



The Gems of Pike County Arkansas

Vol. II No. 2 Publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society SPRING 1991

Box 238, Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

THE CONWAY HOTEL

The following article is a summary from a Nomination Form, which was submitted to The National Register of Historic Places in the early 1980's requesting that The Conway Hotel be placed on the National Register. The Conway Hotel is currently being renovated and plans are in progress to use the facilities as a Nurses Training and Vocational School

The Conway Hotel was built in 1913 by Builder/Architect, Mr. Falls and at the time of its construction was the finest and only brick hotel in Murfreesboro. For many decades, this building was the site of the most important decisions concerning the commercial and economic progress of Murfreesboro and Pike County, Arkansas.

In the history of Arkansas, the name Conway had a very prominent influence. A former governor and a city, carry the name. The Conways of Murfreesboro date back to Dr. Joel H. Conway, Sr. In 1886, Dr. Conway built the Conway House, which was the only hotel at that time in the town of about 300 inhabitants. Continued development of the timber industry, growing agriculture, and one of the worlds' largest peach orchards only a few miles away, made Murfreesboro a town with potential.

June 1913 marked the beginning construction of a new brick hotel by W. J. Lockeby in Murfreesboro, then a town of about 600 people. This new hotel was sold March 6, 1914 to Dr. Joel H. Conway, Sr. Several years later, the Conway House burned and the new hotel remained as the finest in town. It was named the Conway Hotel and was called "The New Conway" by many local people as a means of differentiating it from the Old Conway House.

Conducting the business of The New Conway Hotel became the responsibility of Joel H. Conway's son, Grover and his wife, Annie. Grover Conway married Annie in 1907 and they had two children, Allene and Joel H. Conway, Jr. Grover and Annie Conway were divorced in 1917.

Grover Conway then married Edna Thomasson. Grover and Edna lived in and managed the hotel until Edna's death in April 1927. Grover Conway, then married Irene Fagan, who moved to the hotel and continued to work there for many years.

Meanwhile, Annie and her children moved to Texas but returned to the hotel in 1919. Annie eventually met a miner named M. J. "Scotty" Bunison. Mr. Bunison was employed by Arkansas Diamond Company of Murfreesboro, as general foreman in 1921 and 1922. Arkansas Diamond Company was involved in commercial mining of diamonds during this time and Mr. Bunison was in charge of setting the mill for the project. "Scotty", as Mr. Bunison was called, and Annie were married. Thus Mr. Bunison became permanently involved with the Conway Hotel.

Mr. & Mrs. Bunison moved to California and resided there for several years. After the death of Joel H. Conway, Sr., and because of the irresponsibility of Grover Conway, the Bunions returned to Murfreesboro and assumed management of the hotel in 1933.

THE CONWAY HOTEL

An agreement was signed 01 July 1933, making the Conway Hotel an agent for the Western Union Telegraph Company. This was an important communication link for the citizens of Pike County. At this time, few people had telephones in their homes and telegrams were generally used to send long distance messages. This service continued on through the 1950's.

Continued interest in mining and the success in this area of mineral prospectors brought many interested persons to Murfreesboro. The Conway Hotel was their headquarters. Conversations in the evenings centered around the "finds of the day" of the many hopeful prospectors. Rich veins of cinnabar were found north of Murfreesboro. Cinnabar is an ore from which mercury or quicksilver is extracted. Uses of mercury include thermometers, mirror backings, and submarine batteries. As early as 1934, serious interest in mining cinnabar was shown by H. W. Gould and Company of San Francisco, California.

The National Quicksilver Corporation of Murfreesboro, Arkansas was formed and stock in the company was made available to the public beginning 12 July 1910. Mining became a major industry providing employment for many people.

W. J. "Scotty" Eunison was killed on 10 December 1940 in an automobile accident near Murfreesboro but "Miss Annie" continued to manage the hotel.

Cinnabar mining continued and The Mercury Corporation was formed in early 1943. Mr. H. G. Ainsworth was a resident of the Conway Hotel and the business of The Mercury Corporation was transacted from The Conway Hotel. Mr. Ainsworth had mined privately prior to forming the corporation. The employees of The Mercury Corporation were from various parts of the county and the economy of areas other than Murfreesboro were improved.

Flooding along the Little Missouri River, three miles west of Murfreesboro became an increasing problem for this area. The need for a dam for flood control was pressing. Narrows Dam was begun in 1948 and dedicated in 1950. This dam, located about 6 miles northwest of Murfreesboro, at a narrow place in the river, is the direct result of the efforts of Mr. M. W. Greeson of Prescott, Arkansas. Mr. Greeson, a prominent timberman, owned the railroad that served Murfreesboro. His name frequently appears on the guest register of the Conway Hotel for the 1940's. Many meetings concerning the construction of the dam were held at the Conway Hotel. Today, Lake Greeson is a major tourist attraction, offering swimming, boating, and fishing. Daisy State Park is located at the north end of Lake Greeson.

For many years, The Conway Hotel was the station for several commercial bus lines, including Continental Trailways, serving Murfreesboro.

After the death of Annie Conway Eunison, The Conway Hotel was sold on August 24, 1967, by Allene Conway Lowe of California to the present owner. The business closed in 1974.

EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL WORKSHOP

PCAHS members will be disappointed to learn that the planned Everton's Workshop will have to be postponed until further notice. PCAHS was in hopes that a spring or summer Workshop could be arranged, however, it appears it will be next fall or possibly next spring before the arrangements can be finalized. PCAHS is sorry for this delay but it was unavoidable. Please keep watching future issues of "THE GEMS" for definite plans about this interesting workshop.

NOTES FROM YOUR EDITORS

The PCAHS editorial staff would like to apologize for the delay in publishing the Spring 1991 issue of "THE GEMS". We hope this does not happen again but since we are an all volunteer organization, it is sometimes impossible to find the time to stay on "schedule". Please accept our apology for the delay and try to be understanding when we are not always "on time".

PCAHS has been fortunate enough to receive a donation of 71 rolls of microfilm from Mrs. Irene Choate Williams of Jackson, Tennessee. Mrs. Williams, a professional genealogist, is a descendant of Thomas Kyle Choate. Thomas Kyle Choate had a large family and two of his sons, John Dillion Choate and Peter Joseph Choate, eventually migrated to Pike County, Arkansas. Mrs. Williams has published two volumes of "*CHOATES OF THE SOUTH - DESCENDANTS OF CHRISTOPHER CHOATE OF MARYLAND*" and is also the publisher and editor of a bi-annual publication, titled "*CHOATES OF THE SOUTH*" which contains information about the descendants of Christopher Choate of Maryland and other interesting facts about the CHOATE surname. In this issue of "THE GEMS", you will find an article written by Irene Choate Williams regarding John Dillion Choate and Peter Joseph Choate.

The 71 rolls of microfilm which was donated by Mrs. Williams contain many early census records of the United States. "THE GEMS" will publish a complete list of the microfilms in an upcoming issue.

A simple.....THANK YOU, IRENE.....does not begin to express our gratitude to Mrs. Williams for her generosity but until someone thinks of a better way, this will have to do. We really appreciate your kindness. Irene and a MILLION THANKS (or at least 71) for thinking of PCAHS.

PCAHS is also very grateful to Vice President, Mrs. Bobbie Hendrix and Harrison Gilmer, life members for very generous donations to the Archives for the purpose of purchasing microfilms and publications. We also wish to acknowledge every donation our members have contributed and express our thanks and appreciation.

PCAHS welcomes any and all donations of material or money to our Archives. The donations are tax deductible and you will be helping preserve Pike County's past.

NEW PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE 1840-1850 PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS U S CENSUS

PCAHS life member, David L. Kelley, has transcribed the 1840 and 1850 Pike County Arkansas U S Census and has donated his work to PCAHS. These Census records will be available for sale through PCAHS and all proceeds will go to the Archives to purchase materials. Mr. Kelley would like to annotate every family in the 1850 Pike County Arkansas Census and would appreciate any data which any of our members would be willing to share about their 1850 Pike County Arkansas families. The 1840 Pike County Arkansas Census (this will NOT be an annotated copy) is available for \$5.00 and the 1850 Pike County Arkansas Census (this will NOT be an annotated copy) is available for \$10.00. The annotated version of the 1850 Pike County Arkansas Census will be an ongoing project and will be available at some time in the future.

Mr. Kelley has also donated the 1850 Pike County Arkansas Mortality Schedule and the 1850 Pike County Arkansas Slave Schedule.

At present, Mr. Kelley is compiling a collection of Pike County Family Bible records. These records are copies of the originals and a copy of these records will be on the PCAHS Archival shelf when completed. Do you have an early bible record that has not been shared with Mr. Kelley? He will be happy to include your bible records in this compilation if you will send him legible copies. If you have such records to share, please contact Mr. Kelley.

PCAHS was extremely delighted to have David Kelley attend our regular May meeting in Murfreesboro. David is a "walking encyclopedia" of early Pike County history and PCAHS is most appreciative of Mr. Kelley.

PIKE COUNTY MARRIAGE RECORDS

Dorothy Kennedy Partain and Linda Willingham Meek have completed the Pike County Marriage Records and are available for sale from PCAHS. These marriage records are soft bound and contain 60 pages, fully indexed, bride and groom. This volume contains the following information: Book A - 03 April 1895 - 27 November 1899; Book B 09 November 1899 - 15 November 1904; Book C 23 November 1904 - 13 March 1910. The purchase price is \$15.00. All proceeds from the sale of these marriage records will go to PCAHS.

ACTIVITIES

Inventory and Clean-up of Pike County Archives and History Society

Several members of PCAHS meet on Saturday, March 2, 1991 to work and inventory the books in the Archives and the third floor jail of the Murfreesboro Courthouse. Those present to start this 1991 project were, Dee Baggett, Dora Bean, Jan McGalliard, Dorothy Partain, B. J. Sparks of Lynnwood, Washington, and Linda Wilson.

Due to the many wasps which had invaded the third floor jail, we were unable to accomplish the clean-up of the jail.

B. J. Sparks and Linda Wilson bought insect "bombs" to rid the third floor jail of at least a "bushel basket" of wasp. This probably sounds like we are exaggerating but the amount of wasps which had "taken over" the jail was astounding! For those of you who are not aware of the fact, PCAHS has most of the old Pike County records stored in the third floor jail, due to the small area which is available to us in the Archives.

Pike County Judge, Curtis Turner and County Clerk Diane Henderson, graciously arranged for workers to remove some of the old record books from the second floor jail, to the third floor.

Since we were unable to work in the third floor jail, we proceeded on upstairs to the Archives and went to work.

Dora Bean purchased cleaning cloths, endust and masks to use for the cleaning of the old records. We could have possibly accomplished more if a few of the people had cleaned more vigorously rather than reading "interesting tidbits" from the old record books but we would not have had half as much fun. At one juncture, Dora, B. J., Dorothy and Linda were found on all fours reading about something that had happened at the turn of the century, naming one of B. J. Sparks' distant relatives. B. J., these "unusual characters" make colorful stories when we write our family histories! But even these interesting old records could not keep this group from missing lunch at the Pizza Shack across from the courthouse. The lunch was great but we "gobbled" everything down so we could get back to "digging and cleaning".

Dee, B. J. and Jan rearranged the office portion of the Archives to utilize the space more efficiently. A small oak table was located in the third floor jail but was in disrepair. Linda Wilson took the table home with her and refinished it beautifully. This table will be used for the PCAHS typewriter.

Dorothy Partain and Dee Baggett, returned to PCAHS the following Friday and donated another six hours work rearranging book shelves and filing a backlog of correspondence. For any "silver fish" that love to burrow into old tomes, you missed a great activity. We found many treasures. If any of our members would like to help the next time we work, please let us know and we will contact you about our next "workfest".

We are happy to report that many old records and books dating from 1895 thru the early 1900's were cleaned and shelved. There are possibly as many as two hundred more books to be cleaned and shelved, not to mention individual early records to be cleaned and filed. Needless to say, the inventory was not completed nor was it possible to index and catalog these many books and records in one or two days.

On Tuesday, March 26, 1991, Dorothy and Dee meet at the third floor jail at 9:00 AM to clean and rearrange old records and books. After lunch, Dorothy's husband, R. J., came to assist with moving heavy boxes and stacking large tomes, since Dorothy and Dee are both basically "fragile". Linda Wilson joined the group after lunch and helped with the clean up in the jail. Linda had purchased needed supplies for the Archives and we worked in this area for a while.

Dorothy wants to report that the wasps on the third floor jail had dried so there was only a "peck" instead of a "bushel". This of course, did not include the silverfish, spiders and the mice's "calling cards"!

We are happy to report that we would not be ashamed for anyone to see our third floor jail, although there are still many hours of work ahead before it will be "perfect". The next project in the jail will be the building of shelves in one of the cells. We will be unable to stack the remaining books, which amount to well over 150 large volumes, until the shelves have been built.

Editor Note June 1991 - Our volunteers have not been able to complete the shelving for the third floor jail; therefore the many volumes of books are still on the floor of the jail and have not been cleaned or inventoried. THE GOOD NEWS IS.....the air conditioner for the Archives has been ordered and should be installed soon.

THE PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS CHOATES
by Irene Choate Williams, 16 Dawn Place, Jackson, TN 38305

The 1850 census of Pike Co., AR lists two CHOAT (CHOATE) families. These two CHOATE men are brothers, John Dillion CHOATE and Peter Joseph CHOATE. They were sons of Thomas Kyle CHOATE, who died in Lawrence Co., TN in 1837 and Elizabeth RENFRO.

Elizabeth RENFRO CHOATE died and Thomas Kyle CHOATE had remarried so when he died most of his sons left Lawrence Co., TN. John D. CHOATE and Peter Joseph CHOATE and others went to Tishomingo Co., MS. Apparently, John CHOATE married the first time around 1830 in TN, (no record has been found of this marriage), and had two sons; James Anderson CHOATE and John Dillon CHOATE, Jr.

In Mississippi, John CHOATE, married Celia or "Cealy" HUMPREY or HUMPRIES KELLY, the widow of ? KELLY. By her marriage to ? KELLY, Celia had three children, Alfred KELLY, Premby KELLY and Cassander KELLY. These children are listed on the 1850 Pike Co., AR census in the household of John CHOATE. Sometime after 1847, John and Cealy HUMPRIES KELLY CHOATE moved to Pike Co., AR and they had the following children: Francis, Hetty M., Jucinta Louisa and Thomas S. CHOATE.

They are listed in the 1860 Polk Co., AR census. In the 1870 Polk Co., AR census, Celia HUMPRIES KELLY CHOATE is listed with two of her children so apparently John CHOATE died in Polk Co., AR sometime before 1870. John CHOATE had the following children:

- (1) James Anderson CHOATE, b. ca. 1831, md. 1st Hetty C. S. LYONS, 2nd ?, 3rd Martha BRISCOE.
- (2) John Dillion CHOATE, Jr., b. 10 May 1837, md. Nancy Ann SPURLOCK.
- (3) Frances M. (Marion?) CHOATE, b. June 1838, md. 1st ?, 2nd Sarah ?.
- (4) Hetty M. CHOATE, b. ca. 1848, md. 02 Oct 1875 to Hezekiah DAVIS.
- (5) Jacinta Louisa CHOATE, b. ca. 1850, md. James Isom HENRY.
- (6) Thomas S. CHOATE, b. ca. 1853, md. Sarah A. DALRIMPLE.

Peter Joseph (Joseph Peter) CHOATE was also in Thishomingo Co., MS for a while, went to AL, back into TN, MS and TX before going to Pike Co., AR where he is listed on the 1850 Pike Co., AR census and then to Polk Co., AR, on to Gonzales Co., TX and by 1880 he was in Karnes Co., TX.

In his travels, Peter Joseph CHOATE married three times. By his first marriage to Polly Ann ?, he had eleven children: William T., Martha A., James Moffroe, Franklin G., Sarah, Elizabeth, Richard, Hetty, Joseph Samson, John C., Francis M., and Victoria A. CHOATE. I understand that after he left his first wife these children no longer associated with him.

Peter Joseph CHOATE married second, Martha A. TILLERY on 28 July 1869 in Gonzales Co., TX. They had only one child, Andrew J. CHOATE.

Peter Joseph CHOATE married third, Sarah Ann RICHARDSON and they had the following children: Prudence, Ellen, Ephraim Crockett, Rufus C. and Samuel Berry CHOATE.

Peter Joseph had eleven children by his first wife, one child by his second wife and five children by his third wife. The total number of his children were 17 by the three wives.

In his later years, Peter Joseph CHOATE was known as "One Eyed Joe", so apparently, he lost an eye somewhere along the way.

PCAHS Editors Notes Your "GEMS" editor, Dee Baggett, is a descendant of Melissa Jane CHOTE WHITE PERRYMAN b. 19 Feb 1844 and is researching the CHOAT, CHOATE, CHOTE surname. Ms. Baggett will be happy to hear from anyone researching the CHOATE, etc. surname as she is interested in all CHOATES of the South. Another PCAHS member, Lucille REYNOLDS CHOTE of Hot Springs, AR is also researching the CHOTE surname.

Randy and Wilma V. Ranger of Olympia, Washington were visitors at the Pike County Archives in mid-June. The Rangers are PCAHS members and enjoyed "John Huddleston Day" in Murfreesboro. They were able to visit with R. J. and Dorothy Partain, as well as, made the trip to Amity to visit with John and Dee Baggett. Randy, an avid golfer, played a "few rounds of golf" with Dee's husband, John, while Wilma and Dee "dug up ancestors"!! Wilma shares some common ancestors with R. J. Partain and Dee Baggett.

Pike County 38th Regiment

| Date | Name | Officer | Remarks |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1845 June 2 | James C. Mansfield | Major 2nd Batt. | |
| " " " | James B. Miller | Captain do do | |
| " " " | Wesley Kelley | 1st Lieut. do do | |
| " " " | Leroy Dickson | 2d do do do | |
| 1846 Sept. 21 | Charles Bratcher | Lieutenant Colonel. | Dead |
| 1847 June 8 | S. A. Jones | Captain | |
| " " " | H. I. Caldwell | 1 Lieut. | |
| " " " | W. M. Hammock | 2 do | |
| " " " | W. L. White | Captain | |
| " " " | C. D. Dixon | 1 Lieut. | |
| " " " | James S. Brewer | 2 do | |
| " " " | Major Sanders | Captain | |
| " " " | C. L. James | 1 Lieut. | |
| " " " | J. B. Jackson | 2 do | |
| 1860 Jan 31 | James N. H. Murphy | Colonel Commandant | |
| " Apr 7 | Ceburn D. Westerman | Lieutenant Colonel | |
| " " " | James Stanla | Major 2 ^d Bat. | |
| " " " | Robert R. Gentry | Capt. Co B, 1 st Bat. | |
| " " " | Ephram ? | 1 st Lieut. " " " | |
| " " " | John Rimpel | 2 ^d " " " " | |
| " " " | S. Walton | Capt. " E 2 " | |
| " " " | Hew? Stinnet | 1 st Lieut. " " " | |
| " " " | James E. Orrick | 2 ^d " " " " | |
| 1861 August | William B. Spirs? | Capt. Home Guard | |
| " " " | J. B. Gray, III? | 1 st Lieut. " " " | |
| " " " | Samuel R. Wingfield | 2 ^d " " " | |
| " " " | Thomas Lamb | 3 ^d " " " | |
| 1861 Sept 31 | John Elkins | Colonel Commandant | |

PIKE COUNTY 38th Regiment

Transcribed by "THE GBMS" editors - Submitted by Russell P. Baker

| DATE | NAMES | OFFICER | REMARKS | DATE | NAMES | OFFICER | REMARKS |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1845 June 2 | James C. Mansfield | Major 2nd Batt. | | 1860 Jan 31 | James N. H. Murphy | Colonel Commandant | |
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| " " " | Wesley Kelley | 1st Lieut. | | " " " | James Stanla | Major, 2 ^d Bat. | |
| " " " | Leroy Dickson | 2nd | | " " " | Robert R. Gentry | Capt. Co B, 1st Bat. | |
| 1846 Sept 21 | Charles Bratcher | Lieutenant Colonel | Dead | " " " | Ephram ? | 1st Lieut. | " " " |
| 1847 June 8 | S. A. Jones | Captain | | " " " | John Rimpel? | 2? | " " " |
| " " " | H. I. Caldwell | 1 Lieut | | " " " | S. Walton | Capt. " E 2 " | |
| " " " | W. M. Hammock | 2 | | " " " | Hew? Stinnet | 1st Lieut | " " " |
| " " " | W. L. White | Captain | | " " " | James E. Orrick | 2 | " " " |
| " " " | C. D. Dixon | 1 Lieut | | 1861 August | William B. Spirs? | Capt. Home Guard? B | |
| " " " | James S. Brewer | 2 | | " " " | J. B. Gray, III? | Lieut | " " " |
| " " " | Major Sanders | Captain | | " " " | Samuel R. Wingfield | 2 | " " " |
| " " " | C. L. James | 1 Lieut | | " " " | Thomas Lamb | 3 | " " " |
| " " " | J. B. Jackson | 2 | | 1861 Sept 31 | John Elkins | Colonel Commandant | |

Pike Co., Arkansas 1860 Census - Microfilm M 653 - Roll 47
Antoine Township (Number above name refers to household number)

#528
GILHAM, J. W. 46 m TN
 Elisabeth 43 f TN
 James 18 m AR
 S. L. 16 f AR
 M. A. 14 f AR
 Cynthia 10 f AR
 Stokley 7 m AR

#529
GILHAM, James 29 m TN
 Sarah 23 f TN

#530
TOLLESON, W. J. 26 m AL
 L. J. 36 f TN
HOLT, J. H. 15 m TN
 N.A. 10 f TN
 L. J. 8 f AR
 Margret 6 f AR
TOLLESON, B. J. 2/12 m AR

#531
BREWER, J. S. 49 m MO
 Zerelda 48 f TN
 J. C. 22 m AR
 M. J. 21 f AL
HOLYDAY, W. F. 14 m AR
 C. M. 9 m AR
 S. A. 6 f AR

#532
ALFORD, W. D. 25 m AL
 M. B. 24 f AR

#533
STRAWN, Hiram 53 m GA
 Ann 40 f GA
 S. A. 23 f GA
 T. J. 18 m GA
 V. S. 16 m GA
 Ellen 14 f GA
 Elmina 12 f GA
 Hiram 10 m GA
 Austin 8 m GA
 Cornelia 5 f AR

#534
VICKERY, S. W. 34 m GA
 Rebecca 32 f GA
 P. C. 12 f MS
 P. N. 7 f TX
FOX, Elisabeth 20 f AL
FITZGERELL, Abner 7 m AR

#535
GAMBLE, William 52 m GA
 Margret 45 f TN
 Stephen 21 m AL
 J. L. 19 m AL
 A. A. 17 f AL
 R. A. 14 f AL
 Delana 5 m AL
 William 1 m AR

#536
JENKINS, W. R. 30 m MS
 N. C. 25 f AL
 J. J. 5 f AR
 James 3 m AR
 Grandison 4/12 m AR

COURT CALENDER 1991
9th Judicial District East

| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| *3 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| #4 | 12 | 12 | 9 | 14 | 11 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 10 |
| 8 | 19 | 19 | 16 | 21 | 18 | 16 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 19 | |
| 15 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| x10 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 11 | 9 | 13 | 11 |
| 16 | 20 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 19 | 17 | 21 | 18 | 16 | 20 | |
| 23 | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Call of Civil Docket

#Call of Criminal Docket

x Call of Civil & Criminal Docket

- (1) Uncontested cases, contempt citations, temporary hearings and arraignments will be held each Tuesday in Clark County and each Wednesday in Pike County at 9:00 A.M. Juvenile Cases at 1:30 P.M..
- (2) JURY Trials: Last week of each month in both Clark & Pike Counties.
- (3) Court will set contested non-jury cases for specific dates on Monday, Thursday and Friday of each week

QUERIES

All queries **FREE** to Members

HOWARD, DOSSEY. Researching family of James Henry **HOWARD**, possibly namesake of Howard County, AR. Lived in Pike Co., AR, would like listing of land transactions involving Thomas K. or W. G. **DOSSEY** and James Henry **HOWARD** between 1870 and 1890, Pike Co., AR. Jo Sapp, 1000 Maplewood, Columbia, MO 65203

CUMMINS, FINLEY, RENO, BREUER, BREWER. Need help with these 1860 Hempstead Co., AR families, later some were in Pike Co., AR? J. C. H. **CUMMINS** and wife Josephine, James **FINLEY** and Dr. John T. **RENO**, who married Jane **BREUER** or **BREWER** of Pike Co., AR. Barbara Harvill, 919 Butler St., Metropolis, IL 62960.

REED, DUVALL. Need wedding certificate for Charles W. **REED** and Princess Elizabeth **DUVALL**, ca. 1865-1880. Possibly lived in the Antoine, AR area. James A. Griffith, 6922 N. Dunbar Drive, Peoria, IL 61614-2808.

RODGERS, ROGERS, YOUNG. Seeking info on Lewla or Lula M. **RODGERS** or **ROGERS** b. ca. 1858, Pike Co., AR, daughter of Joseph Alfred and Mary Ann ? **ROGERS**. Lewla m. **ROGERS** b. ca. 1858 md. Zach **YOUNG**. Living White twp., 1900 census. Would appreciate name and address of any descendants. Barbara Rewis, 213 Suzanne, Shreveport, LA 71115.

STEWART. Searching for grandmother, Flora **STEWART** born ca. 1915/16, presently living near Amity, Clark Co., AR or Pike Co., AR. Any information regarding her whereabouts will be appreciated. Nola F. **ROLPH**, 1504 North Kingston Ave., Tulsa, OK 74115.

JENKINS, SPARKS. Seeking info on W. S. **JENKINS** family and wife Nancy **SPARKS**, Caney Creek area of Pike Co., AR. B. J. Sparks, 16727 58th Place West, Lynnwood, WA 98036.

ACTKINSON, THOMAS, SULLIVAN. Need parents, siblings, and children of John Marion **ACTKINSON** b. 1829 and maiden name of wife, Louise ? Living Yell Co., AR 1885, later in Pope/ Searcy Co., AR. John Marion **ACTKINSON** md. 2nd, Angeline **THOMAS** 1873, md. 3rd Mrs. Callie **SULLIVAN** 1909, Marshall, Searcy Co., AR. Charlotte Welch Perry, Rt. 1 Box 346-A, Noble, OK 73068.

RODGERS, PARSLEY, GANN, McLANE, CANADAY, MALICOAT. Need help from anyone interested in the above surnames. Need verification of relationships. Also proof of late husbands indian ancestry. Alice Shirley, Box 253, Glenwood, AR 71943.

HUGHES. James **HUGHES**, son of William **HUGHES** b. 1801 MO, had brothers; John, Nathaniel, and William (1830 AR Census). James **HUGHES** had children; John 1825, Margaret 1826, Andrew 1832, Caroline 1837, Nathan 1840, James E. 1843, all born in AR. Part of the family moved to Goliad, TX ca. 1844, where my grandfather, Jerry was born in 1846. Apparently the older members of the family stayed in AR. I would like to locate distant relatives of James' family that stayed in AR, possibly some AR "cousins" will have family records to exchange. Gilmer **HUGHES**, Rt. 1, Baird, TX 79504.

SPEAKMAN, CAMPBELL, DUTTON. James **SPEAKMAN** b. ca. 1790/1800 KY md. 28 Feb 1823, Polly **DUTTON** b. 1800-1810, daughter of Aaron **DUTTON** b. ca. 1785 and Margaret ? b. 1790. James and Polly **DUTTON SPEAKMAN** had a son, William Thomas **SPEAKMAN** b. 01 May 1831, Jefferson Co., AL, wife Martha H **CAMPBELL** b. 28 Jul 1827, Jefferson Co., AL d. 17 Jan 1908, daughter of Thomas **CAMPBELL** b. 1805 SC. Need help on above families and descendants, especially **SPEAKMAN**. Fern Adams, P. O. Box 65, Kirby, AR 71950.

PCAHS PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

- "THE EARLY HISTORY OF PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS - The First One Hundred Years"**, originally published 1978 - reprinted 1989, now includes INDEX and CORRECTIONS \$12.00
- 1870 PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS PRINTED U S CENSUS**
by Dorothy Kennedy Partain - indexed \$15.00
- "THE DIARY"** (Family History) by Carlton Denny of Delight, Arkansas \$3.00
- A Reconstruction of the
"1890" CENSUS OF PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS by Russell P. Baker \$15.00
- "SWEET REMEMBRANCE - Caney Valley Childhood Memories of Flora Adella Adams Cosby"** compiled by Karen Cosby Roy, published 1984 \$10.00
- CEMETERY RECORDS of PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS**
compiled by the Pike County Extension Homemakers Council
copyright 1986 \$10.00
- INDEX TO VOLUME I NUMBERS 1, 2, 3, and 4**
of **"THE GEMS of PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS"**
plus 1990 Membership list of
THE PIKE COUNTY ARCHIVES AND HISTORY SOCIETY \$3.00
- BACK ISSUES of "THE GEMS of PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS"**
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by Dorothy Kennedy Partain
and Linda Willingham Meek

1991 ANNUAL PCAHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please make check or money order payable to Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS and mail along with the following information to:
Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS, P. O. Box 179, Delight, AR 71940
Regular annual membership rate is \$7.00, Senior Citizens annual membership rate is \$5.00 and Lifetime membership rate is a one time fee of \$100.00.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ zip code _____

Telephone Number (Please include Area Code) _____

/Are you interested in HISTORY _____ GENEALOGY _____ BOTH _____ ?

Please mark one or both of the above. If you are interested in genealogy please list the Surnames you are researching below or if you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper and mail along with you membership application. You are also encouraged to include a Pedigree Chart and Family Group Sheets with your Membership Application. All surnames submitted to PCAHS will be placed in our Surname File. Queries submitted to "THE GEMS" are FREE to members and will be published as space permits. Please be specific when writing your query regarding, names, dates, places, and the information you are seeking.

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED

PIKE COUNTY ARCHIVES and HISTORY SOCIETY

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| PRESIDENT | Dewayne Gray, Rt. 2 Box 43, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Bobbie Hendrix, Box 41, Antoine, AR 71922 |
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| CO-EDITOR | Dorothy Kennedy Partain P. O. Box 238, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 Telephone (501) 285-3528 |
| CO-EDITOR | Jan Jackson McGalliard, P. O. Box 96, Delight, AR 71940 |

****PCAHS MEETING TIME****

PCAHS meets the first Thursday night of each month from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm in the Murfreesboro Municipal Building. Annual membership dues are \$7.00. If you are 65 years old or older, you are eligible for our "Senior Citizens" discount membership of \$5.00 annually. Lifetime membership dues are \$100.00.

PCAHS was founded in 1986 and is a non-profit organization dedicated to the purpose of collecting and preserving primary source materials which bring together the unique history of Pike County, Arkansas and its people. The Pike County Archives is located on the third floor of the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. Presently, the Pike County Archives may be opened, Monday thru Friday, BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. The archives CAN NOT BE OPENED on SATURDAY, SUNDAY or HOLIDAYS. If you wish to use the research rooms of the Pike County Archives you must contact one of the Officers of PCAHS or write or call, Dorothy K. Partain, P. O. Box 238, Murfreesboro, AR 71958, Telephone (501) 285-3528 or Linda Wilson, P. O. Box 179, Delight, AR 71940, telephone (501) 379-2421 or 379-2471. Upon request, an ATTEMPT will be made to arrange for a PCAHS volunteer to open the archives to our members, for research purposes. Please call or write, well in advance of your planned trip to Murfreesboro, as all our volunteers have jobs, families, and other obligations and can not leave in a moments notice. We regret any inconvenience this may cause our patrons and members.

*****ELECTION OF 1991 PCAHS OFFICERS*****

PCAHS meet February 7, 1991 and unanimously re-elected the same slate of officers. A new position was created. Dorothy Kennedy Partain was elected as Corresponding Secretary for 1991.

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".....you must know the past - to determine the future"

**Pike County Archives and History Society
P. O. Box 238
Murfreesboro, AR 71958**