

# MOUNTAIN HERITAGE

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.

September, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 3

## The Jarrett Cemetery: A Hidden Step Back in Time

*Rebecca Holt Amerson*

Exploring an old cemetery can tell you a lot about an area. The Jarrett Cemetery is no exception. Come with me and George Gordon Ward of the famous “red book” and let’s explore together.

This cemetery was begun by the Alexander family as a private family burial plot, and members of the family were the first persons buried there. The Jarretts acquired the plot of ground from the Alexanders and permitted afterward the free use of burial space in the Jarrett Cemetery. (*Ward book, page 187*) In settling the estate, it was later deeded to the city.

John P. Alexander came to the area from Habersham County about 1836. He settled in the house known as the Central Hotel just south from the square. He was often referred to as the wealthiest man in the county. His wife Elizabeth was a member of the widely known Tate family. He owned all of the land east of Ellijay to the river and about all of East Ellijay. He served one session representing Gilmer in the legislature. John, often referred to as “Uncle Jack,” left Ellijay shortly after the death of his wife. (*Ward book. Page 186*) Elizabeth Caldwell Tate Alexander (1803-1845) and two of her young children would be the first to be buried in this cemetery. My brother Richard and my son Benjamin leveled and reset her large 178 year old obelisk to prevent it from falling. Other family burials are son Robert Alexander who died 28 Jan 1848 at age 15, and daughter Mary Evangeline Alexander passed at age 4 later that same year, 21 April 1848.



*Obelisk of Elizabeth Caldwell Tate Alexander is leveled and reset by Richard Holt and Benjamin Amerson in The Jarrett Cemetery  
Photo: Rebecca Holt Amerson*



**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
-continued-

Jesse Israel Jarrett 1820-1904 came to Gilmer County in 1861 to Boardtown. In 1863 he moved to Ellijay and settled in the area near the present day depot. He was a factor in bringing *The Marietta and North Georgia Railroad* by his part of the community even after the grading had started two miles north of town. (Below are photos of The Jarrett Hotel and the depot building.) The Jarrett family buried with Mr. Jarrett includes his wife Charlotte Howell (1820-1917,) two daughters, three sons, and four young grandsons.



*The Jarrett Hotel (left) and the depot building (right)*  
Photos: Historical Old Photos of Ellijay Facebook Group

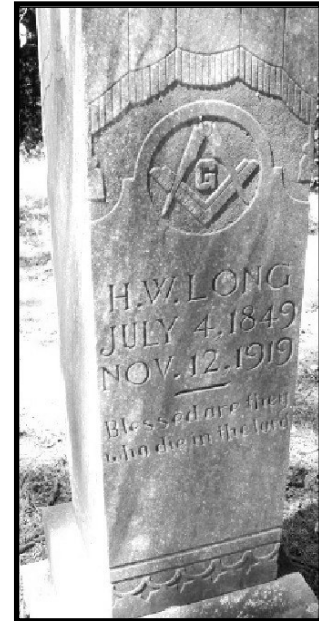
Martin Luther Long (1813-1892) and Dorcas Dryman Long (1816-1872) can be found in the first Gilmer federal census in 1840 making them “first families.” Martin is listed on the 1838 Mounted Volunteers Militia involved in the removal of the Cherokee. After the death of his wife Dorcas, Martin married her sister Lousia Jane Dryman. (***Faces of Our Ancestors*** book, page 392) Five of his eleven children are buried with them in Jarrett.

Martin’s son T. J. Long (1844-1916) was a prominent merchant dealing in dry goods, clothing, and groceries, doing an annual trade of \$15,000 according to the *Atlanta Constitution* in 1890. He would go out on the railroad sidings to meet haulers from the mountains to purchase their chestnut oak bark for making tannic acid used for tanning leather. (*Ward book*, page 266) T. J. Long’s home was located on River Street adjacent to Penland’s Store.

Another of Martin’s sons, Hugh W. Long (1849-1919,) has a Masonic symbol on his stone. The local Oak Bowery Lodge was established in Ellijay in 1848. Daughter Sarah Rebecca Long (1838-1912) married Ephraim Daniel Miller (1835-1908.)



**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
*-continued-*



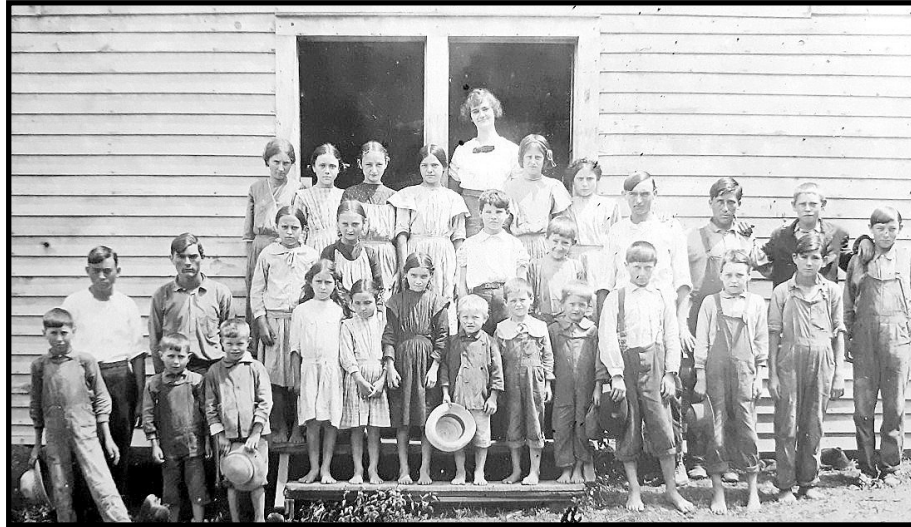
*T. J. Long and family at their home on River Street (left) and Hugh W. Long stone with Masonic engraving (right)*  
*Photo on left: 1996 Gilmer Arts Calendar*  
*Photo on right: Rebecca Holt Amerson*

The stone of Sarah Rebecca Long's husband Daniel Miller shows his birth as February 29, 1835, however the leap year was actually 1836. He served in Company H 65 GA Reg CSA. (Mr. Miller's stone was also lying on the ground and was the second stone we lifted back into place.)

Their only child of Sarah Rebecca and Daniel Miller buried here is Mary Miller Holt, the wife of Western Holt. Mary Miller Holt (1866-1950) had seven daughters and two sons. Both sons are buried beside her: James Kiser Holt (1889-1950) and Frank Holt (1891-1918.) Frank was trained as a medic during World War I but never made it to fight in France. He died as a result of the Spanish Flu epidemic in Camp Merritt, NJ in 1918. (We found his beautiful stone had toppled over into 4 sections and was able to lift and reset it to almost six feet tall.) Mary's daughter Margaret (Maggie) Holt was a teacher at Cherry Log School in 1915, but later became the owner of The Ellijay Toggery, a popular boutique on River Street. In 1917 she married Louis E. Scharlach Sr. who worked with the Shippen Lumber Company in Ellijay.

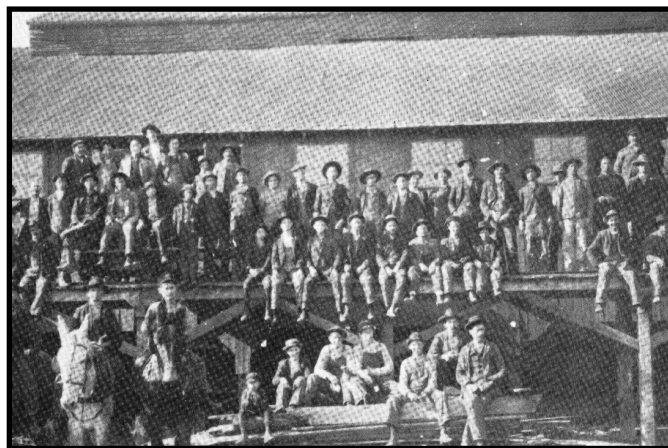


**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
*-continued-*



*Cherry Log School Class of Maggie Miller (Scharlach) - 1915  
Photo: Historical Old Photos of Ellijay Facebook Group*

Georgia Truman Shippen (1868-1915) was the wife of Frank E. Shippen. He and his brother William H. Shippen come to town in 1897 and established a large lumber company along the Cartecay River where the Garland Lumber Company now stands. (*Ward's book page 459*) He led a struggle with the copper smelters further north over their timber-damaging fumes. They were forced out of the lumber business by 1915. Georgia is buried near her daughter Agatha (1895-1900) and her parents Thomas G. Truman (1834-1903) and Mary McGill Truman (1838-1902.)



*Employees of The Shippen Lumber Company  
Photo: 1994 Gilmer Arts Calendar*

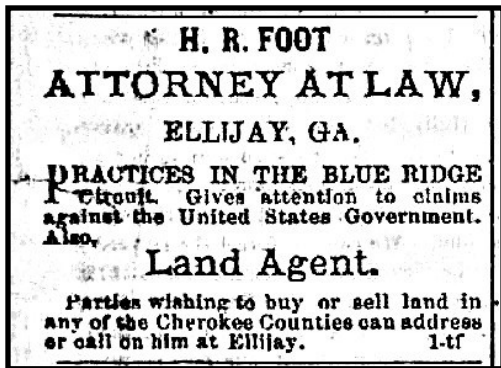


**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
*-continued-*

Alfred Bishop (1832-1891) came from North Carolina to Mountaintown and then to the old Brown Place about a half mile from Ellijay. He taught school at Flat Branch, walking back and forth daily. He eventually moved to town and built a building on the square made of bricks from clay excavated from the Brown estate – the first brick business building in town. Alfred was a Methodist, and helped establish several churches. At one time he was the county treasurer, and at the time of his death, he was Gilmer’s largest taxpayer. (*Ward’s book, pages 197-198*) Three of the children of Alfred and Nancy Holt Bishop are also buried at The Jarrett Cemetery– John, James, and Kansas Missouri Bishop Foote.



*Flat Branch One-Room Schoolhouse  
Photo: Historical Old Photos of Ellijay Facebook Group*



*Photo: Ellijay Times, April 28, 1909*

Hezekiah Rice Foote (1808-1891) can first be found in the 1850 Census in Gilmer County. Hezekiah enlisted in Company B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Infantry. His application for a pension can be found in the Georgia Archives. Following the war, he was an attorney in the Blue Ridge Circuit. He was instrumental in having Gilmer County represented in the 1881 International Cotton Exposition in Atlanta to showcase timber and local crops.

Five of his seven children are buried in The Jarrett Cemetery, and it is believed that Hezekiah and his wife Julia were also buried there although there is no gravestone.

Hezekiah and his oldest three sons served the Confederacy. Eugene’s wife Emma Sparks died 2 months and 20 days after he did. Charles’s wife Kansas Missouri Bishop died 2 months and 12 days after her husband.

Three daughters are buried nearby – Lois Foote Long (1846-1907,) Mary Foote Davis (1848-1926,) and Addie Foote Holt (1849-1892.)



**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time  
-continued-**

**Confederate soldiers interred in Jarrett Cemetery:**

Alfred Bishop	1832-1891	16 <sup>th</sup> Battalion GA Calvary
James Kincaid	1847-1904	39 <sup>th</sup> GA Infantry, Co. G
John A McCraw	1834-1905	18 <sup>th</sup> GA Infantry; 28 <sup>th</sup> GA Infantry, Co. F: <b>POW</b>
Daniel Miller	1835-1908	65 <sup>th</sup> GA Regiment, Co. H
Ezekiel Buffington	1832-1911	7 <sup>th</sup> GA Calvary
Eugene Foote	1843-1913	4 <sup>th</sup> GA Calvary, Co. B
Thomas J. Long	1844-1916	41 <sup>st</sup> GA Infantry, Co G; <b>POW</b>
Charles H. Foote	1844-1933	5 <sup>th</sup> GA Infantry, Co. B

Interesting note: There are no pointed government issued CSA markers in The Jarrett Cemetery. In 1929, uniform markers were authorized for Confederate soldiers in private cemeteries. In contrast, Union markers have rounded tops.

**APPLICATION FOR SOLDIER'S PENSION UNDER ACT 1910.**

**Questions for Applicants to Answer.**

STATE OF GEORGIA,

*Gilmer* County, *Ch. H. Foote*

of said State and County, hereby applies for the pension provided by Act of 1910, to Confederate Soldiers, and submits his sworn statement, with his testimony to make out the same, and after being duly sworn true answers to make to the questions

*Charles H. Foote Confederate Soldier's Pension Application  
Photo: Georgia Archives*

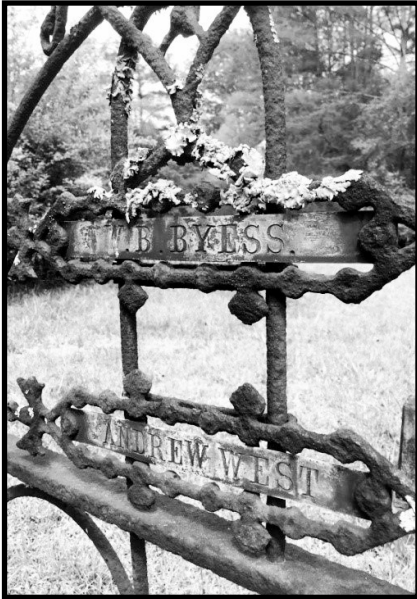
Ezekiel Buffington (1832-1911) and his wife Dovey King (1835-1921) came to Gilmer County in the 1880's. A special mention in an April 1885 issue of the Ellijay Courier announced that Ezekiel had the finest field of wheat within a radius of five miles of Ellijay! Ward called Mr. Buffington an "honored friend of foundational education in Gilmer." He also served as the East Ellijay Postmaster. (Ernest Parker's *Days Gone By* book, page 234) His son John King Buffington died suddenly in 1936 while fighting a forest fire. Also in The Jarrett Cemetery are two more Buffington children and two grandchildren.

**Ezekiel Buffington has the finest field of wheat within a radius of five miles of Ellijay.**

*Photo: Ellijay Courier, April 16, 1885*



**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
*-continued-*



*Photo: Rebecca Holt Amerson*

William Bennett Byess and Andrew W West. Neither of these two gentlemen are buried beyond the iron gate that bears their names.

William Bennett Byess (1856-1932) was the husband of three wives. His first wife, Hannah Elizabeth Ward (1861-1903,) is buried inside with her daughter Essie Byess West (1882-1904,) who only lived to be 21. (We were able to lift and reset Hannah's fallen stone.)

Essie Byess West was the first of the four wives of Andrew W. West (1871-1965,) the other name on the gate. Andrew W. West's second wife is Leila Dobbs West (1882-1928,) also buried inside the fence. Leila Dobbs West's parents, William Sanford Dobbs (1856-1933) and Josephine Logan (1860-1902,) are buried just outside the iron fencing.

William Bennett Byess is buried outside the fence with the family of his second wife, Mary Stone Byess (1888-1907,) who died at the age of 19.



*Photo: Ellijay Times, April 28, 1909*



*Photo: Historical Old Photos of Ellijay Facebook Group  
Pictured downstairs, second from the left, is William Elliott (1849-1927.)  
Beside him in the apron is W. B. Byess. Both are buried in Jarrett.*



**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time  
-continued-**

Everywhere you look in The Jarrett Cemetery are children.....so many children....

***Babies younger than two:***

Labom Long 1851-1851  
Virgil Long 1856-1858  
Inf. Son Jarrett 1863-1863  
Bulah Long 1877-1877  
Clarence Mears 1880-1880  
Walter Long 1888-1889  
Ethel Yother 1888-1889  
Infant Smith 1892-1892  
David Long 1891-1893  
Infant Bennett 1895-1895  
Inf. Dau. Hutchison 1895-1895  
Edner Fowler 1893-1895

Forest Hutchison 1897-1897  
Sarah Farmer 1897-1898  
George Padgett 1896-1898  
Inf Son McHan 1899-1899  
Walter Padgett 1899-1900  
Zelda Buffington 1902-1903  
Lillie Reece 1903-1903  
Inf Dau Pickett 1904-1904  
Eunice Woody 1904-1906  
Farris Curtis 1905-1907  
Ella Hood 1911-1912  
Wm Stillwell III 1913-1914

***Children under ten:***

Mary Alexander 1843-1848  
Hugh Perry 1869-1874  
Alice Long 1879-1883  
Harriett Long 1880-1883  
Alfred Foote 1875-1884  
Agatha Shippen 1895-1900

Goss Sparks 1901-1907  
Becca Wilson 1903-1907  
Andrew Sellers 1898-1908  
Earl Hutchinson 1899-1908  
Eula Weaver 1925-1928

***In their teens:***

Robert Alexander 1832-1848  
L. Johnson 1879-1895  
Wm. Hix Smith 1888-1899  
Fannie Farmer 1890-1905

Ethel Alread 1893-1911  
Bennie Holden 1895-1911  
John Newberry 1898-1911

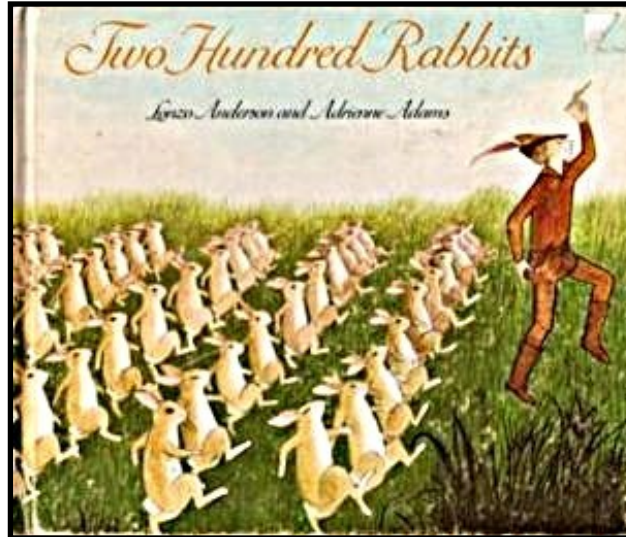




**The Jarrett Cemetery:  
A Hidden Step Back in Time**  
*-continued-*

Rev. John L. Anderson (1879-1905) was a circuit-riding preacher. He had four churches, one for each Sunday in the month, and he traveled on horseback. During the week he was a teacher at Oakland High School. Before he had even been married a year, he was drowned while on his way to school as he tried to ford the swollen Cartecay River on horseback after a storm. They found his horse on February 20, and recovered his body in the Shippen millpond in May ten days before the birth of his only child, a son.

Both father and son are buried in The Jarrett Cemetery. J. Lonzo Anderson (1905-1993) graduated from Harvard in 1928 and became a writer and published eight books. His beautiful wife Adrienne "Dean" Adams (1906-2002) was an artist and children's book illustrator. She was the runner-up for the highly prized Caldecott Medal in 1960 and 1962. She illustrated over 60 children's books, including six written by her husband J. Lonzo Anderson. As a librarian, I was surely surprised to find these two buried here and had to include them!



***Two Hundred Rabbits***  
by Lonzo Anderson and Adrienne Adams, c.1969  
Photo: Amazon.com

These families and others buried in Jarrett Cemetery share a place in time. Their stories are worth knowing. They are pioneers, businessmen, farmers, soldiers, preachers, customers, families, friends, neighbors. We are here because they were here first. I invite you to visit and remember them.



## Civilian Conservation Corps Newsletter Feature

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. is continuing to compile information for a feature about the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) in an upcoming quarterly newsletter. The feature would include historical information about CCC for those of us who might not be as familiar with this service as we would like to be. We plan to include photos recently taken of the displays in the John B. Derden Civilian Conservation Corps Museum located in Blairsville, Georgia's Vogel State Park as well as other information gleaned from publications such as the Ellijay *Times-Courier* and Lawrence Stanley's book ***The Gilmer County Area of 200 Years Ago***. We would also like to include information specifically about the Georgia's camps in Gilmer and Union Counties; and in order to make it relevant to our society and community, we hope to publish family stories, photographs, and personal information submitted from those with relatives or ancestors who participated in this very important service in our nation's history.

Thank you to those who have submitted information, and we are still inviting anyone you know who had family members in the Civilian Conservation Corps to contribute to this feature. Please email stories, memorabilia, photographs, and other information to [gilmergenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmergenealogy@gmail.com). Or you may send the information through the U. S. Postal Service to Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.; P. O. Box 919; Ellijay, GA 30540; ATTN: CCC Information. Submission of information gives your approval for publication. (Please do not send original photos. If you need help scanning photographs and/or memorabilia or in compiling your information into a story, please let a board member know.) If you have any questions, you can email us, send a message through our Facebook page, or contact a board member. We are looking forward to sharing your family stories about the CCC with our membership.





## The President's Post

**John Davis**

Welcome to this year's third edition of *Mountain Heritage*. We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer. Even though we have not been having our monthly meetings, your Board of Directors has continued to meet monthly to discuss projects and programs for the remainder of the year. (One of these projects is the collection of stories from family members of CCC ((Civilian Conservation Corps)) participants. More information about this project is found in this newsletter.) The Board is setting an active course for the future of the society, and we are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and hard-working group of volunteers.



We kicked off our fall season with our Annual Indoor Picnic on August 19. This was a great time to renew acquaintances, learn new discoveries, and find out about future monthly programs and events. We have secured outstanding speakers for our meetings in September (Anita Davis Summers,) October (Kathi Harper Hill,) and November (Mark Millican.) These three meetings will be followed by our Annual Holiday Gathering in December, including our installation of officers for 2024. We also plan to participate once again in the Gilmer County Library's Festival of Trees, an annual holiday celebration that takes place in December.

We are recognizing loyal GCGSI members by donating books to the library's Family Research Room in their honor or memory. We hope that the books are as helpful for patrons' research as these loyal members have been to our organization. We continue to sell books that we have published at Walls of Books, via mail order, and at the GCGSI Meetings. We are looking for suggestions for subjects of future GCGSI book publications. In addition to the our society's membership, First Families of Gilmer County continues to grow. If you know of anyone who might qualify for this lineage organization, please encourage them to apply.

As we approach the year's end, we will select a search committee for GCGSI's 2024 officers. If asked, please consider serving. If you have a recommendation, please let the search committee know. The future of the Gilmer County Genealogical Society is dependent on quality leadership.

We are excited about the fourth quarter and the events that are planned. As always, your officers and board members welcome any input from the membership.



## Third Quarter Highlights 2023

**August GCGSI Event**  
**August 19, 2023**  
**12:00 noon**  
**Gilmer County Library**

### *Annual Indoor Picnic*

Events Co-Chairperson Laurel Brenda Cochran planned and carried out a spectacular GCGSI Annual Indoor Picnic on Saturday, August 19 in the lower level of the Gilmer County Library. The food was fabulous; the fellowship was friendly and fun; the door prizes of gift baskets, gift cards, and books were divine; and the book donation presentations were definitely deserving. It was a great afternoon, a time for our membership and their families and guests to enjoy themselves on a beautiful Saturday afternoon.



*First Families of Gilmer County member Tina Peavy adds finishing touches to the table laden with food*

*Photos: Rebecca Burrell,  
Barbara J. Dover,  
and Joyce Dover Mulazzi*



**Third Quarter Highlights 2023**  
*-continued-*

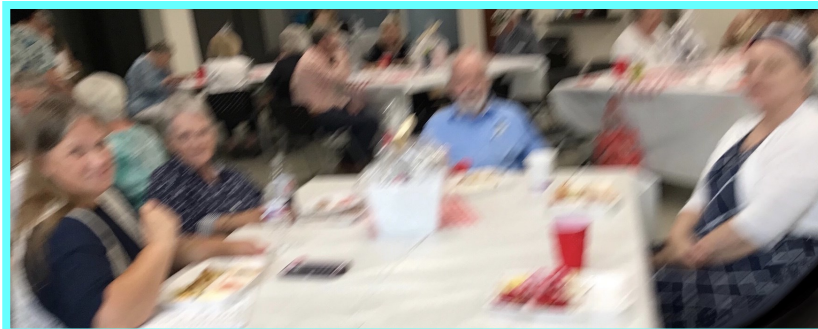
**August GCGSI Event**  
**August 19, 2023**  
**12:00 noon**  
**Gilmer County Library**  
*Annual Indoor Picnic*



*The Animal Lovers Table: (clockwise from left) Jane Tischler, Donna Lehr, Eileen Bailey, Ben Bailey, Susan Noles, Zach Nichelson*



*The Helping Hands Table: (from left) Mary Jones, Laurel Brenda Cochran, Willard Jones, Levi Haire, Rebecca Burrell*



*The "I Feel The Earth Move Under My Feet" Table: (clockwise from left) Beverly Ratcliff, Glenda Garland, Earl Cagle, Marguerite Cagle  
(Our apologies for the blurry photograph.)*



**Third Quarter Highlights 2023**  
*-continued-*

**August GCGSI Event**  
**August 19, 2023**  
**12:00 noon**  
**Gilmer County Library**  
*Annual Indoor Picnic*



*The Mountaintown Roots Table (clockwise from left) Lynne Dover Lawson, Joyce Dover Mulazzi, Ray Wells, Shirley Wells, Janice Dover Watson*



*The Huguenots Table (clockwise from left) Charlotte Davis, John Davis, Ray Golk, Sara Gagnon, Dolle Reeves, Tina Peavy*



*The Storytellers' Table (clockwise from left) Abby Wolfe, Linda Wolfe, George McClellan, Raymond Kell, Steven Kell, Kevin Kell*



*GCGSI Events  
Co-Chairperson  
Laurel Brenda Cochran*



**Third Quarter Highlights 2023**  
*-continued-*

**August GCGSI Event**  
**August 19, 2023**  
**12:00 noon**  
**Gilmer County Library**  
  
***Annual Indoor Picnic***



*Thirty-six (36) GCGSI members and their families and guests attended the picnic!*



*Linda Wolfe displays an Italian Dinner Gift Basket door prize*



*Past and Present GCGSI Presidents: Earl Cagle (left) and John Davis (right) (Earl's wife Marguerite Cagle is to the right in background.)*



*Cousins Joyce Dover Mulazzi and Trish Hyatt Henson, descendants of Peter Glenn Hyatt*



## The GCGSI Book Donation Project

***Barbara J. Dover, GCGSI Publications Chairperson***

At their first meeting of the year, your 2023 Gilmer County Genealogical Society's Board voted to use all proceeds from the sales of our publications to purchase more books to be used for genealogical research in the Gilmer County Library's Family Research Room. And it was decided that these books would be donated by the society in honor or memory of persons who assisted in the formation, continuation, and furtherance of GCGSI. The board requested suggestions for books, collected titles, then submitted a list for approval from the Sequoyah Regional Library System. Among the books recently purchased along with the honorees of each book were:

***The original list of persons of quality, emigrants, religious exiles, political rebels, serving men sold for a term of years, apprentices, children stolen, maidens pressed, and others who went from Great Britain to the American Plantations 1600-1700*** - Kathryn Watkins

***Omitted chapters from Hotten's original lists of persons of quality and others who went from Great Britain to the American Plantations, 1600-1700; census returns, parish registers, and militia rolls from the Barbados census of 1679-80*** - Shirley Sluder

***Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants***

***Volume 1 1694-1742*** - Glenda Garland

***Volume 2 1742-1775*** - Earl Cagle

***Volume 3 1775-1800*** - Jerri Marie Crump

***Volume 4 1800-1862*** - Edgar Crump

***Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution; Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, 1775-1783*** - Joyce Holt Logan Whitaker

***Virginia Colonial Militia 1651-1776*** - Anita Nail

We thank the honorees for their dedicated service to GCGSI, and hope that any researchers whose ancestors are from Virginia will be able to find information in these books at our library. Several more research books have been purchased for donation, and their titles and honorees will be presented at future meetings and published in future newsletters.

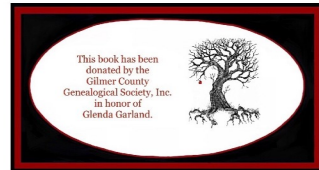




### The GCGSI Book Donation Project -continued-

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2023

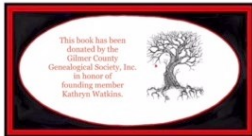
Joan,  
 What a pleasant surprise! I was so pleased to see that the Gilmer County Genealogical Society has donated Virginia Colonial Militia in my honor! I look forward to seeing it when I am able to come to Ellijay.  
 Thank you so much for thinking of me in such a lovely way!  
 Anita Newson Nail



August 19, 2023



August 19, 2023



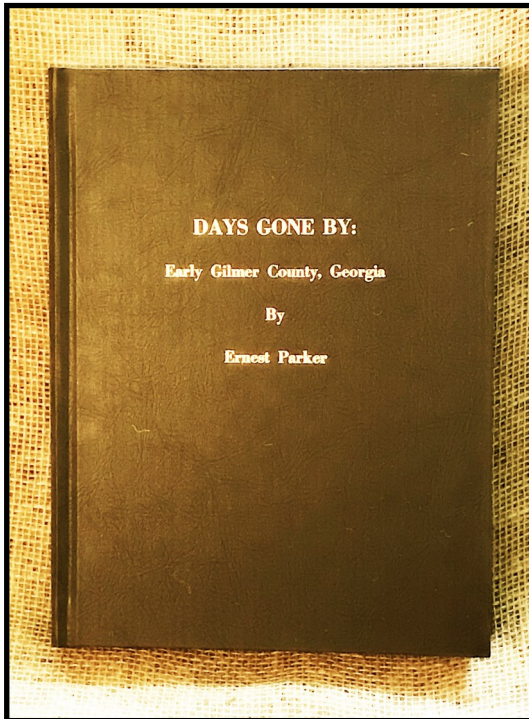
April 15, 2023



Dear Members,  
 Thank you for remembering our mother, Joyce Holt Logan Writiker. With the donation of the Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution, book to the Library. She was very proud to be a member of GCGSI and enjoyed working alongside old and new friends in preserving our history in the north Georgia mountains.  
 "There is nothing that can equal the treasure of so many shared memories." Antoine de Saint Exupery  
 Fondly,  
 Debby Brown  
 Mitchell Logan



## **Days Gone By: Early Gilmer County, Georgia By Ernest Parker**



**Days Gone By: Early Gilmer County, Georgia** is a collection of the writer Ernest Parker's columns for the *Ellijay Times-Courier* as well as his poetry, and was published by The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. in 1999. We are very appreciative of the family of Ernest Parker for providing our society permission to compile his Gilmer County history and poetry in one publication.

The preface reads: "**Days Gone By: Early Gilmer County, Georgia** is a collection of columnist Ernest Parker's articles that were published in the *Times-Courier* from 1924 to 1997.

Mr. Parker records his memories as a young lad growing up in Bucktown with vivid clarity. He takes the reader through his years as a young man and shares story of his life as a married man with two children, Estelle and Jack.

After moving to Cherokee County, Canton, Georgia in 1957, he returned many times to interview people and visit old places of his past. Once his age prevented him from enjoying driving on these trips, Estelle and Jack continued to drive him to Gilmer County so that he could continue his recollections of the area he loved so well.

Ernest Parker departed this life on February 16, 1999 and is buried in the cemetery at Tickanetley Primitive Baptist Church, a church he loved from early childhood and was ordained a deacon.

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. gathered these works of Mr. Parker and printed this book for the sole purpose of preserving the history of Gilmer County and as a genealogical tool for those seeking information about the people and places in Gilmer County."



**Days Gone By:  
Early Gilmer County, Georgia  
By  
Ernest Parker  
-continued-**

Ernest Parker (March 19, 1907-February 16, 1999) was born in the Bucktown section of Gilmer County. In 1927 he married Vercil McClure, and they lived and raised their children, Estelle and Jack, in the same house where Ernest had lived all his life.

In 1924 Ernest began writing articles for the *Ellijay Times-Courier* and continued to do so until he moved to Cherokee County in 1957. Even after moving, he still contributed articles to the newspaper but not on a regular basis. From 1985-1997, he wrote a column, *Days Gone By*, which appeared weekly in the *Times-Courier*.

This collection is organized into six categories: *Genealogy, History, Way of Life, Miscellaneous, Poetry, and Fiction*. Sections under the Genealogy category include *Trip through Bucktown, Big Creek Road, Highway 52, and People I Have Known*. Under the *History* category, you will find the titles *Early Stores, Great Depression 1930, White Path: Gilmer's Resort, Whitestone Flood*, and more. *Miscellaneous* writings from Parker (*Diary of a Soldier, Obituaries, Marriages*) take a more somber tone than other articles, which is to be expected; but Parker's works under the headings *The Way of Life, Poetry, and Fiction* are infused with humor and incidents exclusive to Gilmer County and its residents. Many folks from the Bucktown community will recognize their family names in Parker's writings.

People of the Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. who were credited with this project include Betty Riddle, chairperson and typist; Kathryn Watkins for her research of Mr. Parker's many articles in the *Times-Courier*; Estelle Wall, daughter of Mr. Parker who co-chaired the project, served as beta reader and editor, organized articles into categories, and provided background along with answering a plethora of questions; and other committee members for their final proofreading and support. Former publishers of the *Times-Courier*, George and Annetta Bunch, provided unwavering support for the project, and the Parker family who trusted GCGSI with their collection of Mr. Parker's precious writings deserve unending thanks.

This collection is currently available to the public at our monthly meetings, via mail order, and at *Walls of Books*. Proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to provide research material for the Family Research Room of the Gilmer County Library.



Ernest and Vercil Parker  
Photo: *Days Gone By*



## Gilmer Foxhunters

*By Ernest Parker from the collection  
Days Gone By  
 Submitted by Laurel Brenda Cochran*

Early one evening, For a trip of joy; The Foxhunters gathered. In the store at Roy.	There was Henry and Arvil, And Wheeler and Jed; Milt, and Will Garland So Brown Osborn said.	They were all jolly. And having their fun; While they awaited, The setting of sun.
The hounds were all anxious, And jumping about. Clawing their cages, And trying to get out.	Howard and Willis, Old Spot and Lead, Were anxious puppies, Awaiting their feed.	Ruby had trouble, With Rusty Red, That lanky hound, Belonging to Zed.
When all was quiet, And the sun was down; They all pulled out, For the wilds of Bucktown.	They went straightway, To a meeting house; And into the woods, As quiet as a mouse.	The stars were shining, And the air was cool; When they struck old Reynard, On the face of Goul.
The night was pleasant, And back as pitch; All the dogs were opening, But the spotted bitch.	Hurrah! For old Dallas, And Spot and Lead; Yelled out Arvil, As he gained in speed.	Ringwood's leading, Came the echo of Will; As he gained the summit, Of Tater Hill.



**Gilmer Foxhunters**  
*-continued-*

No, you're mistaken,  
Suggested H G.;  
Old Trudy is leading  
As sure as can be.

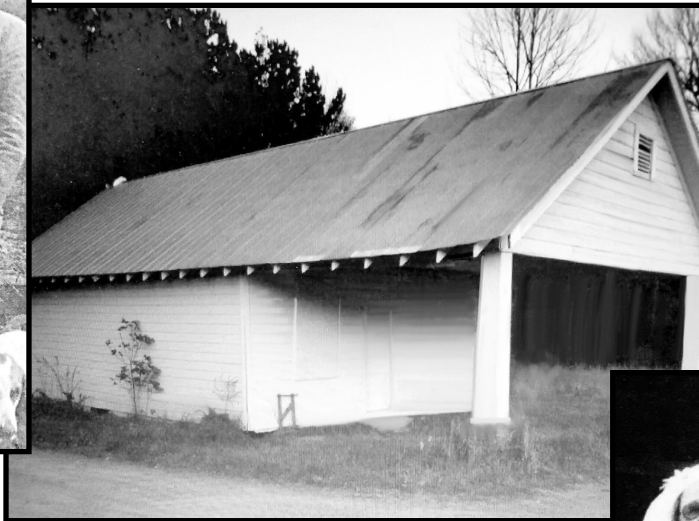
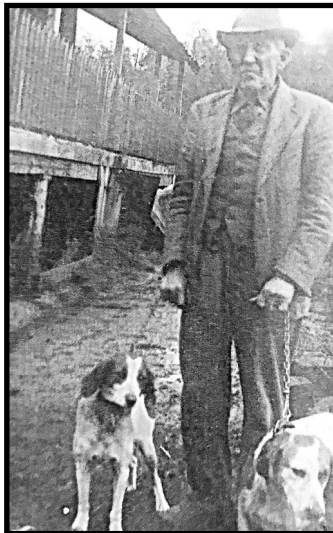
Then Wheeler said,  
As he cut his eye;  
None of them's beating  
My Red July.

Now we hear Rusty  
And Milt's spotted bitch;  
Away behind bawling  
In the inky pitch.

Closer comes the pack,  
Round the point of Goul;  
Chasing old Reynard,  
Like a crazy fool.

Wonderful, wonderful,  
Brown Osborn said;  
As he cut his eyes 'round  
Toward Wheeler and Ted.

Sure 'tis sport,  
They all agreed;  
That pack of hounds, boys,  
Is all that we need.



***Gilmer Foxhunters' Setting and Some of the Cast of Characters:***

*Photos (left to right:)  
H. G. Henry Cantrell with two of his hounds. (Cantrell was once the President of the  
Gilmer Chapter of the Georgia Foxhunters Association)  
Photo submitted by Laurel Brenda Cochran;*

*The Osborn Brothers Store. The proprietors were Brown and Jim Osborn.  
Photo submitted by Dan Worley, Brown Osborn's grandson;*

*Nettie and Brown Osborn  
Photo from The Heritage of Gilmer County Georgia 1932-1996*



**Gilmer Foxhunters**  
*-continued-*

Hurrah! Cried Milt,  
For my spotted female;  
As she came in hearing,  
Down the old cow trail.

Around the mountain,  
Then back again;  
The pack came roaring  
Like a racing train.

Way off in the distance,  
Came the voice of Will;  
They're headed back, boys,  
For old Tater Hill.

Great! Boys, Great!  
We heard Henry say;  
We'll catch that fox,  
'Fore the break o' day.

Yelling and hollering,  
With all their might;  
They ran through the thicket;  
Without any light.

Logs had fallen,  
Which made it worse,  
And now and then someone  
Uttered a curse.

I'd rather have this race,  
Without any pay;  
Than to spend two dollars,  
For one to get away.

Finally they treed,  
In the ebb old cleft;  
They could not get him,  
So the fox they left.

Strange how foxhunters  
Can travel at night;  
Through forests of timber  
Without any light.

They have a lot of bun,  
Many thrills they get;  
But I never heard of one  
That had got snake bit.

Those sports sit around,  
Their little camp fire;  
They smoke strong pipes,  
But not a cigar.

Some have Home Twist,  
In between their teeth,  
But a foxhunter's never,  
Been on relief.

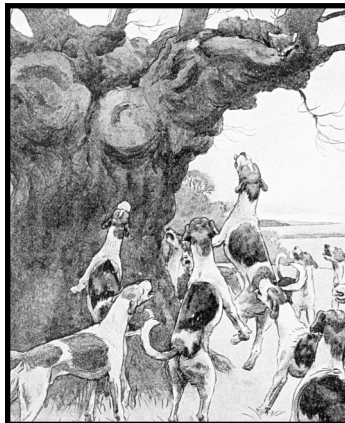


Photo: ebay.com



# Bulletin Board



View out the window, North Sea Island Baltrum, 1923  
Paul Klee (Swiss, 1879-1940)

### September 2023

- Monday, September 4 - Labor Day
- Saturday, September 16 - GCGSI Monthly Meeting  
Gilmer County Library - 2:00 p.m.  
*The Gates of Gilmer County*  
Speaker: Anita Davis Summers,  
Former SRLS Director

### October 2023

- Monday, October 9 - Indigenous Peoples Day
- Saturday, October 21 - GCGSI Monthly Meeting  
Gilmer County Library - 2:00 p.m.  
*Life is Funny*  
Speaker: Kathi Harper Hill, author
- Tuesday, October 31 - Halloween

### November 2023

- Sunday, November 5 - Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Tuesday, November 7 - Election Day
- Saturday, November 11 - Veterans Day
- Saturday, November 18 - GCGSI Monthly Meeting  
Gilmer County Library - 2:00 p.m.  
*Some Gave All*  
Speaker: Mark Millican, author
- Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving

### GCGSI Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President - John Davis  
 Vice President and Program, Publication, & Publicity Chairperson -  
 Barbara J. Dover  
 Corresponding Secretary & Historian - Rebecca Burrell  
 Recording Secretary - Patricia Hyatt Henson  
 Treasurer - Susan Noles  
 First Families of Gilmer County Chairperson - Gladys Spivey  
 Events Co-Chairpersons - Brenda Cochran & Neva Kelaher

### In Memorium

Former GCGSI Board Member  
 Gerald Eugene Speck  
 January 14 1936—July 6, 2023



Mountain Heritage Newsletter  
 Published by Barbara J. Dover  
 Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.  
 Vice President and Publications, Publicity,  
 and Program Chairperson


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**We're online!**   
[www.gcgsi.org](http://www.gcgsi.org)  
Contact email: gilmergenealogy@gmail.com

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## What Is Available Online?

- GCGSI Membership
- First Families Application
- Genealogical Links
- Officers and Chairpersons
- Book Order Forms
- 1834 and 1840 Census
- Contact Information
- GCGSI Newsletters

