

# *Jackson County Historical Society News*

VOLUME SEVEN, NUMBER FOUR

JULY 2000



Major Joseph H. Adams and his wife, Caroline Bell Adams, of Galilee Community, died on the same night in March 1901. Photographs of the deceased laid on their coverlets were common at the turn of the century. Jane Adams Bryan kindly shared this photograph of her grandparents with us.

**NEWSLETTER**

The Jackson County Historical Society News is published quarterly and mailed before the next meeting. Back issues can be obtained for \$1.50 each plus postage. Please send your Jackson County family connections with your dues and they will be published in the next newsletter.

**DUES ARE DUE FOR 2000-2001 YEAR!!!!!!**

The Jackson County Historical Society's Dues Year runs from July to July. Checks should be written to the Jackson County Historical Society and mailed to 28 College Street, Jefferson, GA 30549.

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Life Member	\$100.00

**JCHS OFFICERS 1999-00**

PRESIDENT:	Tina Harris
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Marie Parks
RECORDING SECRETARY:	Annie Ruth Snelling
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:	Ann Jarrett
TREASURER:	Tommy Benton
DIRECTORS:	Jean G. Bauerband James Mathis Caroldene McEver Carol Tanner
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NEWSLETTER EDITORS:	Tina B. Harris Jean H. Booth Walton Harris

**JULY MEETING AND ANNUAL PICNIC**

The Jackson County Historical Society Annual Hot Dog picnic will be held at the Shields-Ethridge Farm on Thursday, July 20, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. Family members are welcomed.

Laura Thompson from the Georgia Humanities Council will be the presented speaker on Humanities Councils Oral History projects. We hope that our members will be interested in getting involved in their own oral history projects.

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

The April program on Cherokee Geneology was very well attended. Martha Redus led us through an overhead projector presentation of the migration of the Cherokee and the research materials used to trace them. The Historical Society purchased several books for the library to aid the researcher in their own search.

**ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP**

An Oral History Workshop will be offered on July 27 at the Crawford Long Museum. Dr. Pamela Sezgin will conduct an hour and half workshop that includes

how to begin, forms to use and ethics of oral history collecting. The hour and half workshop is free and books will be available for sale. This will be a great introduction to begin your oral history collection. Please call for reservations.

**NEW BOOKS**

Tod Dorsey has given the library a copy of the Sunrise Cemetery Records. The cemetery is in Maysville and crosses the Banks and Jackson County lines. Richard Chambers has completed Cemeteries and Deaths in Banks County, Georgia. This much waited for book will be available at the Historical Society picnic for \$45.00. For shipping orders and cost call Richard Chambers: 706-335-3786.

Jean Booth and Ann Jarrett have finished editing the index to the obituary collection. The obituary collection was begun by Jean Booth almost ten years ago. While pouring through the Jackson Herald microfilm, she copied obituaries for a collection that has turned into seven notebooks in our Historical Society library. The obituaries cover a few early ones from the Southern Banner, but most are from 1878 through 1920.

**FAMILY CONNECTION**

James Edward Roberts, 825 Fairbrook Lane, Roswell, GA 30075, (678) 461-0705; PLEASANT JAMES ROBERTS

T. Lamar Moore, 6224 Everglades Drive, Alexandria, VA 22312-1109, (703) 256-8008; GARRISON, CONNALLY

Gail Sims, P.O. Box 593, Gatlinburg, TN 37738; ARNOLD, BARNETT, YANCEY, JOHNSON, ANDREWS, HARDMAN, HICKS, HUTCHINS

Curtis Collier, III, 205 Devonshire Drive, Athens, GA 30606, (706) 353-3251; COLLIER, ARNOLD, LYLE

Barbara McDaniel, 1520 Meriwether Road, Montgomery, AL 36117, (334) 277-4505; ARCHER, STRAWBRIDGE, NIXON

**OBITUARIES**

*March 4, 1982*—Mrs. Claudia D. Allen, daughter of J. M. and M. J. Johnson, was born December 6th, 1872, was married to Charles P. Allen December 11th, 1890, and died December 31st, 1991, aged nineteen years and twenty five days. Her remains were interred at Ebenezer church yard, amidst a large crowd of sorrowing relatives and sympathizing friends. An impressive funeral ceremony was conducted by Brothers McGarity and Ross. She joined the Methodist Episcopal church at eleven years of age, and, though so young, she seemed to fully understand and realize what her connection with it meant. Claudia was in every sense of the word a lovely girl; she was an obedient daughter, a kind sister and a devoted wife. We are confident that she has a home in that happy spirit land that she loved so well to sing about. She leaves a father, mother, two brothers and three sisters to mourn her loss; also a sorrowing husband and a little babe only three weeks old, who will never know or feel the depth of a mother's love.

*May 5, 1893*—Old Mrs. Gamblin, mother of R.T. Gamblin, departed this life last Sunday night. She was very old and decrepit, but her death was prob-

ably hastened by spells of asthma, which she had been having for more than two years. She was living with her son in the vicinity of Malinda. She was buried at Ebenezer last Tuesday.

*July 20, 1984*—Mr. Henry Cook, who has been confined to his bed with sickness for several weeks, died at his place of residence here on last Friday morning. He was buried at Galilee church, where his remains now repose in peace. The funeral services were inducted by Rev. H. R. Williams. Two of Mr. Cook's children are confined to their beds with sickness and the mother is almost exhausted with overwork, waiting on the husband and children. The family is certainly in need of the sympathies of the people.

*Oct. 19, 1894*—On last Friday the spirit of Mrs. John Lewis Elder left its tenement of clay and winged itself to the great beyond. She has been sick for more than a month at the home of her son in-law, Mr. G. W. Guffin, with a complication of troubles. She grew weaker and weaker each day until her demise. She was buried at Galilee church, Elder J. H. Wood conducting the funeral services. She was sixty four years old. She leaves as nice and as highly respected family as can be found in the county. All the children are grown, and most of them have families of their own.

*June 11, 1897*—Departed this life on April 6, 1897, Sister Ada Freeman, wife of Brother Albert Freeman, in her nineteenth year. She leaves one child, one year old to mourn her death. She was a consistent member of Galilee Christian church, and died in the blessed hope of joining her Savior in Paradise.

Not two months elapsed before her husband, Albert Freeman, was laid beside her in the grave yard at Galilee church, a victim of the same dreaded destroyer, typhoid fever. Brother Freeman was just in the prime of life, an exemplary Christian, and one whose live shone for itself. He was known of all men as a "child of the King." It is an unusual thing to chronicle the death of husband and wife in such a manner as this.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth, aye, sayeth the spirit, they shall rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

*June 10, 1898*—Mr. J. Sidney Elder's wife, who has been very low of consumption for several months, quietly and peacefully breathed her last, surrounded by husband, children and friends on Wednesday. Mrs. Elder was a zealous and consecrated Christian lady, and had been a member of Galilee church for several years. She was kind and patient, and was much loved by all who knew her. She leaves a loving husband and several children to mourn her death. She was laid to rest at Galilee burial ground on last Wednesday. Our sympathy goes out to the bereaved family.

*March 22, 1901*—Last Thursday night was a sad time at the home of Major Joseph H. Adams, of this county.

Some days ago both Major Adams and wife were seized with grip. It was not thought they were dangerously ill until last Thursday, when the children and friends of the old couple gathered at the Adams home to administer to them in their illness.

Thursday afternoon it was noticed that they were sinking, and that night the eyes of the father and husband were closed in everlasting sleep. Only two hours later, grief stricken children and anxious friends saw the loving mother and wife pass from this terrestrial sphere to one celestial.

Both were buried at Galilee graveyard Saturday, Rev. Henry B. Mays conducting the funeral obsequies.

Major Adams and wife had lived happily together for half century, and both were laid to rest in the same grave. They were members of the Methodist church, and no more consistent Christians ever lived than this old couple who died last week. Each was about 82 years old

## NEWS FROM GALILEE

*March 1884*—Mr. Whitehead and family, from Alabama have moved to Mr. Jeff Lanier's plantation.

Mr. Johnnie Duke treated his log rollers on ice cream. He also sent his true lover some, which would have been sweeter if he had brought it.

An agent for artificial eyes could make money at Galilee.

If you can find half dozen good teeth in this settlement, I'll give you a hundred dollars reward.

Mr. Alvin Holliday, at the burial of Mrs. Lizzie Lyle, was taken quite sick, but was immediately relieved by Drs. A. C. Holliday and O. B. Lanier. We regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Lizzie Lyle, which occurred in Jefferson on Friday, March 14th.

*June 23, 1886*—The bridge builders with their battering hammer, and three horse-power are propelling the posts in the ground across the Oconee near Thompson's Mills and we will soon travel over a bridge built on a firm foundation.

Sickness in our community is abating some, and the Jefferson physicians, which seem to be the favorites among our people, will probably dismiss us for awhile.

Thompson's mill is whirling again, bring on your grain!

We need a night watch near the torn down bridge to prevent broken necks. We got right hungry for the HERALD as it did or, could not arrive until late Saturday night.

A coffin had to be carried by hand across the bridge foundation last Saturday night for some one, who died recently beyond the river.

## HISTORY OF EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH

Ebenezer Methodist church was organized in 1832. The first pastor was Rev J. W. Glenn. The original church was located on the John Hancock estate about one mile from the present location. The land was given by Brother Hancock as well as were the logs used in its building. This building was on one side of the creek but later was moved across the creek. The next location was in the northeast forks of the crossroads, north of the present cemetery. The next site was where the present cemetery rests. In 1929, this building was moved across the road near the oak trees north of the present church. Deeds for two acres of ground were given by Albert H. Black in 1875. In 1939, J. W. Chandler deeded 91.82 acres to the church and Buddy Chandler willed 269 acres to the church. A new church was built in 1947 for the amount of \$8009.08 and the present building is on 5 acres of land.



1906-07 Class of Ebenezer School

**MELINDA**

*September 23, 1896*—The members of Ebenezer church are having their house repaired, putting on a new cover and ceiling the inside.

**REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

1. R. T. Seymour 1866
2. James M. Johnson 1867
3. James A. Thompson
4. Alvin J. Lyle 1873
5. John W. Thompson 1884
6. William J. Leay 1877
7. J. W. Fields 1877
8. Columbus W. Thompson 1881
9. E. H. Allen
10. A. J. Seymour 1883
11. A. A. Thompson 1884
12. Joshua G. Harrison
13. Leo Hunt 1895
14. W. J. Whitehead
15. Rev. W. W. Heath
16. T. L. Burdaine
17. Wm. S. Allen 1897
18. Edward W. Rickles 1897
19. James D. Seers 1897
20. John E. Doster 1897
21. John H. Rickels 1897
22. Benj. P. Rickels 1897
23. Wm. D. S. Lyle 1897
24. Joseph F. Fulcher 1897
25. Emory S. Allen 1897
26. William B. Doster 1897
27. James C. Gazaway 1897
28. John B. Lyle Jr. 1897
29. William Burdine 1897
30. William H. Brewer 1897
31. W. C. Johnson
32. John Rickels Sr.
33. Jack Suthrie 1897
34. Sarah E. O'Bryant 1832
35. Martha J. Johnson 1857
36. Martha A. Lay 1858
37. Sarah Sauser 1877
38. Manervia Chandler 1877
39. Susan Collins 1881
40. Mystie Chandler 1883
41. Nancy Fite
42. Mattie Wardlaw 1884
43. Rosa Hardy 1884
44. Amie Nicholson 1884
45. Mary L. Thompson 1884
46. Julia Lay 1887
47. Emma Allen 1888
48. Alice Harrison
49. Mollie Allen 1892
50. Amie Whithead
51. Edna Thompson (O'Shields) 1896
52. Ella Seymore 1896
53. Effie Bush 1896
54. Ada Hancock 1896
55. Lula Allen 1896
56. Mattie Whitehead (Megquier) 1896
57. May Fields (Raynolds) 1896
58. Belle Fields (Brewer) 1896
59. Bestie Fields 1896
60. Laura Meles
61. Leroy Lyle
62. Mary E. Gazaway 1897
63. Sara Rickels
64. Josephine Doolittle
65. Susie E. Harrison 1896
66. Mrs. Sudie Gregory
67. Miss Etta Gregory
68. Myrtle Gregory
69. Mrs. J. N. Whithead
70. John Gregory
71. J. H. Wardlaw
72. Dock S. Nickilson
73. C. N. Whithead

**GALILEE**

*December 1, 1927—Golden Wedding Anniversary—Hon. and Mrs. T. S. Johnson Entertained With Beautiful Reception*

In July 1871, there graduated from historic old Martin Institute a young man whom everybody called Tom Johnson., Four years later, July 7th, 1875, diplomas were awarded four young ladies, Misses Lizzie Thompson, Lula Burns, Alice Amis and Leila Long. The first named, who was a beautiful, black-eyed young lady of seventeen summers, had as the subject of her graduating essay, “Good Times and Bad times and All Times Pass Over”, then “Cherrily Bend to the Oar”. In the issue of the Jackson Herald(then the Forest New) of December 1, 1877, there appeared this item of news: “Married, at the residence of the bride’s father, Capt. A. C. Thompson, on the morning of 28th of November, by Rev. M. H. Eakes, Mr.

Thos. S. Johnson and Miss Lizzie Thompson, all of Jackson County. And now, should our young friend, Tom Johnson, exercise the same taste and judgement selecting all the other concomitants that go to make life pleasant and agreeable, as he has in the choice of a partner, surely nought but a happy lot awaits him in the future.” The wedding occurred on the nineteenth birthday of the young bride, and the attendants were Mr. Lucius Bush and Miss Emma Hancock (now Mrs. Bush), and Mr. Mitchell Burns and Miss Annie Johnson (afterwards Mrs. Hugh Hancock). Of the six people who participated in that wedding fifty years ago, three, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Emma Bush, are still numbered as foremost citizens of this commonwealth, and one of the happiest events of their long and useful lives, was the celebration of the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, as well as the 69<sup>th</sup> birthday of the fair bride, at their home on Church street on Monday evening.

*Ira Ethridge and Mr. White seated on a bench in front of Galilee Church.*



*July 25, 1929—*

**HISTORY OF GALILEE CHURCH** by I. W. Ethridge

Galilee Christian Church, in Jackson County, three miles southwest of Jefferson, was organized by Philip F. Lamar, in 1870. The leading carpenters erecting the old building were Uncle Stewart McElhannon and Jerry Johnson.

Deacons, Levi G. Martin and Asa C. Christian.

**Charter Members**

Phillip F. Lamar, Malichi Martin, Levi Martin, John L. Elder, Sidney Elder, James H. Elder, Mrs. Julia D. Lamar, Mrs. Lucy A. Elder, Mrs. Elizabeth Martin.

**Oldest Members and When United with Church**

David O. Elder, July 8, 1873  
 Mrs. G. W. Guffin, July 6, 1873  
 Henry H. Freeman, July 22, 1875  
 J. R. Anglin, July 17, 1876  
 Geo. K. Elder, July 22, 1876  
 Phil M. Elder, July 22, 1878  
 Edward Maddox, 1878  
 Mrs. Lizzie Wills, July 22, 1878  
 Geo. W. Guffin, 1881  
 Mrs. Susan Elder, September 3, 1882  
 Mrs. N. T. Elder, September 5, 1886  
 Mrs. J. W. Alexander, August 6, 1885  
 T. S. Johnson, August 29, 1884  
 E. S. Ethridge, August 26, 1885  
 A. G. Lamar, August 8, 1885  
 J. W. Shields, August 26, 1885  
 J. W. Alexander, August 3, 1888  
 James C. Shields, August 28, 1884  
 Alex S. Shields, August 28, 1884

**Improvements Plans**

Putting on a new front to the old building, 20x46, making four Sunday school rooms in the new part with folding doors, so as to throw the Sunday school rooms into the main auditorium when needed. Mr. Roy Jackson, manager of New Winder Lumber Co. did the improvements using the old school house in the project, covered a new, re-seated and painted inside.

The Jackson County Historical Society  
Hot Dog Picnic will be held July 20, 2000  
at the Shields-Ethridge Farm at 6:00 p.m.

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
—c/o Crawford W. Long Museum—  
28 College Street  
Jefferson, Georgia 30549