PIGG, JR.

Levi Harrison (Jack) Pigg, Jr.
 b. 17 April 1926
 m. 18 October 1947
 d. 21 June 1999

Jack Pigg, died in Muskogee, the city of his birth, at the Muskogee Regional Medical Center. He was 73 years, 2 months and 4 days old. He was the son of Levi Harrison and Sarah Elizabeth Bates Pigg. Levi was born in Mercer County, Missouri, and Sarah in Montgomery County, Arkansas. Jack was the baby brother of my mother, youngest son and child.

He was preceded in death by 1 brother Elgin Lee Pigg, Redondo Beach, Ca.; 3 sisters-Elva Juanise Pigg Jordan, Muskogee; Mena Marceille Pigg Rice, Muskogee; Helen Kathryn Pigg McKinstry, Oak Ridge, TN. Jack was an auto, paint and body man, and operated Jack's Body Shop until retiring in 1987. Jack was united in marriage with Wanda Rowe who survives him. Their marriage lasted until his death, 51 years, 8 months, 3 days. Jack's only child, Mary Marceille (Marcy) Pigg, was born in Ft. Smith, Ark., 13 January 1956. He was the grandfather of 5 grandchildren and 2 great grand children: Jason Scott and Lori Kay Faulconer, Nathan Levi, Chelsea Dawn and Lyndi Michelle Coffman, Cody Scott and Carlee Dawn Faulconer. 1 great niece Hillary Bethea' Jordan, Austin, TX. And 2 great nephews Robert Jared and Erik Harrison Jordan, Muskogee. Other relatives include: a son-in-law Donald Coffman a nephew and niece, Robert Jan Jordan and Diane Kay Jordan Jones; a cousin Chloe Pigg; and a sister-in-law Twyla Rowe Wright, all of Muskogee. 3 nieces, Margo Pigg Kline and Susan Pigg Collins, Calif. and Linda McKinstry Randolph and nephew Doug Mckinstry, Tenn; cousins Luther Ray Pigg, Florida, and Mary Jo Bates of Ark., and several great nieces and nephews.

A service of remembrance was held at 2:00pm. on Thursday, 24 June 1999, at the Mausoleum, Memorial Park Cemetery, with Rev. Tom Shelton, Pastor, Oldham Memorial Baptist Church, officiating.

I remember Jack as a warm-hearted man, devoted to his wife and family. He was a Baptist, staunch Republican, and had very firm ideas, ethics, morals, and beliefs. He never lost his sense of humor. He had a keen memory--remembering birthdates, anniversary dates, etc. I enjoyed so many happy vacations in the back seat of Uncle Jack & Aunt Wanda's car on trips to Tennessee, California, and other places. Once, I was highly insulted and very angry because I was not included in a trip they made to Tennessee. I pouted for days (until my mother unpouted me)! I inherited my love of travel from my Jack.

Jack, we all love you and miss you very much!

Your loving niece,
 Diane
 26 August 1999

Family Names:

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| PIGG | UNDERWOOD |
| CLIFTON | MASON |
| GEORGE | LANGSTON |
| RAMEY | BATES |
| BROOKS | DODDS |
| GOODNER | VANDIVER |
| CHRISTENBERRY | |

The BATES, GOODNER, VANDIVER families were related. I am my own 6th and 11th cousin.

The History of the Bemo Family, Part II
Donated to the MCGS by Virginia Perry
(continued from the June 1999 MCGS Quarterly, page 14)

5

Leon and Harriet Bemo

Leon (or Lon) H. Bemo was born on May 23, 1883 and died on April 9, 1950. He inherited the Indian allotment given to his grandfather which is located northwest of Muskogee and on which some of his decedents still live to this day.

He attended Henry Kendall College right around the turn of the century. This college was started by Alice Robertson. This is interesting to me because I attended a junior high school named after her. So did my children, Rebecca Leigh, and Jon Douglas Bemo.

Leon loved animals, as many pictures show -- horses, pigs, dogs, and chickens. Mostly he loved cows and was a dairy farmer. There was a nice well on the farm situated where the road passed. The ruts of the wagon trail are still visible today. Also by the well was a stone building where the milk was kept. Water was drawn from the well where it dripped through a series of stone troughs in which milk cans were kept to keep the milk cool. I remember my dad talking about Grandpa Leon taking the cows across the Arkansas river when it froze over. Leon was an excellent fence builder. In 1994 dad found the remains of a corner post which had been set by Leon. He dug it up and made some small boards out of the cedar. It is as solid as ever.

Leon was first married to Marian Green. I don't know when or how the marriage ended, but there were no children. Dad said he didn't know anything about the marriage either since he found out about it accidentally, one time, and it was just a subject that wasn't talked about.

He then married Harriet Webb. She was born of John Tucker and Ada Laphilia Webb on February 9, 1893. Their family had lived in Arkansas and then moved to Southwest City, Missouri. Her parents died of pneumonia six days apart in 1900. A grave marker can be found there in the cemetery today. The five orphaned siblings moved together to Oklahoma to find new opportunities. Harriet's new opportunity came in Leon. From the pictures and notes found among my grandma's keepsakes, it is apparent that they deeply loved one another. They had four children. The boys were Jack, Harry, and John Douglas, my dad. The daughter was Madge.

Their abode was humble indeed, as it had no electricity or plumbing. Water was drawn from the well and in the kitchen there was a funnel with a 1 1/4 inch pipe in which waste water was poured. The children were all born there.

The History of The Bemo Family

One of the saddest stories I ever heard was how Leon lost the property. Along with the homestead, Leon inherited a lean on the property from a loan which Katie had taken out. Though Leon made a meager living for his family, he was not able to pay even the interest on the loan. Leon saw an opportunity to get everything cleared up when he sold the oil lease to a driller. The driller hit gas one evening and Leon and my dad went up to the well to see gas spewing out. The driller was sure they had hit an oil deposit. He told Leon not to light his lantern as it could set the well on fire. He told him to take my dad on back to the house and that they would know for sure how good the well was by morning. They went home and the whole family slept with dreams of their debt being paid off, a new house, new clothes, and even a horseless carriage. They had noticed a car sitting off a little distance from the drilling operation but thought nothing of it. When they went to the well the next morning the well was capped. The rig and boiler were still there but the fire in the boiler was out and cold. No drilling crew were there either. When Leon inquired, the driller said that it was a dry well and there was no use in wasting any more time there. Actually the man in the car was a Mr. Jay Garfield Buell. He had talked to the driller before grandpa discovered the spewing well and they had made an agreement. Buell paid the driller handsomely to stop drilling operations, cap the well, and tell grandpa a lie. Buell then went to the bank and offered to pay the back interest and loan off, in cash. The bank foreclosure was paid off by Buel and the farm was titled to Buel. He gave the Bemo family a time limit to be off the land. After Buel paid off the bank, he reopened the well and started pumping oil even before the Bemos moved off the property. It produced 80 barrels a day for quite some time. Well, God is the Judge, but I wouldn't want to be in this man shoes on the Judgement Day. I'll bet he's asking Abraham to send someone over with a drop of water right now.

The family all had to move to town and get jobs. Jack, believe it or not, worked for Buel as a gardener for several years. He even lived in the servant's quarters in the Japanese tea garden west of the Bemo's old place. He later worked for a canning company and eventually bought back a small portion of the Bemo farm after Buel had gotten all the oil off of it. He is to be greatly admired for working so hard to keep some of this property in the family. Harry ended up in Minnesota as a fishing and hunting guide. Madge married a machinist in town, and dad started working for the telegraph office. In 1937 dad bought a house at 2207 Sallie Street, for his parents, for \$800. It was made of used lumber. Leon and Harriet lived together there till he died in 1950, after which Harriet continued to live there. I remember living there for a short time when we moved back to Muskogee, while Mom and Dad were looking for our own place. In 1994 and 95 some of us got together and helped dad do a big renovation of the place. Alan, Janet, Brian & Becky, Sarah, and Rachel took part in this. The house is still in Dad's possession today.

The History of The Bemo Family

The first home Janet and I had was an 8'x30' mobile home parked on the campus of Ozark Christian College. Dad brought her up to see us. In the pick-up were all kinds of flowers she had brought up from her house to plant in our yard. She sat on the porch and told us how to do it. I remember in particular the daisies and bird bath she brought.

I just barely remember grandpa Leon. The following section is some of Dad's recollections about his parents.

LEON

"My first remeberenances of my dad were his early rising each morning. Our 160 acre farm and dairy demanded a lot of attention, being the sole means of living for a family of a Dad, Mother, 2 brothers, and a sister, all my senior. During the summers and warmer weather, dad would be up by early light, dressed in his usual bib overalls, and off to the dairy chores before anyone else got up. On winter mornings he would build a fire in the pot-bellied heating stove before leaving, gather up several milk buckets mother had washed, slip his old felt hat off the nail by the back door, and all would be quiet untill time for mother to start the morning routine of getting three kids up and breakfast ready. We never owned an alarm clock but only an eight day wind-up time piece that had it's special place on a shelf. It chimmed on the hour and half hour. I've heard dad tell of waking at night, no flashlight or electricity, hearing one chime then having to wait for at least 30 minutes to know if it was "half past something" or 1 AM and then it could have been half past 12, one AM or even 1:30AM. I doubt that he ever lay awake for an hour just to know for sure the time."

"Our means of lighting was "coal oil" (kerosene) lamps. A lantern and matches sat on a stand by dad's bed ready for an emergency and his early morning winter rising. When it came my bed time he would light another lantern that was on a stand by my bed. It would be turned down real low but gave off enough light to keep the lions and tigers at bay until daylight when they would go back to their jungle somewhere."

"Dad didn't have any hobbies as such. He did whittle on occasion but the finished product was a little pile of wood shavings. He never hunted or fished or took me on an outing. He did go along on a couple of rabbit hunts with my brothers and me to show me how to find rabbits "sitting." He had a keen eyesight and knew the habits and whereabouts of wild game."

The History of The Bemo Family

"I do not recall ever hearing dad mention his father's name or any experience with him. Granddad was deceased before my day. Grandmother was sort of a recluse and wanted only to be left alone. We kids steered clear of her as she walked with a heavy walking stick, or garden hoe. She lived alone in a big 2 story homestead house about one block from our house. She never came to our house to visit nor did any of us go to her house, except dad. Mother prepared a tray of food for her each and every evening. Dad would take the tray of food and then bring the tray back the next day."

"Dad was a faithful and devoted son, husband and father. He didn't make a big show of his feelings, never lifted his voice in anger, never saw him mad. He never punished any of us kids. Mother had to do the dirty work."

"Dad 'rested his eyes' in the evenings quite a bit and didn't seem to mind my combing and brushing his hair. Some of the weird hair styling I did on him would put some of the modern hair-dos to shame. He would usually wake up when everyone was laughing at the braids (or "electrifying") or when I'd get the comb tangled up and couldn't get it loose."

"Dad's main attractions besides mother and us kids were shiny Ford cars and Jersey cows. It was hard for him to say "no" to a slick car salesman and harder still to pass up a chance to own another pretty Jersey cow -- whether she was a good milker or not. The cows all had names and their own milk stalls in order. They knew who was next and where to be when. The only time he would hit a cow with a stick would be to hold it against her head or nose to guide her or tap her on the back to let her know it was time to move. If a fly happened to get between the cow and the stick I doubt that it even got a headache."

"Dad very seldom visited or made any trips and then only a few hours at the most. There was always the milking to do, AM and PM 7 days a week, but he didn't seem to mind. I think that's when he was happiest."

"The team of red mules, Kit and Nan, were a perfect match, except one had a light mane while the other was dark. They also knew their names and worked by voice communication as well as a gentle tug on the reigns. After a couple of rounds in the field, whether plowing or gathering crops, dad would "talk" the mules into the proper turn etc. without touching the reigns. If the reigns were dropped to the ground and a "wo" was given they would remain there for hours without moving more than a step or two. That's when dad would come in and get a drink of water or see what mother or one of us kids wanted. He knew that a swarm of bees was ready to be hived if he heard me ringing a big cow bell that was kept handy for the occasion. A white cloth being waved or tied to a long pole meant it was dinner (lunch) time. If dad was working over the hill or out of sight of our house, guess who got to go tell him it was time to come in."

The History of The Bemo Family

"Dad was a stickler for straight crop rows and fences. Lon's (a nick name for Leon, his first name) crop and fences were noticed by most in the community. He used no surveying equipment nor guides. He just seemed to have a built in computer to judge distances and direction. He could also usually tell the time of day, within a few minutes, the year round, just by the sun. Cross fencing on our farm was at a minimum. Diversified crops were rotated from pasture grazing crops to row crops. Dad enjoyed "herding" the cows,

keeping them away from the corn and melons, etc., where there were no fences. Mother said he did that to get away from the house as there were always a long list of undone "honey-dos" waiting to be done. Dad maintained a goodly supply of seasoned black locust fence posts that grew on our place and near wood lots that were free for the cutting. He knew when to cut the trees in the spring when the sap began to flow. That's the only time of year the bark will peel off easily and the wood will cure best. Drying stacks of posts were then stockpiled for sale or our own use. Some of those posts are still standing that I helped dad put up some sixty years ago."

"The deprssion years and health problems took their toll on dad and mother both. Some poor managment by my grandmother as well as my dad, also contributed to the loss of the farm. After grandmother's death and thru forced moves from farm to farm we moved into a small house in town that I bought for \$800 at \$10 down and \$10 a month. There was a pullchain drop light and one recepticle in three rooms, a cold water faucet in the kitchen and an outhouse out back at the end of the trail. We all hated the city life but that's where my job and school were."

"Dad always believed in God but didn't make a commitment to Him until late in life. He and Mother were baptizerd into the Calvary Baptist congregation."

"Dad's 3 heart conditions and breathing problems kept him confined to the house most of the time. I think grieving for the farm and dairy life speeded his demise. He grew continually weaker and weaker and his heart and lungs both seemed to give out about the same time. Dad formed his last request for water by moving his lips. There was not enough air from his lungs to make a sound. After a few drops of water he closed his eyes and drew his last shallow breath. Another couple of heartbeats and he was gone. No struggle, no pain. Just peace as God called him home."

The History of The Bemo Family

HARRIET

"For the life of me I don't remember any one thing or incident in particular about my mother at an early age. She just seemed to be about everywhere doing everything all of a sudden. I suppose rattling the old wood cook-stove, getting a fire started for breakfast was the wake-up call of the day. Hot, cold, rain, or shine, that was the routine of the day. Depending on the season and supply on hand, breakfast was hot biscuits, white gravy, fried eggs, sure enough butter, cooled whole milk, chilled overnight in the old dug water well, postum, fresh or cured pork-ham, bacon, sausage, or her famous hogheads cheese, as she called it, sweetened rice, oatmeal, and a variety of jams, jellies, honey, sorghum molasses from the pantry, cellar, or smoke curing house. It was a rare occasion and a real treat, we thought, to have a store bought loaf of bread or cake. (How dumb can one get!?) Breakfast was not served untill after the morning milking chores were done. If school was in session, mother packed lunches while we ate and then scooted us out to the old model T Ford so dad could take us the mile and three quarters to the old one-room country school, on his way to town to deliver the milk to the dairy. If school was not in session, Mother ate with us, and before we were excused from the table each of us were assigned our work schedule for the day if we did not already know.

"Mother usually headed up the gardening, washing, ironing, cleaning, caring for the milk in the cooling process. The poultry department was her choosing too. The cattle and other animals and their care was Dad's department. My brothers, Jack and Harry, being 10 and 8 years my senior, got to do all the fun things with Dad while my sister, 6 years older than I, and I got stuck with the boring stuff around the house and garden. Sis, as we called her, helped with the washing and ironing. Her main duties were laundrying, house cleaning and preparing the noon meal, while Mother and I did the outside portion -- gardening, canning, and poultry duties. When time permitted Mother helped chop or pick cotton. I'm afraid I wasn't much help, as I was too busy picking sand burr stickers out of my bare feet or looking for the biggest and easiest bole of cotton. When I'd get tired or sleepy I would curl up on the big long cotton sack that Mother pulled along the ground and take a nap. I wasn't trusted with a chopping hoe as there would have probably been more weeds left standing than cotton and I also probably wouldn't have many toes left today.

"Monday was usually "wash day" and it took just about all day to get everything done. Lots of water needed to be drawn from the well or pumped depending on where we lived. Mother was very meticulous about boiling the heavy clothes in home made lye soap water in the old kettle in the yard. My job was to build and keep the fire burning gently on the scrub board. Two rinse waters were used. The second white clothing and linens. The solar dryer consisted of a simple wire clothes line and clothes pins."

The History of The Bemo Family

"From the earliest part of the growing season after Dad or one of my brothers had plowed and harrowed the garden plot, Mother was either planting, hoeing or cultivating the many vegetables, berries and fruit. Our first fresh vegetable each spring was wild greens picked from the fields of our farm. Harvesting, cooking, canning, preserving, or drying the various produce came throughout the season. I remember one year we kept track of the number of "cans" (they were actually glass jars) we put up -- over 800! -- and some of those were half gallon containers. All six of our family were hearty eaters.

"We hardly ever went to anyone else's house to eat. Everyone came to our place instead. Wonder why? Mother never turned away a stranger looking for a meal and they usually took with them some leftovers in a sack to 'carry them over for a spell.'

"Mother had only a third grade education but somehow managed to keep all of us kids up with the top of the class in the 3 Rs. Seemed as if she had every book memorized and our home work had to be just right before handed in to the teacher. When we got paddled at school we got another one when we got home -- along with the many other well deserved ones we earned around the house. The reasoning and talking to after the punishment was about as bad as the whipping itself but we always knew why we got paddled. I often wondered why she usually went to another room after the ordeal and invariably dabbed at her eyes for some reason. Mothers sure do some strange things sometimes.

"Preparing meals in summer was especilly trying for Mother. Cooking over a big wood-burning stove with no electricity for fans or cooling was extremely hot. Hand-held fans were the only means of stirring the air. I remember on several occasions of swinging the door back and forth to create some circulation while she stood at the stove.

"Mother had frequent sick spells. Dad would drive into town and ask the family doctor to make a house call. The doctor would usually drive out after office hours and order bed rest for a while but she thought she didn't have time or couldn't (wouldn't is the better terminology). The doc would leave some pills for Dad to give her if she didn't rest. For some reason she always got sick enough then to stay in bed for a few days. Dad would then stop giving her the pills and in a day or so she would be well enough to get back to the old grind. What a rough way to recuperate? I don't think she ever caught on to what was taking place.

The History of The Bemo Family

"Mother's teeth were all mostly decayed or missing. She usually talked with her hand or handkerchief over her mouth. Lots of tooth aches. Only soups or soft foods. Finally when I was about ten years old she had what snags were left pulled and dentures made. That also was a painful and trying time as she scrapped away the irritating tight places herself. I watched many times as she used pieces of broken glass to remove thin layers off the dentures to make them fit better. That finally accomplished, her health seemed to improve as I don't remember her having any more of those prolonged sick times.

Soon after Kate Mitchell (my dad's mother) died we were forced to move from the old homestead to various farms, each move lasting about one year. Each move put us a little further into harder circumstances. During this time Dad's health also worsened. While Dad found a few low paying odd jobs Mother took in washings and ironed for others. Our last move as a family was into a small two bedroom house in town that I bought at the age of 16. \$10 down and \$10 a month. We had electricity, natural gas for heat and cooking, and city water to a cold water tap in the kitchen, no bathroom, but a little outhouse at the end of the trail."

"This was something Mother could call her own, and immediatly began changing it from a house to a home. Progress was slow but with her penny pinching and 'making do,' curtains appeared on the windows and flowers began to turn the yard into the garden spot of the neighborhood. The milk, butter, and eggs from Dad's Jersey cow that he tethered on vacant lots nearby, and the chickens housed in the brand-new used lumber chicken house we all had a hand in building, sure was a big plus in our food fare. Even managed to sell some of the surplus milk and eggs. My paper route, lawn mowing, telegraph messenger service, and other jobs helped some too.

"My dad's demise was a terrible blow to all of us, of course, but was devastating to mother. Their love for each other never wavered over the years. Just the opposite. We thought she would grieve herself to death in a short time, but in due season, her strong faith in God, and His sustaining grace and power, loved her through the crisis as she determined to 'wear out instead of rust out.' With painful corns and bunions developed on her feet over the years, and arthritis in most every joint, she maintained a fairly upright stance in spite of osteoporosis. She refused to use a walking cane where anyone could see her. Rather, she used her garden hoe or rake wherever she was in the yard or garden. As a result few people knew that each step was painful. The weeds and grass didn't stand much of a chance either. Wish I had kept the newspaper write-up she got on one occasion for her outstanding community flower garden. She supplied many a seed, sprout, or cutting with envious admirers through the years. Whenever she saw a flower in someone's garden that she didn't have, she, in

The History of The Bemo Family

turn, managed to have some of it's offspring in her garden in a short time. It was said of her "she could make a dried up corn stalk sprout.' That might have been a slight exaggeration but at time I wasn't sure. She surely had the proverbial green thumb. More like green thumbs and fingers."

"Most surprising to many, Mother never learned to drive a car nor did she want to. She could always depend on Dad to take her places as long as he was able. After that she had no problem getting a ride to family gatherings and church services. She never liked to shop or go to the grocery store. A shopping list for someone to fill was all she wanted. I can't remember her ever being late or someone having to wait on her to get ready, as she was always standing at the door or yard gate with Bible in hand when her ride came. She had her regular place near the front at church assembly as she didn't want to miss a single word. She read and studied her way out of a 'faith only' congregation and into a New Testament fellowship of believers, mainly Riverside Christian Church, where she kept the Bible scholars on their toes as a result of her daily reading and studying of God's word. One would tell by her choice of words and expressions that she knew God was listening and would answer her prayers as she spoke to Him."

"Mother never regained her strength sufficiently enough to live alone after a nasty fall and broken hip and lying helpless for several hours before a neighbor found her. After I married in '42 and Dad's demise in 1950 she had managed on her own, with a little help from family and super neighbors. After her fall, her memory deteriorated rapidly. She would forget to take her medication and would't eat properly. I had to place her in a rest-home nearby. That may or may-not have been the proper place as she could look up the street only 1 1/2 blocks away and see her white picket fence I had put up for her. Many were the times she assured me that if she could only get back up there and get her hoe in her hands she could regain her strength and be able to live in her home again. Believe me that was one of the most difficult tasks I've ever experienced, saying no to my mom and trying to convince her that she was much better off there in the home where she was surely loved and cared for by one of the finest Christian ladies I've known. All the nurses loved and humored her too.

"She never lost her good hearing and with the help of eye glasses she had 20-20 vision. Her room was next to the last room at the far end of the hall -- her request -- as it was quieter there and away from all the noise and confusion near the front. She usually knew about when I would be coming by to visit. When she was well enough she would be sitting in her wheelchair peeking out her door -- watching. As soon as she saw me coming she would duck back into her room and see that everything was in order. I told her she put me in mind of a craw-dad with it's head sticking out of it's hole ready to pop back inside in a split second."

The History of the Bemo Family

"After some two years there, Mother's will to live gave way to her desire to be with the Lord. Other than memory loss her other facilities remained surprisingly strong and alert until after a lengthy battle in the hospital with double pneumonia. On our way back to the nursing home she made me promise her I would not take or allow her to go through another hospital stay again. Okay maybe for a broken bone, etc., but no more food, suction, or breathing tubes jammed down her throat. No more wires and needles taped to her arms and body. She said she was ready and anxious to die and go to her home prepared for her in Heaven. She reminded me often of her wish. This is one thing she never forgot or let me or the nursing staff forget.

"Not too long afterward I was called to the home at 6 AM on the third of December, 1973. Mother was growing weaker by the minute. She had told me goodbye the evening before. She was in a deep sleep when I arrived at her room. As Betty, the nursing home owner and I held her hands, her breathing slowed and shallowed gradually. After her last soft breath at 6:45 her heart made only a few weak attempts without oxygen and then that final complete restful sleep she had longed for for so long. HOME AT LAST FOREVER."

I remember grandmother as a sweet, sweet person. She worked in her garden of vegetables and flowers. Her place was always the prettiest place. As far as I know she read her Bible every day and attended Church every service. I can still visualize her sitting in her easy chair with her feet up reading her Bible.

I could write more about my dad, that is for sure. I have asked dad to write some things about himself. After he has written I will most likely add it. For now, and briefly, he served in the armed service, went to Ozark Christian College and pastored six churches that I can remember. He has worked as a full-time and part-time minister. He is an electrician by trade. He worked as a journeyman for many years and as Muskogee electrical and plumbing inspector for a few. He is an expert hunter, fisherman, gardener, and bee-keeper. He is a great dad, grandpa, and great grandpa!

I have put a lot of time in on this material during the last few months. Read this document, put it in a file and add to it as other material comes in. If you have something to add or change in this document please let me know and I will amend it. Add your own life's story. If the Lord carries that long, your children, grandchildren, etc. will appreciate it. You will too!

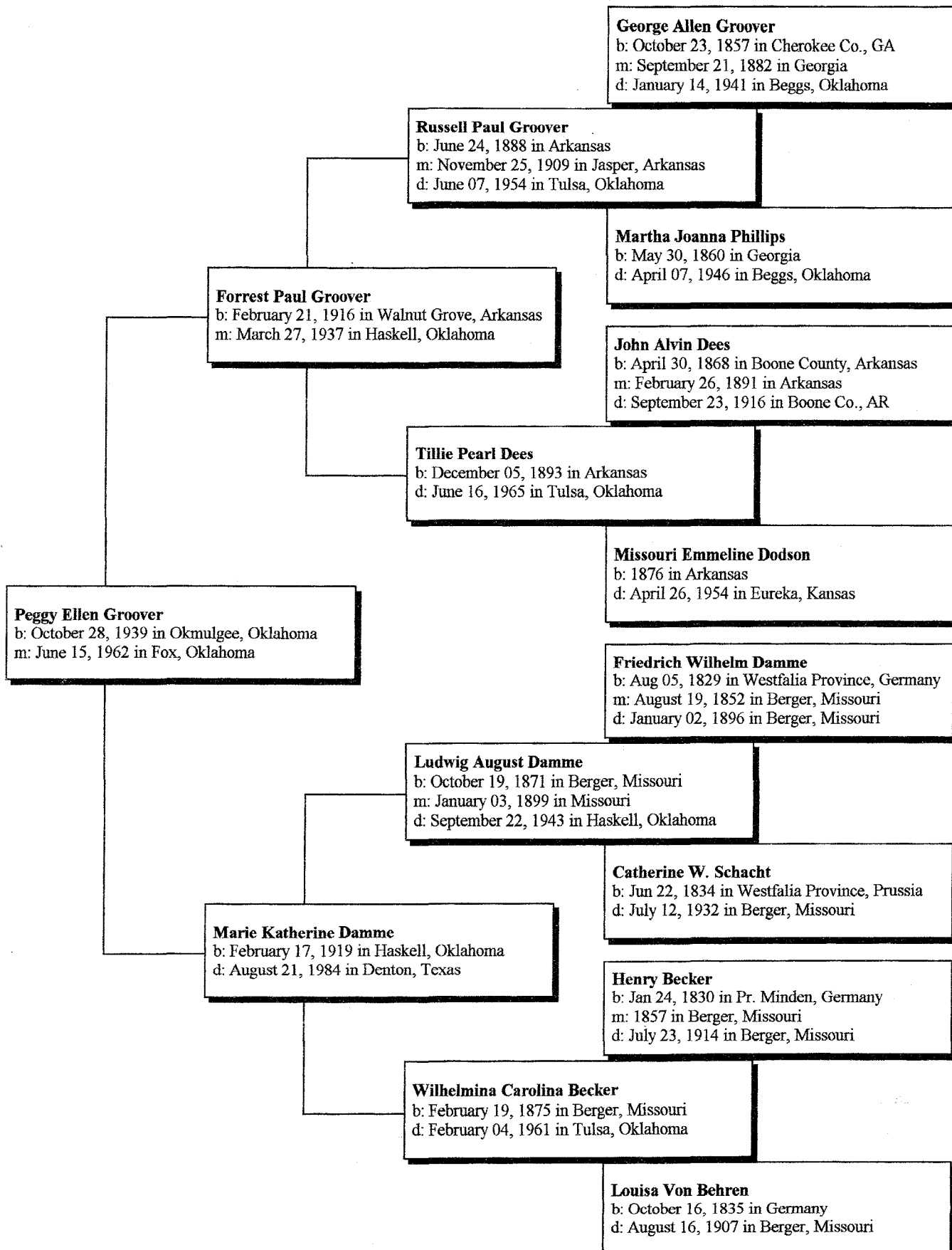
The History of the Bemo Family

I intend to write a couple of pages about myself. Right now it will have to suffice to say that I studied at Ozark Christian College and Crowder College and have been a missionary for almost 30 years. Janet Leigh Dittmore is my wonderful wife and we have 6 children and 5 grandchildren as of this writing.

For my children I encourage you to read He Leadeth Me by Isabel Dittmore, and Taking the Woe out of Worry by Maude Maxey, if you haven't already, to get up on your heritage from the Dittmore/Maxey side of the family. I hope this will help you know more who you are. You have a great heritage and at the same time this will help you know that we are all sinners, in need of a savior.

At times I am dismayed when I see what has happened to the Seminole people. Some might wonder where their identity is with such a family history. I see God as the director of all politics and history. I see Him as an important factor in our history. I find my identity in Him. "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God." (I Peter 2:9 & 10)

Ancestors of Peggy Ellen Groover



Husband: Billy Joe Gentry

Born: May 15, 1932 in: Hope, Arkansas
 Married: June 15, 1962 in: Fox, Oklahoma
 Died: in:
 Father: Joseph Byers Gentry
 Mother: Gladys Marie Reece
 Other Spouses:

Wife: Peggy Ellen Groover

Born: October 28, 1939 in: Okmulgee, Oklahoma
 Died: in:
 Father: Forrest Paul Groover
 Mother: Marie Katherine Damme
 Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Name: Lisa Deanne Gentry Born: November 10, 1963 Married: Died: Spouse: | in: Dallas, Texas in: in: |
| 2 | Name: Linda Carol Gentry Born: September 23, 1966 Married: October 28, 1989 Died: Spouse: Mark Ronald Duebner | in: Garland, Texas in: Lewisville, Texas in: |
| 3 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |
| 4 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |
| 5 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |
| 6 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |
| 7 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |
| 8 | Name: Born: Married: Died: Spouse: | in: in: in: |

Thirty-four of the 200 FAMOUS UNITED STATES DEPUTY MARSHALS that worked out of the world's greatest criminal court, The Federal Court for the Western District of Arkansas, presided over by Judge Isaac C. Parker (1875-1896), at Fort Smith, Ark.; 28,000 arrests were made; 13,000 were criminals; 344 were convicted of capital crimes; 88 actually hung. These deputy marshals cleaned up the Central Southwest and prepared Indian Territory for statehood.



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(1) M. A. Sabolt; (2) Wm. Pape; (3) E. B. Raterree; (4) Enoch Mills; (5) Ned C. Little, most noted Indian Territory outlaw, fought until dead rather than surrender, his captors were Nos. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35, who engaged him in battle near Tahlequah, November 2, 1892; (6) C. Copeland; (7) W. H. Darrough, Marshal; (8) James Wilkinson, Jailor; (9) E. H. Hubbard; (10) E. H. Hubbard; (11) Sam Lawrence; (12) Henry Donathan; (13) Bill Tullghman; (14) J. S. Burke; (15) Joe Smith; (16) Bud Ledbetter; (17) J. B. Rector; (18) S. M. Rutherford, Marshal; (19) A. R. Cottle; (20) Jack Yoos; (21) Col. Jacob Yoos, Marshal; (22) Geo. Yoos; (23) Gus Lubbes, Jailor; (24) Wes Bauman; (25) Abe Allen; (26) John Tolbert; (27) Bill Smith; (28) Tom Johnson; (29) Chris Madsen, Guthrie; (30) Hugh Simpson; (31) Capt. S. White; (32) Chas. Copeland; (33) Paden Colbert; (34) Heck Brupper; (35) Dave Ruak.

Muskogee County School Enumeration Report
Pleasant Valley, District 61
For the School Year 1912

Transcribed by Aldena B. Powell from the records in the County School Superintendent's Office

| PAGE | PARENT | CHILD | SEX | BIRTH DATE | AGE | ADDRESS |
|------|----------------|-------------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|
| 1 | V. E. Stewart | Wanda Grimes | F | 1-16-1897 | 15 | Oktaha |
| 2. | H. C. Conley | Garland Conley | M | 7-24-1902 | 9 | Oktaha |
| 3. | A. J. Mitchell | Willie Mitchell | M | 11-08-1891 | 20 | Wainwright |
| | | Emery Mitchell | M | 4-01-1892 | 18 | Wainwright |
| | | Lois Mitchell | F | 9-04-1893 | 17 | Wainwright |
| | | Milo Mitchell | M | 10-07-1894 | 15 | Wainwright |
| | | Elmo Mitchell | M | 2-17-1897 | 13 | Wainwright |
| | | Kathleen Mitchell | F | 10-13-1900 | 11 | Wainwright |
| | | Clarence Mitchell | M | 9-11-1903 | 8 | Wainwright |
| 4 | Cal Hill | Leo (?) Hill | M | 1-15-1905 | 7 | Oktaha |
| 5 | W. M. Eaton | Walter Eaton | M | 12-01-1891 | 20 | Wainwright |
| | | Lawrence Eaton | M | 2-22-1894 | 17 | Wainwright |
| | | Cleve Eaton | M | 3-05-1897 | 14 | Wainwright |
| | | Mrs. Nola Eaton | F | 6-?-1895 | 16 | Wainwright |
| 6. | Simon Moats | Ella Moats | F | 4-16-1894 | 17 | Oktaha |
| | | Lilly Moats | F | 6-16-1891 | 20 | Oktaha |
| | | Alva Moats | M | 2-17-1899 | 12 | Oktaha |
| 7. | | Harold Moats | M | 2-11-1903 | 8 | Oktaha |

Muskogee County School Enumeration Report, 1912

| PAGE | PARENT | CHILD | SEX | BIRTH DATE | AGE | ADDRESS |
|------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------|------------|-----|------------|
| 8. | G. W. McAdams | Floyd McAdams | M | 2-24-1891 | 20 | Oktaha |
| | | Telia McAdams | F | 1-11-1893 | 19 | Oktaha |
| | | Stella McAdams | F | 9-17-1898 | 14 | Oktaha |
| | | Tommie McAdams | M | 2-21-1899 | 12 | Oktaha |
| | | Lorena Vanpelt | F | 9-05-1903 | 8 | Oktaha |
| | | Goldie Vanpelt | F | 12-06-1905 | 6 | Oktaha |
| 10. | R. S. Neff | Nellie Neff | F | 10-26-1896 | 15 | Oktaha |
| | | Benton Neff | M | 8-11-1899 | 12 | Oktaha |
| | | Bessie Neff | F | 9-04-1901 | 10 | Oktaha |
| 11. | Don Thurston | Maud Thurston | F | 8-09-1896 | 15 | Wainwright |
| | | Harry Thurston | M | 10-12-1899 | 11 | Wainwright |
| | | Tarleton Thurston | M | 7-05-1902 | 8 | Wainwright |
| | | Fred Thurston | M | 2-29-1904 | 7 | Wainwright |
| 12. | D. F. Scott | Abe Scott | M | 1-11-1896 | 16 | Wainwright |
| | | Levy Scott | F (?) | 11-13-1898 | 14 | Wainwright |
| | | Alpha Scott | F | 2-10-1904 | 7 | Wainwright |
| | | Wes Harland | M | ----- | 10 | Wainwright |
| 13. | Susana Herod (Susanna) | Ida McIntosh | F | 3-12-1903 | 7 | Oktaha |
| 14. | E. D. Coffman | Carrie Coffman | F | 2-04-1903 | 8 | Oktaha |
| | | Bessie Coffman | F | 11-04-1904 | 7 | Oktaha |

Muskogee County School Enumeration Report, 1912

| PAGE | PARENT | CHILD | SEX | BIRTH DATE | AGE | ADDRESS |
|------|----------------|-------------------|------|------------|-----|------------|
| 15. | J. W. Harshaw | Buford Harshaw | M | 3-01-896 | 15 | Oktaha |
| | | Floyd Harshaw | M | 9-07-1900 | 11 | Oktaha |
| | | Lee Harshaw | M | 9-30-1903 | 8 | Oktaha |
| | | Blanche Harshaw | F | 1-22-1906 | 6 | Oktaha |
| 16. | J. D. Whayne | Deciona Whayne | M | 11-10-1902 | 9 | Oktaha |
| | | Orban Whayne | M | 2-18-1905 | 6 | Oktaha |
| 17. | O. F. Lundqist | Clifford Lundqist | ---- | 2-14-1902 | 9 | Wainwright |
| | | Gledine Lundqist | ---- | 8-19-1905 | 7 | Wainwright |
| 18. | W. M. Conley | George Conley | ---- | 9-17-1894 | 17 | Oktaha |
| 19. | J. E. Coker | Elmer Coker | M | 8-17-1903 | 8 | Oktaha |
| 20. | W. B. Gray | Elsie Gray | F | 3-02-1894 | 17 | Oktaha |
| | | Willie Gray | F | 10-16-1896 | 15 | Oktaha |
| | | Vertie Gray | F | 2-08-1899 | 12 | Oktaha |
| | | Harlas Gray | M | 5-20-1905 | 6 | Oktaha |
| 21. | Mitchell Perry | Nettie Perry | F | 2-14-1893 | 18 | Wainwright |
| | | Esther Lee Perry | F | 12-12-1896 | 15 | Wainwright |
| | | Lucile M. Perry | F | 12-14-1905 | 6 | Wainwright |

Family # 21 was listed as 'colored'.

*Marriage Records - Muskogee Indian Territory
First U.S. District Court - Northern District - 1893
Compiled by Deone Penquite*

*These records are a continuation of the MCGS publication
"Marriage Records: Muskogee Indian Territory - Northern District, June 1893 through July 1893"
published in 1987*

| <u>GROOM/BRIDE</u> | <u>AGE</u> | <u>RESIDENCE</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>BOOK</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tarpley, Thomas J. Clark, Lidia M. | 32 19 | Muscogee Adair | 12 Jun 1893 | C | 34 |
| McKinney, John A. Randel, Anabel | 23 17 | Checotah Checotah | 12 Jun 1893 | C | 35 |
| Stevens, Ben A. Brooks, Etta J. | 19 15 | Muldrow Muldrow | 12 Jun 1893 | C | 35 |
| Lewis, Al Dacoln, Emma | 26 18 | Afton Afton | 13 Jun 1893 | C | 36 |
| Tune, Philip H. Ross, Marth | 38 21 | Sallisaw Sallisaw | 13 Jun 1893 | C | 36 |
| Reed, M.A. Reed, Artesia | 33 18 | Webbers Falls Webbeers Falls | 13 Jun 1893 | C | 37 |
| Pennington, William Cook, Mary E. | 40 21 | Adair Adair | 2 Jun 1893 | C | 37 |
| Mahan, John Lawless, Lillie | 24 18 | Muldrow Muldrow | 3 Jun 1893 | C | 38 |
| Garrett, J.C. Thomas, Louise | 25 20 | Fairland Fairland | 6 Jun 1893 | C | 38 |
| Davis, Wm. A. Rogers, Rosa Katie | 38 17 | Catoosa Catoosa | 6 Jun 1893 | C | 39 |
| Hendricks, T.L. Williams, Maggie E. | 27 18 | Webbers Falls Webbers Falls | 7 Jun 1893 | C | 39 |
| Payton, A.W. Randall, Blanche | 24 19 | Fort Scott Colbert | 7 Jun 1893 | C | 40 |
| Miller, G.W.(M) Hamilton, Elizabeth | 67 52 | Missouri Missouri | 10 Jun 1893 | C | 40 |
| Richardson, James Pettit, Lucy | 26 35 | Braggs Braggs | 9 Jun 1893 | C | 41 |
| Mathews, John D. Nelms, Mary | 33 ? | Fazie Fazie | 10 Jun 1893 | C | 41 |
| Lazarus, Hudson Corbin, Annie | 29 33 | Claremore Claremore | 5 Jun 1893 | C | 42 |
| Cline, Lewis Baker, Sue | 26 18 | Bunceton, MO Bunceton, MO | 21 Jun 1893 | C | 42 |

*Marriage Records - Muskogee Indian Territory
First U.S. District Court - Northern District - 1893*

| BRIDE/GROOM | AGE | RESIDENCE | DATE | BOOK | PAGE |
|--|----------|--------------------------------|-------------|------|------|
| Moore, Jas. A. Rich, Nettie | 21 20 | Tulsa Tulsa | 22 Jun 1893 | C | 43 |
| Reed, Henry Cooper, Abbie | 40 45 | Vinita Vinita | 19 Jun 1893 | C | 43 |
| Boswell, Thomas B. Vanwinkle, Louisa | 19 ? | Vinita Vinita | 21 Jun 1893 | C | 44 |
| Stidham, William R. Gossett, Pricilla | 30 21 | Sallisaw Sallisaw | 24 Jun 1893 | C | 44 |
| Rich, J.S. Hick, Amie | 26 27 | Ft. Gibson Ft. Gibson | 26 Jun 1893 | C | 45 |
| Eddlemon, James Henry (Lou) | 24 19 | Muldrow Muldrow | 27 Jun 1893 | C | 45 |
| Edwards, John Gamblen, Lona | 18 18 | Webbers Falls Webbers Falls | 27 Jun 1893 | C | 46 |
| Morris, Jas. A. Forbes, Bettie | 18 19 | Sallisaw Sallisaw | 25 Jun 1893 | C | 46 |
| Bantley, J.T. West, Nancy Ann | 36 24 | Hudsons Hudsons | 26 Jun 1893 | C | 47 |
| Howell, Jno. M. Toon, Mary E. | 25 15 | Muldrow Muldrow | 24 Jun 1893 | C | 47 |
| Stewart, E.E. Shurlock, Emma | 20 20 | Muscogee Muscogee | 28 Jun 1893 | C | 48 |
| Hasey, Geo. M. Yagon, Martha | 30 34 | Tahlequah Tahlequah | 6 Jul 1893 | C | 48 |
| Wilkinson, Charles McDonald, Hattie | 22 18 | Tahlequah Tahlequah | 6 Jul 1893 | C | 49 |
| Dixons, Nute Long, Ellen | 46 18 | Lumlee Lumlee | 6 Jul 1893 | C | 49 |
| Heinomyous, William Ramsey, Emma | 29 18 | Missouri Missouri | 6 Jul 1893 | C | 50 |
| Marshall, Dave Boyd, Laura | 23 18 | Wagoner Wagoner | 4 Jul 1893 | C | 50 |
| Fowler, Martin Pinkstaff, Nora | 36 15 | Wagoner Wagoner | 8 Jul 1893 | C | 51 |

Marriage Records - Muskogee Indian Territory
First U.S. District Court - Northern District - 1893

| <u>GROOM/BRIDE</u> | <u>AGE</u> | <u>RESIDENCE</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>BOOK</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|--|------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| McGarock, D.N. Weast, Nettie | 28 ? | Claremore Claremore | 7 Jul 1893 | C | 51 |
| Casebolt, Elisha Burnett, Florence | 23 17 | Claremore Claremore | 7 Jul 1893 | C | 52 |
| Price, Peter Holden, Mary Ann | 48 35 | Muscogee Muscogee | 7 Jul 1893 | C | 52 |
| Bowman, E.O. Barbee, Mary | 23 19 | Talala Talala | 5 Jul 1893 | C | 53 |
| Henson, Lum Bledsoe, Ethel | 21 15 | Muldrow Muldrow | 5 Jul 1893 | C | 53 |
| Patton, Chas N. McClanahan, Cora A. | 22 18 | Sapulpa Weleeka | 9 Jul 1893 | C | 54 |
| Brooks, Ben N. Bellen, Adah | 25 19 | Muldrow Muldrow | 10 Jul 1893 | C | 54 |
| Parker, Ed Bowleg, Hanna | 25 18 | Eufaula Eufaula | 12 Jul 1893 | C | 55 |
| Stevens, Geo. Hains, Elizabeth | 35 | Muldrow Muldrow | 8 Jul 1893 | C | 55 |
| Huttingen, Stephen Miller, Ida | 48 16 | Tahlequah Tahlequah | 8 Jul 1893 | C | 56 |
| Arnold, B ((F)) Battise, Eliza | 30 27 | Webbers Falls Webbers Falls | 8 Jul 1893 | C | 56 |
| Henson, Jas. H. Steward, Fannie | 46 24 | Checotah Checotah | 29 Jun 1893 | C | 57 |
| Clay, James Henry Park, Fannie | 28 18 | Tahlequah Tahlequah | 1 Jul 1893 | C | 57 |
| Culbertson, J.L. Stalken, Amanda E. | 47 24 | Vinita Vinita | 30 Jun 1893 | C | 58 |
| Lanford, Charles W. Winfield, Rosa | 22 18 | Fairland Fairland | 5 Jul 1893 | C | 58 |
| McMaster, Walter Edwards, Nettie | 19 18 | Springfield, MO Springfield, MO | 12 Jul 1893 | C | 59 |
| Singleton, H. Irvin, Mary | 31 31 | Wagoner Wagoner | 13 Jul 1893 | C | 59 |
| Levenig, George Pensall, Florence | 33 21 | Muscogee Tahlequah | 13 Jul | C | 60 |

*Marriage Records – Muskogee Indian Territory
First U.S. District Court – Northern District – 1893*

| <u>BRIDE/GROOM</u> | <u>AGE</u> | <u>RESIDENCE</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>BOOK</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Austin, J.O. Dixon, Mary E. | 25 22 | Fairland Fairland | 30 Jun 1893 | C | 60 |
| Moor, T.B. Hughes, Ann | 54 45 | Choska Choska | 12 Jul 1893 | C | 61 |
| Cook, F.C. Caw, Sallie | 28 18 | Checotah Checotah | 12 Jul 1893 | C | 61 |
| Dean, Jno. Dean, Willie | 21 28 | Muscogee Muscogee | 15 Jul 1893 | C | 62 |
| Foster, Guy Maxwell, Lona | 27 16 | Springfied, MO Springfield, MO | 19 Jul 1893 | C | 62 |
| Fly, W.D. Riggle, Martha | 31 19 | Arkansas Wagoner | 20 Jul 1893 | C | 63 |
| Whimsey, B.W. Highland, Nettie | 18 18 | Muscogee Muscogee | 21 Jul 1893 | C | 63 |
| Connett, Jno. W. Wood, Nellie | 48 20 | Braggs Bragga | 22 Jul 1893 | C | 64 |
| Tarbon, Alfred Earley, Alice | 21 23 | Tahlequah Tahlequah | 23 Jul 1893 | C | 64 |
| Milam, A.M. Doyle, Laura | 25 20 | Eufaula Eufaula | 22 Jul 1893 | C | 65 |
| Looney, Henry Obaien, Maud | 23 19 | Muscogee Muscogee | 24 Jul 1893 | C | 65 |
| Murry, Jas Weddles, Emma | 21 18 | Muscogee Muscogee | 24 Jul 1893 | C | 66 |
| Woods, J.W. Wingo, E.J., Mrs. | 28 21 | Watova Checotah | 25 Jul 1893 | C | 66 |
| Rogers, Frank Miller, Nettie | 22 18 | Ft. Gibson Ft. Gibson | 27 Jul 1893 | C | 67 |
| Gibson, Edward Rose, Mrs. | 65 65 | Muscogee Muscogee | 27 Jul 1893 | C | 67 |
| Lowe, A.D. Lowe, Oma Belle | 28 18 | Carthage, MO Carthage, MO | 29 Jul 1893 | C | 68 |
| Lucas, John Winkle, Margie | 25 19 | Checotah Checotah | 29 Jul 1893 | C | 68 |

BROKEN ARROW GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
POST OFFICE BOX 1244
BROKEN ARROW, OKLAHOMA 74013-1244

August 6, 1999

Please include the following notice in your September quarterly.

The Broken Arrow Genealogical Society is hosting a fall seminar on October 2, 1999 at the Floral Haven Family Center, 6500 S 129 E. Avenue (Olive) in Broken Arrow. The center is on the west side of the street, north of Floral Haven Cemetery between 71st. (Kenosha) and 61st. (Albany) Streets.

The featured speaker is nationally known Leslie Smith Collier of Dallas, Texas. Her topics are: *Sherlock Holmes and the Write Way to Research*, a specific method of reassessing your problems to clarify new research approaches; *How Lay the Land*, an explanation of a neighborhood study; *One Heck of a Genealogist*, a brand new topic locating and using case files from the General Land Office; and *A Taxing Situation*, the effective use of tax records to solve many genealogical puzzles

Registration is \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at the door. Registration will be at 8:30 and the first lecture will begin at 9 00 a.m. Participants may order a sandwich lunch for \$5.00, bring a sack lunch or eat out. Mail registrations to Broken Arrow Genealogical Society, PO Box 1244, Broken Arrow, OK 74013-1244

For additional flyers or information contact Marmie Apsley, 918-455-8619 by phone or e-mail mapsley@cwix.com

Oklahoma War Mothers

The War Department on February 19th announced that the mothers and widows of Oklahoma soldiers who died in the World War and who were eligible to make a tour of European cemeteries would be enabled to do so as guests of the federal government. The first of the pilgrimages began in May, 1930. The complete list of Oklahoma eligibles included 188 names, by counties as follows:

Muskogee County:

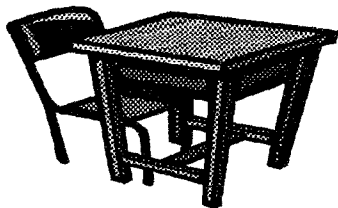
Dora Connor, Wainwright, mother of David L. Connor; Lillie Gilyard, Muskogee, mother of Jim Gilyard; Elzettie B. Long, Warner, mother of John E. Long; Mamie Pierce, Braggs, mother of Claude Pierce; Amy F. Verbeck, Muskogee, mother of George D. Taylor. Oklahoma Almanac for 1931, p. 291



Muskogee Eagle Scouts
 Taken from "Tulsa Annals", v. 27, n.1, p. 43-46

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| George K. Davis | 1912 | William Camden | 14 Dec 1923 |
| William Johnson | 1913 | Robert L. Atkins | 24 Oct 1924 |
| Russell Steele | 1913 | Gatacher Brooks | 23 Sep 1925 |
| William C. Johnson | ? | A. Beecher Butts | 10 Oct 1925 |
| Philip Moffatt | 1920 | Lloyd Cousins | 23 Sep 1925 |
| Camp Bonds | 23 Aug 1920 | Joe Cromwell | 15 Jul 1925 |
| Arthur McGarr | 8 Aug 1921 | Milton Hannan | 16 Oct 1925 |
| George L. Nay | 28 Apr 1921 | Clark Jones | 2 Oct 1925 |
| Karl Niemann | 21 May 1921 | Grover R. Adams | 30 Sep 1926 |
| H. S. Rosendorf | 28 Apr 1921 | Bill Patterson | 5 Nov 1926 |
| Overton Stilwell | 30 Jun 1921 | Fritz Von Unweirth | 9 Nov 1926 |
| Byrne Bowman | 10 Apr 1922 | Hudson Ed DeGroot | 6 Sep 1927 |
| Robert H. Breeden | 28 Jun 1922 | Oliver Shaw | 7 Dec 1928 |
| Jack Downie | 10 Apr 1922 | John Harold Stewart | 24 Sep 1929 |
| Rector Fitts | 28 Jun 1922 | William White | 1 Jul 1929 |
| Harold Graham | 10 Apr 1922 | John Locke | 14 Aug 1930 |
| George Loway | 28 Jun 1922 | Warren Welch | 21 May 1930 |

1920 Muskogee County School
 District, No. 1 (Boynton)



| <u>PAGE</u> | <u>PARENTS NAME</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1. | S. E. Walker |
| 2. | Sophie Brown |
| 3. | John Dean |
| 4. | Gertrude Kelly |
| 5. | Jim Johnson |
| 6. | L. Z. Lowa |
| 7. | Bailey Lockett |
| 8. | Robert Moore |
| 9. | Robert Moore |
| 10. | Will Fwölkes |
| 11. | Leroy McCaulley |
| 12. | Lafayette Moore |
| 13. | Mathelde Fletcher |
| 14. | Annie Walker |
| 15. | Vina Fletcher |
| 16. | Allen Taylor |
| 17. | Edna Belton |
| 18. | Margarett Kernal |
| 19. | Bell Powell |
| 20. | Mary Young |
| 21. | Fannie Thornton |
| 22. | |

Grant Foreman Room New Titles 3rd Qtr., 1999

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- Samuel, Dorothy S. Samuell/Samuel Families of Tidewater Virginia.
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- Treat, John Harvey. Ancestry of Col. John Harvey. Donated by Rae Lindsey.
- Wheeler, Richard Anson. Manning Family. Donated by Rae Lindsey.
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Influenza In Muskogee

The dreaded disease spread from the military camps to the civilian population after having been brought to America when the soldiers returned from serving in World War I. In the early days of the epidemic every remedy imaginable was tried to stop the spreading germs, but to little avail. The following article is one of many that appeared in the *Muskogee Daily Phoenix*.

EIGHTEEN MORE CASES OF INFLUENZA DEVELOP

Eighteen new cases of influenza were reported to the city health department yesterday--one more than for the day before. Following are the cases reported yesterday:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| H. W. Smith, | 117 South G street, |
| Mr. Magorn, | 517 1/2 Dayton street, |
| Mildred Vandergraph, | 217 North D street, |
| Home of H. Rogers, two members, | 229 East Side boulevard, |
| S. O. Hunt, | Spaulding boulevard, |
| Mrs. Hawkins, | 329 South Sixth street, |
| Mrs. Cunningham, | 139 South Sixth street, |
| Mrs. Bunce and son | 440 North Cherokee street, |
| Mr. Ferguson, | 720 East Okmulgee avenue, |
| Home of Mr. Marshall, two members | 1424 Columbus street, |
| Gladys Crow, | 432 Emporia street, |
| J. A. Witt, | 1111 Denison street, |
| Home of Mr. Massey, three members, | 428 East street. |

(2 January 1919, p. 8, c. 6).

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Miss Helen Lemley researched the names above and found that there are possibly two persons from the list who are buried in Greenhill Cemetery. They are:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Julia A Cunningham | 13 Mar 1877 | 23 Apr 1919 |
| Claude Ferguson | 1901 | 26 May 1919 |

Department of Institutions Social & Rehabilitative Services

Taft State Hospital Cemetery

| NAME | LINE | PLOT | NAME | LINE | PLOT |
|----------------------|------|------|--------------------|------|------|
| Jessie McFadden | 1 | 1 | Bert E. Swan | 2 | 6 |
| Young H. Murry | 1 | 2 | Enda Butler | 2 | 7 |
| Junius Hudson | 1 | 3 | Hallie Johnson | 2 | 8 |
| Jimmie Lee Cole | 1 | 4 | Aurrella Redmond | 2 | 9 |
| Noah H. Henry | 1 | 5 | John Mosley | 2 | 10 |
| Robert Polk | 1 | 6 | John Lewis | 2 | 11 |
| Lucille Washington | 1 | 7 | Mae Cupp | 2 | 12 |
| Joan Thompson | 1 | 8 | Annie Thompson | 2 | 13 |
| David Williams | 1 | 9 | Pearlie Mae Perry | 2 | 14 |
| Hyder Barrett | 1 | 10 | Richard Holman | 2 | 15 |
| John A. Taylor | 1 | 11 | John Dernell Shipp | 2 | 16 |
| Tom Miller | 1 | 12 | Retha Brown | 2 | 17 |
| Nolan Clark | 1 | 13 | K. Simon (Mat) | 2 | 18 |
| Sammie Payne | 1 | 14 | Sadie West | 2 | 19 |
| Charles B. Jones | 1 | 15 | James Walls | 2 | 20 |
| Katie Potts | 1 | 16 | Robert Wallace | 2 | 21 |
| Montie ? | 1 | 17 | Robin Gray | 2 | 22 |
| Virginia Gray | 1 | 18 | Silas Jackson | 2 | 23 |
| Vendora Cantley | 1 | 19 | Albert J. Wilburn | 3 | 1 |
| John Taylor | 1 | 20 | Lillie Edwards | 3 | 14 |
| James Ford, Jr. | 1 | 21 | Gertrude Downey | 3 | 15 |
| Ethel Lee Wright | 1 | 22 | Almeater P. Napier | 4 | 1 |
| Mary White | 1 | 23 | William F. Brown | 5 | 1 |
| Samuel Thomas | 1 | 24 | Lucretia Van Hooks | 6 | 1 |
| Nellie L. Hunt | 1 | 25 | Iona Mullins | 7 | 1 |
| Opal Mae Branch | 2 | 1 | George Ellis | 8 | 1 |
| Clarence Gibbs, Jr. | 2 | 2 | Ollie Mae Reece | 9 | 1 |
| Ella Harris | 2 | 3 | Theodore Vann | 14 | 1 |
| Barbara Jean Hackney | 2 | 4 | Willie Green | 15 | 1 |
| James J. Johnson | 2 | 5 | Bennie Franklin | 16 | 2 |

[The above is from a framed etching at the Jess Dunn Correctional Center.]

BOOK REVIEW**By Vicki Lang****TITLE:****CHEROKEE BY BLOOD - Vol. 8**

Applications 20101 to 23800

Records of Eastern Cherokee Ancestry in the U. S.
Court of Claims 1906 - 1910

(490 pages including index)

Compiled by Jerry Wright Jordan
Published by Heritage Books, Inc.
1540-E Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie, MD 20716
301-390-7709

ISBN 1-55613-573-4

I loved this book! It is book compiled of applications of people trying to prove their Cherokee heritage and gives insight to the life and times of people in that time period. It isn't really a book to be read like a novel, but I did it anyway!

In 1906 Guion Miller was appointed by the U. S. Court of Claims to identify people who were members of the Eastern or Western Cherokee Tribe who lived in the tribal areas when the treaties of 1835 and 1936 and 1845 were signed. A one million dollar fund appropriated by the United States Congress was to be shared by their descendants. People sent applications telling their stories of why they felt they were eligible for tribal membership. These applications been recorded on 12 rolls of microfilm.

The author has read all 12 rolls and gathered information regarding a single application. His arrangements are: Applicant's name, residence, decision and reason, Miscellaneous testimony and exception cases where applicable, roll information for those admitted.

This book is page after wonderful page of people's stories on why they believe they are eligible to be Cherokee. (Including people who testified about how they knew them or their relatives) There is much genealogy information because it gives information such as: Number so-and-so; Rejected. Applicant is a 1st cousin once removed of Number such-and-such. (I wish someone could figure out my DYER family like that!) Also, when a person's application was accepted, it tells who their heritage is traced from. Sometimes many people are listed as descended from one person and you can cross reference their numbers, thus establishing family connections.

It is amusing that some people seemed to think Mr. Miller could tell them if they were Cherokee. Others sent in applications even though they were from other tribes. What really surprised me is that this is an excellent book for finding your black relatives. Also, some Creek Indians from Alabama sent in applications.

I would highly recommend that all libraries have this series on their shelves. It is an "equal opportunity" listing of people of all colors who lived in the southern part of our country who were trying very hard to be Cherokee by Blood!

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Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly

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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.

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