

MOUNTAIN HERITAGE

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.

September 1, 2016

Volume 4, Issue 3

A Soldier's Letter

SUBMITTED BY BRENDA COCHRAN

The soldier referred to in this letter was Sgt. Mitchell Adams Rodgers, and his older brother, Uriah J. Rodgers. The Confederate Soldier is a relative of Karyl Chastain Beal.

On August 1, 1866, from Augusta, ME, Union soldier LaGrange Severance wrote to William H. Rodgers of Brooks County, GA, about his encounter with Rodgers' son, a dying Confederate soldier.

My Dear Sir:

I will now do a duty which I have been prevented from doing before on account of a want of mail facilities.

I have been a soldier in the Federal Army; was at the battle of Cedar Creek, VA on the 19th of October, 1864, just at night of this day as we were advancing over ground lately gained. I came upon a soldier in gray uniform whose intelligent and expressive countenance so attracted my attention I could not resist the temptation to stop and learn something of him.

He was a sergeant in Co. "G" (I think), 26th Georgia regiment, and his name was Rodgers, but the first name I have forgotten. He was wounded in his left breast, and seemed conscious that he had but a short time to live. He told me he had a brother (older I think) lying dead but a few rods away. He was calm, quiet, and resigned, and said he would feel no anger for those who had caused his wound, as they, like himself, felt they were doing their duty. He seemed as quiet as though sleeping, suffering no pain. I gave him a drink of water, placed his blanket comfortably under his head, and pinned his name, regiment, and company upon it.

In answer to my inquiry whether he wished any word sent any friend or relative, if ever opportunity offered, he said, "If ever the war is over, and you can, write my father who lives in Quitman, Georgia and tell him where I died." He then gave me your address.

Continued on Page 2

In this quarterly issue:

A Soldier's Letter	1
We Need You	2
Bulletin Board	3
Annual Picnic Highlights	4
Annual Picnic Highlights: Special Recognitions	5
In Focus: Settlements in Early Gilmer County	6
President's Desk	7
Looking Back: Scroungertown Church 1920	7
First Families	8
Membership Dues	8
Family Research Center	9
New Books Added	10



American Pioneers: Flapjacks.
Albert, D. *Beyond the Mississippi.*
Hartford, CT: American
Publishing Company, 1867.



A Soldier's Letter (Continued from pg 1)

Reluctantly, I left him, feeling as though leaving a friend so strongly had his quiet demeanor and forgiving spirit impressed me. In those few minutes I had, I did not know whether he died or lived for I could never find the time to return to the spot, although wishing to do so, but often has my mind returned to that spot, surrounded by those scenes of duty which everywhere wet the eye in Shenandoah Valley, with the autumn sun sinking behind the mountains, and have felt at times when weary with the perplexities of life, almost envious of the quiet repose of the soldier.

It would gratify me to know if you receive this. Anything directed to Augusta, ME, care "Maine Farmer" will reach me.

I am, dear Sir, with great respect,
Your obedient servant,
LaGrange Severance

If any of you know either of these families, Wm H. Rogers of Brooks County .GA. or LaGrange Severance of ME., please email me at jbass@digital.net.

Information Taken from <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/CIVIL-WAR/1998-02/0887742531>.

We Need You to Join Our Team!

Volunteering with the Gilmer County Genealogy Society is a great way to learn more about the history of Gilmer County and its early citizens while helping others to find their roots as we preserve history. Meeting new people, learning and sharing information, and making a real contribution to the society are just a few of the benefits volunteers can receive for their time and effort.



We are looking for the following volunteer positions:

Board Members:

President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

Membership Chairs:

Membership, Publications, Publicity, Events, First Family and Research Team

Board Meetings are once a month prior to the monthly meeting.

If you are interested in serving, please email us at gcsi@hotmail.com.



Bulletin Board

September:

- 5th - Library Closed. Happy Labor Day!
- 8th - Gilmer County GCGSI Monthly Meeting at the Gilmer County Library at 2 PM. Speaker: Carolyn Bunce who created the Gilmer County Heritage Quilt. This project took a decade to complete and documents past and present local resources and fixtures. This unique quilt was first shown in the county in February, 2016. Mrs. Bunce is looking for an appropriate permanent home for the quilt to be displayed in Ellijay.

Genealogy Research Center Volunteers - Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Research Assistants: Karla Duke, Rebecca Burrell and the Research Team.

October

- 13th - Gilmer County GCGSI Monthly Meeting at the Gilmer County Library at 2 PM. Speaker: Leslie Barker Thomas, President of The Trail of Tears Association will be our guest speaker. She will be sharing information about the recently donated pen and ink sketches of 40 Cherokee home places and settlements created by Rev. Charles O Walker. As a result of Rev. Walker's early interest in preserving and documenting the history of the Cherokees, when he passed a way, he had already had several books published and material for others and extensive records. His family has shared some of his collection with the Trail of Tears Association and Ms Thomas will discuss these wonderful drawing with us.

Genealogy Research Center Volunteers - Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Research Assistants: Gladys Spivey, Patricia Henson and the Research Team.

November:

- 10th - Gilmer County GCGSI Monthly Meeting at the Gilmer County Library at 2 PM. Speaker: YOU! Show and Tell. Bring items from your past that you treasure to share with the group, or if you have an item from the past and would like to know what it is, bring it and we will try to figure it out! We will also be collecting White Christmas for the Lion's Club. More details to come through email.
- 11th - Library Closed. Happy Veteran's Day!
- 23rd - Library Closes at 5 PM.
- 24th and 25th - Library Closed. Happy Thanksgiving!

Genealogy Research Center Volunteers - Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Research Assistants: Karla Duke and Rebecca Burrell.

December:

Annual Christmas Luncheon and Installation of Officers

Everyone is invited. Bring a covered dish to share! It will be at the Shriner's Club at 11 AM. This will be our monthly meeting in December.





Annual Picnic Highlights at ETC Pavillion

PICTURES SUBMITTED BY REBECCA BURRELL



Continued on Page 5



Annual Picnic Highlights: Special Recognition

PICTURES SUBMITTED BY REBECCA BURRELL

Special Recognition for given to the very first Gilmer County Genealogical Society Board Members. All the names of the original board were read and recognized for their contribution to GCGSI. Pictured below are some of the original board members that were able to be at the picnic.



Pictured Left to Right: Kathryn Watkins, Betty Riddle, Anita Summers, Glenda Garland, and Jerrie Marie Crump .

Pictured to the right:
As the annual picnic is also our August monthly meeting, Brenda Lee Gann Clark, was recognized as the newest member of the First Families of Gilmer County. In the picture, Joy Childress is presenting the certificate to Brenda Cochran, who received the certificate for Ms. Clark. A list of all the new members for this quarter is on page 8.





In Focus: Settlements in Early Gilmer County

SUBMITTED BY GLADYS SPIVEY

The map pictured below is the Hudgins' Map of Gilmer County of 1915 as posted in the Ellijay Times Courier. This map shows the location of many of the small communities, some which no longer exist. Some are thriving with community centers, county fire stations and new housing developments.





President's Desk

SUBMITTED BY KAREN TITUS

The Summer Picnic was so much fun this year. We invited members of the original organizing members of our society and those who helped write the Gilmer Heritage Book. We were so pleased that many were able to attend and visit with us.

On a new note, we are trying to move forward with the book on the first families and our current assignment is to collect family stories from as many of you FF members as possible. They don't have to be lengthy and they don't have to be from "real old" ancestors. Remember, everyone who came before us is "an ancestor". Please write one or two stories your remember being told about your own family members and send to me as soon as possible.

Karen

katitus73@hotmail.com



Looking Back: Scroungetown School 1920

SUBMITTED BY GLADYS SPIVEY

This photo of Scroungetown School pupils was taken in July 1920. The photo was furnished by Mrs. Ernest Forrester and posted in the Ellijay Times Courier.



First Row: Coy Parks, Roy Cantrell, Raymond Holt, Claude Petit. Second Row: Glen Hagin, Gladys Allen, Clyde Cantrell, Eula Hagin, Zed Chadwick, Beula Hagin, and Paul Pettit. Third Row: Cleo Hagin, Glen Holt, Elsie Chadwick, Buford Hagin, Oden Martin, and Tamar Simmons. Fourth Row: Elma Twiggs (teacher), Grady Allen, Lillie Holt, Oral Martin, Romer Simmons, Edna Holt, Charles Cantrell, and John Hagin.



First Families

SUBMITTED BY JOY CHILDRESS

The purpose of the First Families program is to honor the pioneers who were settled in Gilmer County in 1840 or before, and to recognize those descendants who become members of this program. We encourage anyone who is directly descended from early citizens listed on the 1840 Gilmer County Census to apply. Applicants are not required to be currently residing in Gilmer County. For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.gcgisi.org/firstfamilies.html>.

First Family Members added this quarter.

- Ernestine "Suzie" Annis - Enoch Smith, Ancestor
- Sarah Jones Chastain - Samuel Jones, Sr., Ancestor
- Luke Chastain - Samuel Jones, Sr., Ancestor
- Matthew Chastain - Samuel Jones, Sr., Ancestor
- Brenda Lee Gann Clark - Samuel Jones, Sr., Ancestor

"The purpose of the First Families program is to honor the pioneers who were settled in Gilmer County by 1840 or before and to recognize those descendants who became members of this program."



Leslie Barker Thomas

Membership Dues

GCGSI is a non-profit all volunteer organization whose aim is to promote and preserve family history. Our goal is to have all necessary tools available in the Gilmer County Library's Genealogy Room to aide you in your search. We also encourage donations of family histories for preservation. We invite you to join us in our effort to attain our goal. The Membership Drive will begin at the November meeting for the 2017 Calendar year.

Please note that First Family Membership covered the GCGSI membership for the year that you joined First Families. So if you joined the First Family in 2016, your membership to GCGSI will be due by January 2017.

MEMBERSHIP:

PATRONS: \$50 CORPORATE: \$100 SPONSOR: \$250 BENEFACTOR: \$500

Annual Dues: Single \$10 Family \$15 (everyone living in same household) \$5 Student

If you are unable to attend an upcoming meeting, please visit our website at

<http://www.gcgisi.org/membership.html> for a membership form and mailing information.

Thank you for your support!



Family Research Center

Judith Schwartz is looking for the Key and Whitener family. Her email is jcschwartz45@gmail.com.

I'm doing research on my family history. My grandmother Callie Mae Kelly (born name) was born in Gilmer County in 1906 to William Langston Kelly and Missouri Kelly. Can you please email me any information on this family at binky7067@gmail.com. William Langston Kelly B-1828. D- 12/8/1921. Married to Missouri Kelly. Any information appreciated.

Patricia Harrison and Regina Summerford at rsummerford0429@yahoo.com is looking for information on the Harrison, Blizzard, Keen and Jordan families.

Joann Jones McAdams (jag0370@cmacast.net 850-566-8077) is looking for information on any Harpers who lived on Flat Branch RD. Specifically, she's looking for ties to the Revolutionary War. She's aware that Jesse Harper served in the Civil War and has information on James & May Harper as well as Benjamin H. Jones.

I am looking for an obituary for one of my ancestors, William Gudger, jr. who died about 1860 in Ellijay. His wife was Nancy. I am searching for proof acceptable to the DAR that their son was Joseph Henry Gudger, my great great grandfather. Any suggestions you could give me will be greatly appreciated.

Grace and peace,

Gayle Gudger Grubbs - gaylegrubbs3@gmail.com

Hi. My names is Kayla Snider and I am researching the Wright and Nicholson families. Some names near our end of the family tree are Lucinda Nicholson, Dallas Nicholson, Laura Jane Wright and Tyra (Ty) Wright. Thanks in advance for any information! Please email me at snyderke92@gmail.com.



New Books Added

SUBMITTED BY JOHN DAVIS

- A GENEALOGIST'S GUIDE TO DISCOVER
- GEORGIA FREE PERSONS OF COLOR, VOL 1
- GEORGIA FREE PERSONS OF COLOR, VOL 2
- GEORGIA FREE PERSONS OF COLOR, VOL 3
- GEORGIA FREE PERSONS OF COLOR, VOL 4, 1817-1863.
- YOUR AFRICAN AMERICAN ANCESTORS
- THE COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS IN BONDAGE 1614-1775
- SOUTHERN LOYALISTS IN THE CIVIL WAR
- THE 1850 CENSUS OF GA SLAVE OWNERS
- WEST VIRGINIA REVOLUTIONARY ANCESTORS
- REVOLUTIONARY WAR BOUNTY LAND GRANTS
- THE PENSION ROLLS OF 1835
- MAYFLOWER BIRTHS AND DEATHS
- MAYFLOWER DEEDS & PROBATES
- MAYFLOWER INCREASINGS, 2nd Ed.
- NORTHERN NECK VA WILLS, INVENTORIES & OTHER RECORDS, 1800-1825
- MARRIED WELL AND OFTEN: MARRIAGES OF THE NORTHERN NECK VA 1649-1800
- ROSTER OF SOLDIERS FROM N.C. IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
- ROSTER OF SOUTH CAROLINA PATRIOTS IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
- REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION RECORDS
- JAMESTOWN PEOPLE TO 1800 JAMESTOWNE ANCESTORS
- FIRST GEORGIA CAVALRY IN THE CIVIL WAR
- TN LAND ENTRIES DISTRICT I
- JACKSON COUNTY GA EARLY HISTORY



Continued on Pg 11



New Books Added (*Continued from Pg 10*)

- N.C. LAND WARRANTS
- DAVIDSON COUNTY TN. LAND SURVEYS, 1824-1852.
- TN LAND ENTRIES, VOL 2
- TN LAND ENTRIES, VOL 3
- TN LAND ENTRIES, VOL 4
- WEST TN COMMISSIONER DECISIONS
- WASHINGTON COUNTY TN LAND WARRANTS, 1802-1904.
- CREEKS AND RIVERS IN TN, 1824.
- VIRGINIA IMM AND ADVENTURES 1607-1635. A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY
- KINGSTON PARISH REGISTER: MATHEWS, CLOUCESTER & MIDDLESEX CO, VA SLAVES
- FAMILY NEWSLETTERS OF AMOS AND SARAH SNOW WHEELER
- GEORGIA WILL DIRECTORY 1733-1860
- GEORGIA WILL DIRECTORY 1861-1900
- INTO THE GRAY VALE: REGISTERS OF THE GEORGIA CONFEDERATE SOLDIER'S HOME ATLANTA, GA. 1901-1941.
- FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA, MARRIAGE RECORDS 1833-1933
- FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, MARRIAGE RECORDS 1852-1902 (White Books A-K)
- FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, MARRIAGE RECORDS 1866-1902 (Colored Books A-G)
- WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA WILL INDEX 1777-1921
- COWETA COUNTY, GEORGIA NEWSPAPER MARRIAGE & DEATH NOTICES 1835-1887
- SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGIES, VOL 1
- SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGIES, VOL 2
- SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGIES, VOL 3
- SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGIES, VOL 4
- SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGIES, VOL 5
- HISTORY OF NORTH CAROLINA, VOL 1
- HISTORY OF NORTH CAROLINA, VOL 2



The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 919
Ellijay, GA 30540



The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 919
Ellijay, GA 30540

We're on the web!
www.gcgsi.org
Contact email: gcgs@etcmail.com

What Is Available Online?

- GCGSI Membership
- Book Order Form
- First Families Application
- 1834 and 1840 Census
- Genealogical Links
- Contact Information
- Officers
- Research Resources



Receive your newsletter via email.

Send your email to gcgsi@hotmail.com