COMMENTS BY THE PHS PRESIDENT

We of the Pittsylvania Historical Society were saddened by the deaths of two of our dedicated and loyal members who served our society in leadership roles for many years.

Katherine Wallace Buck, who was our corresponding secretary, died suddenly, apparently of a heart attack on November 8. She was a willing worker who recorded the minutes, served as director and handled the society's book sales and was also active as a volunteer with the Chatham Rescue Squad.

On January 23 Major Neil Payne (Ret.), a former president of the Pittsylvania Historical Society, succumbed after a lengthy illness.

The first to enlist in the Marines when a reserve unit was formed at Roanoke in 1929, Neil retired from the U.S. Marine Corps with the rank of Major.

Major Payne was elected as the second president of the PHS, and he was succeeded by his wife, Lucille Payne.

Neil and Lucille, as co-editors, put together the PHS quarterly publication THE QUILL PEN (which is the forerunner of THE PACKET) which they edited for eight and a half years. It is acknowledged that THE QUILL PEN was an important factor in contributing to the expansion and growth of the PHS as a vibrant historical society.

We members of today are indebted to Mrs. Buck and Major Payne for their work in promoting our society. As we carry on, we will ever be grateful as we reap the benefits of their volunteer leadership.

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I am indeed thankful that Susan Worley, newspaper reporter with the Star-Tribune, has accepted appointment as a volunteer to be the new corresponding secretary for the PHS.

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With reference to volunteers, I am grateful to all of those who give of their time and energy to serve this society as volunteers.

As the Tiger for Kellogg's Frosted Flakes exclaims -- "They are "Just GGGGGGGGGGGREAT!!!"

--by PBM

DIFFERENT SORT OF MEETING FEBRUARY 21

The next meeting of the Pittsylvania Historical Society will be the third Monday night in February - that is Monday night, February 21 at 7:30 p.m. (NOTE: If it is too cold, rain, sleet or snow, the meeting will be postponed until the next Monday night, February 28.

The speaker for the program is the Rev. Wilbur M. Sims of Cascade, author of "One Man Of Two Worlds," a play about a great frontiersman which received the top award presented by the Virginia Highlands Festival of Creative Writing.

Mr. Sims says he will seek to stimulate a greater understanding, not of history as such, but rather for the purpose of understanding who we are and how we became who we are.

It will be an interesting and different sort of program...at the old 1813 Clerk’s Office behind the Chatham Town Office building on February 21.
This is a drawing by Danny Ricketts of the famous "White Charlot" used by George Washington on his 1,887 mile Southern Tour in 1791.

While On Famous Southern Tour

George Washington Really Spent Night In Our County

It was June 4, 1791 that President George Washington really spent the night in Pittsylvania County!

It was while still a great war hero and during his tranquil first term that President Washington decided to venture on a great Southern tour of the young country. It took him on an 1,887 mile trip as far south as Savannah, Georgia.

It was on his swing back to New York that he stopped at Peytonsburg in Pittsylvania County.

Yes, it's really true! George Washington actually spent the night at the Wimbush Tavern in Pittsylvania County June 4, 1791.

It is difficult to imagine TODAY the importance of Peytonsburg back during the Revolutionary War period...because today, not a trace of the town remains, not even a brick of the then imposing county courthouse.

It can be understood why President Washington had his inspection tour to pass through Peytonsburg.

It must have been because it was an important Continental Army Post, with a recruiting station and food and supply collection and distribution center. It was on the main mail expressway from Charleston, SC to Philadelphia, PA and was the distribution center for all mail delivery serving a 30 mile surrounding radius.

It was the county seat, and its factory employed 220 persons to make canteens and repair guns during the war.

Of the three taverns in Peytonsburg, President Washington chose to spend the night at the tavern owned by Col. John Wimbush, who also owned several stores in the town and was a wealthy landowner.

Richard Venerable, young lawyer who accompanied the President on the southern tour, recorded in his diary - "Gen'l Washington arrived at sunset, stayed at (Wimbush) Tavern, set out next morning before sunrise, (and) "the whole village turned out to see him leave."

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While in Southern Virginia, Richard Venerable listed the names of several
other prominent persons with whom President Washington spent the night...John Wilson near "Wynne's Falls" (established as Danville Nov. 23, 1793) and Col. Isaac Coles (former Congressman) near Charlotte Courthouse who later moved and built a home near Chalk Level in Pittsylvania County.

Everywhere President Washington traveled, the beloved General was met with accolades from throngs of his countrymen. Venerable's diary noted: "The laborers forsook their work, and the lame forgot their crutch to gaze on him when he passed."

For his great southern tour, President George Washington had the famous "White Chariot" built to his specifications. - "handsome, genteel and light." It was made by Philadelphia Coachmakers David and Francis Clark at a cost of $748.

The 107-day tour that traveled southward to Savannah, Georgia, was considered to be the longest trip a U.S. citizen had made at that time by private conveyance. The President left New York accompanied by an entourage of five attendants, the white chariot, a baggage wagon and a large number of spare horses.

Thomas Jefferson was very vocal in expressing concern for President Washington's safety, due to "the treacherous road conditions of the times."

The tour began March 21 and was concluded July 6 - (1791).

What became of the famous "White Chariot" that carried President Washington on the 1,887 mile southern tour?

It was dismantled around 1817 and its parts distributed to charity organizations for auctions. Parts of the famous vehicle were claimed to be reincarnated into snuffboxes, picture frames, walking sticks, etc.

A coach similar to the famous "White Chariot" believed to have been made by the same manufacturer, is on display at George Washington's Mount Vernon Home.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Much of the information for this article was furnished by Robert Danny Ricketts of Route 7, Danville, VA 24540 who is a knowledgeable historian and does extensive historical research. Danny did the pen and ink sketch of the "White Chariot" and horses.

HOMESTEAD ACT PASSED 1862

The Homestead Act was passed by Congress in May, 1862. It provided that any person over 21, who was the head of a family, and either a citizen or an alien who intended to become a citizen, could obtain the title to 160 acres of public land if he lived on the land for five years and improved it. The act also allowed a person to substitute the payment of $1.25 an acre for the five-year residence requirement. The sponsors of this law believed that land was worthless before it was improved.

-- From Florida Genealogical Society

HELP TO LOCATE A TOWN

The Rand McNally Map Company has an archivist on staff who will help locate towns that are no longer on the usual maps. Contact Phil Forrester, P.O. Box 7600, Chicago, IL 61680, telephone 312-673-9100, ext 2339.

-- From "Rabbit Tracks"
Grave discovered in old cemetery

Revolutionary War Soldier Honored After 200 Years

Marion Williamson of Blairs (Pittsylvania County, VA) was 12-years-old when she asked her grandfather about her past, and he told her all he knew about their ancestors. She wrote down what he told her, but it was just a few years ago that she began looking into her genealogy.

This led to a search of a 200-year-old cemetery that she knew "must be" in the vicinity of "Old Mountain Top."

She started a research of old records and found the first Jones came to Pittsylvania County - who was Lt. Thomas Jones Sr., born 1746, and came to this county from Amelia or Chesterfield County, VA.

In Mrs. Williamson's research, she learned Lt. Thomas Jones Sr. was her Revolutionary War relative.

She explained: "He and about 75 of his neighbors and friends were 'nominated' (not drafted or enlisted) as officers in the Pittsylvania County branch of the Virginia Militia on Sept. 27, 1775. He served as a lieutenant and also assisted in providing the Revolutionary soldiers with provisions."

The research revealed that Thomas Jones Sr. was a large landowner, holding land grants on Pigg River and Cherrystone Creek. His home was a large dwelling on top of White Oak Mountain. (It burned in 1890). He was a sickly man and died in 1786 when he was only 40-years-old. He had four children. His two sons were Emanuel (buried in the home cemetery) and Thomas Brooks Jones (who was Mrs. Williamson's ancestral line). Lt. Jones' wife remarried and is buried elsewhere with her second husband.

While uncovering the past, Mrs. Williamson became determined to make a search for the Jones' cemetery knowing only it had a stone wall.

Using an old land map, with the help of members of her family, they spread out and walked through the thick wooded area in search of the cemetery.

"We found it not too far off Route 895 east of Chatham. It was hid by overgrowth by decades of nature, jealously guarded by a 40 foot square, two foot thick stone wall and sheltered by trees," she explained.

Some grave stones were overturned or tilted by the roots. Bleach and a brush were used to clean the markings on the head stones.

After discovering the cemetery and cleaning it up, a memorial ceremony was held at the site honoring Lt. Thomas Jones Sr. by the Dan River Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

Larry Aaron, Chapter President, presided at the ceremony. Attending were Jones' relatives and descendants - some from as far as Tennessee.

Aaron, in his address, exclaimed, "While Lt. Thomas Jones Sr. didn't lead an army like George Washington, he served in it; while he did not write the Declaration of Independence, he defended it; and he gave no small measure of devotion to his country, and now we honor him."

Sons of the American Revolution are blood descendants of servicemen. The organization marks and preserves the graves of Revolutionary patriots.

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A character is a jerk with personality
Had To Take Oath of Allegiance
45 Justices of Peace Named In County After The War

Less than a week after the end of the War Between the States, the Sixth U.S. Army Corps headquarters was set up in Danville, VA.

General Orders No. 15 came down May 10, 1865 from U.S. army Major General H.G. Wright directing the naming of 45 Justices of the Peace for the eleven districts of Pittsylvania County, VA and City of Danville.

They were empowered for the purpose of the "preservation of order and the re-establishment and maintenance of industry and to maintain security of personal and physical property." All military commanders were "strictly empowered to aid the justices in these ends with the forces at their command whenever it may be necessary."

The general order further directed that "the justices be empowered upon and after they qualified themselves and by taking the prescribed oath of allegiance to the United States."

The justices of the peace who were appointed in the various districts in Pittsylvania County were as follows:

First district: Daniel C. Ragsdale, John W. Jones, Chesley Martin, John E. Hughes.
Fourth district: John W. McKinsey, James M. McDearman, Robert A. Wilson, James J. Pritchett.
Fifth district: Jesse R. Noel, Sanford Pitts, E.H. Keene, Jos. H. Trotter.
Seventh district: William E. Jones, Daniel Hunt, Nathaniel Hobson, Joshua Hubbard.
Eighth district: William C. Tate, S.W. Mustain, Walter Coles Jr., William H. Waller.
Ninth district: John W. Motley, D.T. Snow, Burwell Lee, David Parker.
Tenth district: George T. Berger, Joseph Howard, R. Parker, David Graves.

The following officers were appointed for the City of Danville and were "empowered after taking the prescribed oath and allegiance to the United States."

Mayor - J.M. Walker

-- This information was submitted by Robert Hunt, 105 Coral Reef Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445. Mr. Hunt is trying to get more information about Daniel Robert Hunt of Chatham (who is named above). He will appreciate any assistance.

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There were 122 chartered
Pittsylvania County's
Puzzling Post Offices

(Excerpted from the book: "Picks, Tracks and Bateaux: Industry in Pittsylvania 1750 - 1950"
By Herman Melton)

Some of the early ones had names long since forgotten, such as Colocbs, Castor, Newburg, Monroetan and Chestnut Grove. Pittsylvania's puzzling post offices ebbed and flowed in number as the county grew and shifted its population.

Some had name changes for logical reasons. A case in point was Chestnut Grove which became Whitmell in 1853 just after the untimely death of one of its favorite sons - Whitmell Tunstall - the founder of the first railroad in the county.

It appears that the Postoffice Department was founded nearly a decade before it chartered a post office in the county. One can harbor suspicions that the first Postmaster-General, Charles Osgood from Massachusetts, insulated himself from petitions from the rural South.

In any case, it was not until Joseph Haberstam from Georgia took over, that a P.O. was finally chartered at Pittsylvania Courthouse in 1798.

Eventually, the county seat town name was changed to Competition by the General Assembly in 1807. Ironically, the Postoffice Department did not follow suit, and the office retained its original name until it was changed to Chatham in 1877.

Available records indicate that from 1798 until the present, there were 122 P.O.s chartered in the county. This included the one at old Peytonsburg that lasted from 1803 until the post Reconstruction.

From its beginning through the 19th century, the P.O. Department followed an efficient method of housing and staffing a post office. The usual procedure was to appoint a postmaster who used his house or store and as compensation received half of each year's receipts.

Soon the more enterprising of these established a country store in tandem to take advantage of the traffic for commercial reasons. Among such establishments in the county were Grasty Store, established in 1805, Robertson's Store, established in 1827, Smith's Store, chartered in 1817, Williams' Store opened in 1829 and Watkins Store, founded in 1819.

As for their pay, some received what seems a pittance today. For example, Joseph Swanson the PM at Joseph was paid on $8.19 as late as 1905. Others at places such as Crafton made less than $5 annually in 1887.

Although women did not have voting rights, some of them became Postmasters. Among those was Nannie Pigg Anderson whose salary at Tomahawk P.O. in 1893 was $3.29.

There is a gap in the history of county post offices from 1861 through 1865. A crisis in mail service came quickly after Ft. Sumner in April of 1861. The
U.S. immediately halted the flow to and from all points in the South.

The embattled Confederacy responded by forming its own P.O. Dept. Jefferson Davis made one of his better appointments when he put John Reagan of Tennessee birth in charge.

A scarcity of engravers and engraving equipment prohibited the CSA from issuing sufficient stamps for the flood of mail. The remarkable Reagan alleviated the problem somewhat by allowing the local post offices to print their own. Both Danville and Pittsylvania Courthouse printed stamps of identical design.

As population grew, so did the number of P.O.s. Tell, Meriwether, Trelow, Elect, Menla, Redeye and Peatross came into being by 1900. A few others changed names. Yak became Mountain Hill and Oak Shop became Museville for example. Keeling P.O. was chartered in 1887 and has changed locations four times. All of the four buildings remain standing.

The number of county P.O.s reached a peak of 77 in 1893 and declined rapidly thereafter. The reason: The automobile. After its advent, one rural mail carrier could distribute as much mail as six or eight rural P.O.s. Sadly for the romantic, their number has dwindled to 13 in Pittsylvania County today.

OMINA MUTANTUR NOS ET MUTANTUR IN ILLIS!

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After opening my monthly bill, I moaned - "I charged when I should have retreated."

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Melton's New Book To Aid Genealogists

"Picks, Tracks and Bateaux: Industry in Pittsylvania County 1750-1950"

By Herman Melton

(Lynchburg, H. E. Howard Inc. 1993) 324 pages, Indexed, Illustrated, Hard cover. Available from author at RD 5 Box 5B, Chatham, VA 24531 or by calling 804-432-2172. $20.95 plus tax and shipping.

This volume is author's third on the subject of early county industry and is a product of a grant provided the author by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities for the study of early county industry.

This book constitutes a story of the county's early sawmills, ferries, turnpikes, tanneries, tobacco factories, mines, post offices, phone companies, power companies, gun factory, etc. from data obtained from county and state records, old newspaper reports, several industrial censuses, etc. Genealogy enhanced by the appearance of more than 400 family names in the narrative.

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Heredity: the thing a child gets from the other side of the family.

---Marceline Cox

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With him for a sire and her for a dam, what should I be but just what I am?

---Edna St. Vincent Millay

*****

I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be.

---Abraham Lincoln
Daniel Butterfield - Composer of 'Taps'

"You may not know who Daniel Butterfield was, but you probably recognize a tune he wrote - the haunting bugle call known as 'Taps'... It was during the ill-fated Peninsular campaign of July 1862 that he felt an overwhelming need to write a new bugle call for his men... He had lost over 600 soldiers in one day's battle. An oppressive sadness and melancholy descended upon him because so many had died."

"When 'Extinguish Lights,' the regulation bugle call signaling day's end, was sounded one night, it struck Butterfield as inadequate for marking the closing of the day - just one of the many days that had seen hundreds of men die. ... There should be a more fitting tune, he reasoned; one that combined and conveyed a feeling of sadness mingled with hope. ... (Butterfield whistled the tune and had an aide write the music.) ... Butterfield called for his personal bugler, Oliver Norton, and asked him to play the new bugle call instead of 'Extinguish Lights.'"

"That night and from then on, 'Taps' was played. Buglers from other Union camps heard Norton play 'Taps,' and asked for copies of the music."

"As the melody spread quickly to other Union encampments, Confederate buglers heard it being played at night and copied it. It wasn't long before soldiers on both sides were going to sleep with 'Taps' sounding in their ears."

"Although it almost immediately became the new 'Extinguish Lights,' 'Taps' did not become an authorized bugle call until 1874." ...

"In July 1901, Butterfield died. At his grave site, three rifle volleys were fired, answered by a 13-gun artillery salute. Then, appropriately, the bugler sounded 'Taps.'

Daniel Butterfield was a general in the Union Army during the War Between the States. After the war, he became a railroad expert.

-- From "Rabbit Tracks," Conejo Valley Gen. Society, CA

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There are many kinds of conceit, but the chief one is to let people know what a very ancient and gifted family you descended from.

-- Benevenuto Cellini

IN MEMORY OF
MAJOR NEIL PAYNE (RET.)
Died January 23, 1994

Major Payne served the Pittsylvania Historical Society as its second president. He with his wife, Lucille Payne, started the society's quarterly publication, THE QUILL PEN (forerunner of THE PACKET), and were the co-editors for eight and a half years.

Major Payne's contributions to the Pittsylvania Historical Society, along with his wife, will be of everlasting benefit to this society.
Roll of 205 Enlistees printed here

Chatham Grays Marched Off To War April 24, 1861

There were 205 enlisted men on the roll of the Chatham Grays, Company "I" 53rd Virginia Regiment of the Confederate Army during the War Between the States that lasted from April 1861 to April 1865.

Company "I" of the Chatham Grays was composed largely of men who enlisted from Pittsylvania County, VA. Prior to the war the Company "I" had been registered as "Company A, 101st Virginia Militia" and therefore it also had men on the roll from other parts of the state.

The Chatham Grays was one of 20 companies sent to the war from Pittsylvania, and the name was chosen for the place the company left from.

It was April 24, 1861 the Chatham Grays marched away to the war which they fully expected to be ended in less than 30 days.

A vast crowd of men, women and children assembled on the Chatham street to see the "Soldier Boys" off that bright April day.

Some of the older citizens were liberal in purchasing comfortable clothing and blankets for the soldiers who needed them. The ladies of the town had gotten cookies, cakes, sandwiches and drinks prepared as refreshments; there were speeches - and then the goodbyes were said among the tears of those left behind.

Most of the young soldiers had at least one trunk well packed as if taking a long trip. (Little did they dream it would last four years.)

Since there was no railroad at Chatham, farmers volunteered to hitch up their wagons and transported the men to Danville where they took the train to Richmond.

During the four years of the great conflict, the records show that of the 205 men of the Chatham Grays, 13 were killed in battle, 26 died of some disease, 17 suffered severe crippling wounds.

Also the records reveal that 18 of the soldiers of the Chatham Grays deserted, and three were taken as prisoners.

The roll of the 205 enlisted men of Company "I" of the Chatham Grays for the Confederate Army is printed here as follows alphabetically:

Thomas Abbott, Jesse T. Abbott (wounded at Malvern Hill), Cordd Allen, James Anderson (enlisted as substitute and then deserted), E.W. Atkinson (died of disease in Petersburg Hospital), Chris M. Barber, Edwin A. Barber (promoted to 2nd Lt.), James S. Barker (deserted to enemy at City Point).

G. W. Barrett (died in hospital at Petersburg), John Barrett (died of disease in hospital at Richmond), Henry P. Berger (transferred to Cavalry), Charles Bilharz (served as cpl., sgt. and promoted to lt.), John F. Blair, William Bobbitt (died of disease in Richmond hospital), M. Bolanz (skilled mechanic), R. H. Bradley, W.T. Bradley (wounded).

E.H. Bradshaw (wounded), W.P. Bradshaw (wounded, captured at Gettysburg), Vincent Broomfield (listed on pay roll as a deserter), James B. Callaway, George A. Carter (served as 2nd Lt. then commissioned assistant surgeon), H.L. Carter (promoted to 1st Lt., captured at Gettysburg), James Carter Jr. (color guard, cpl.,
badly wounded, taken prisoner at Gettysburg.)

John T. Carter (discharged account physical disability), Ross Carter (promoted to captain of Company "G" in same regiment), William A. Carter, George W. Chism (wounded), George E. Coleman, James C. Coleman (Cpl., captured at Gettysburg), James T. Coleman (cpl., was killed at Gettysburg), John D. Coleman (detailed to quarter master dept. Richmond), James D. Coles (captain).


Walter C. Dyer (cpl.), R.O.C. Easley (killed at Gettysburg), G.W. East (died of disease in hospital), James H. Echols (cpl. killed in battle near Chester Station), Abram Fackler, R.D. Ferguson (cpt. 1st sgt.), R.F. Ferguson (enlisted as substitute, then deserted), Zach L. Finney (discharged account physical disability), William R. Fitzgerald (was transferred to Cavalry), Olkin Fletcher (died of disease).


James P. Johnson (discharged as postmaster at Chatham), John H. B. Keatts (died of disease near Winchester) Thomas Keatts, R. A. Keatts (died of disease in Petersburg hospital), William C. Keatts, David S. Keen (hospital steward for 53rd VA Regiment), Robert M. Lacy (appeared on payroll as deserter to his home), Thomas Lawrence, John T. Lewis (appears on pay roll as AWOL long time), W.C. Linthicum (wounded near Suffolk), Vincent A. Linthicum (died in Richmond hospital of wounds received in battle.)

Shields S. Lucke (sgt., then transferred to 38th VA Regiment, and promoted to captain, killed when leading his company in battle at Seven Pines), Rawley W. Martin (1st lt. promoted to captain, then major of 53rd Regiment, then to lt. colonel of Regiment, was severely wounded and taken prisoner at Gettysburg and later exchanged and assigned to duty in Columbia, SC and then Essex Co., VA.)

Gilderoy S. Mays (on pay roll as a deserter to home), James S. May (appears on pay roll as a home deserter), William H. McCabe (British subject under age, a gallant soldier and was discharged on account of health), John H. Meadows, John H. Meadows Jr., Walter C. Mills (cited for gallant service in ambulance corps),
J.B. Mitchell, John S. Mitchell (shot to death by musketry by order of court martial for desertion to enemy).

Daniel P. Moon (cited for gallant service as member of the ambulance corps), Christopher Motley, David Motley, Daniel J. Motley, Hartwell Motley (died of disease at Suffolk), James Motley, John H. Motley, Dudley S. Muse (was transferred Cavalry), John H. Muse, William H. Muse, Edward D. Myers, F. Myers, John H. Old.

William Onely (enlisted as substitute and deserted to foreign country), Joseph Parsons, John L. Parsons (died of disease in Richmond hospital) Peter Parsons (wounded at Gettysburg), William R. Parsons, James B. Penick, John W. Phillips, G. W. Pickeral, James H. Pickeral (died of pneumonia in Scottsville hospital), William G. Pickeral (enlisted as an old man who was a substitute, cited for gallantry, was killed on Picket duty near Suffolk), Samuel B. Pillow, John A. Pringle.

Elijah Pruett, Henry Pruett, William S. Ramsey (enlisted as substitute), James M. Bedford (cpl., wounded at Gettysburg), John H. Reynolds, J.S. Reynolds, Benjamin Riddle, Gee W. Riddle (captured at Gettysburg and died a prisoner of war), Lewis A. Riddle, Nathan Riddle (killed in battle at Drewry's Bluff), Thomas C. Riddle (wounded at Gettysburg), William B. Riddle (wounded at Gettysburg).

George W. Ridgway (enlisted and assigned but never reported), James F. Roark (deserted to his home), W.J. Robertson, Coleman Robinson (died of disease short time after enlisting), James Robinson (was substitute and deserted to foreign land), John W. Rudd, William A. Saunders (on pay roll as deserter), Joseph Scares.

James Scott, Jacob Shelhorse, James Shelhorse, John B. Shelhorse, William H. Shelhorse, Carrol Shelhorse, Hurt Shelton, George W. Shelton (was killed in charge of Picket lines near Chester), John M. Shelton (wounded and lost his left hand in battle at Sharpsburg), Tardy R. Shepherd.

John W. Simpson (died of disease in Richmond hospital), Landy Simpson (died of disease in Richmond hospital), William R. Simpson (killed in action near Chester Station) T.M. Simpson (died of disease in Petersburg hospital), James H. Simpson (died of disease in Lynchburg hospital).

David R. Snow (discharged on account of physical disability), Edward S. Sowers (on payroll as deserter), Wesley Sowers, William H. Taylor (detailed as teamster and he never applied for a furlough during the war), Henry H. Terry, Nathaniel J. Terry (died of disease in camp near Yorktown), Edward Thomas (died of disease in Richmond hospital), Josiah Tosh.

John W. Towler, Thomas B. Tredway (cpl., killed at Gettysburg), William M. Tredway Jr. (enlisted as cpl., promoted to sgt. major of 53rd Regiment, then promoted 1st Lt., then to captain, wounded in battle of Sharpsburg and then wounded in battle at Gettysburg), Amen W. Updike, Henry Viccellio, Zeb P. Walker (srg. wounded near Suffolk), Glenwood Walton (killed in battle at Sharpsburg), Robert Ward (killed in Gettysburg battle), Henry C. Ward.

Columbus C. Warren (company cook), Shimi Watson, D. H. Watson, James Watson, George W. White (wounded at Malvern Hill), William H. Worth (was first captain of company, then promoted to major of 45th VA Regiment, then promoted to staff of General R. H. Ewell.

-- List of names furnished by Mrs. Langhorne Jones Sr.
Chatham Hall Centennial celebration set April 22-24

Chatham Hall, prestigious girls school at Chatham, VA will celebrate its Centennial April 22-24. Alumnae, faculty and friends are invited to return for a very special weekend to recall 100 years of tradition and enjoy the pageantry and fun of the occasion.

Chatham Hall was founded in 1894 as Chatham Episcopal Institute. The name was changed to Chatham Hall in 1930 to appeal to a more universal enrollment. The Rev. Cleveius Orlando Pruden was Rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Chatham when he succeeded in winning support for a school which would provide education for local girls, especially the needy daughters of Episcopal clergy.

Originally chartered by act of the Virginia General Assembly on February 24, 1894 as Chatham Episcopal Institute, Pruden's school was first housed in a series of frame buildings on the Gilmer Farm just outside of Chatham. When these accidentally burned in 1906 when a student's oil lamp set curtains on fire, students were housed in private residences throughout the town.

The new main building built to replace the original wooden structures forms the nucleus of Chatham Hall today. Named for the school's founder, Pruden Hall is flanked by buildings named for other notable persons.

Dabney Hall is named for the Rev. Chiswell Dabney, Pruden's close associate during the first years. Willis Hall honors Mae Willis, an early principal who profoundly influenced Georgia O'Keeffe, Chatham Hall's most famous alumna.

Yardley Hall and Lee Library are named for two rectors who collectively guided Chatham Hall from 1928 to 1971.

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Goddard Association invites members

The Goddard Association of America is one of the foremost family associations in North America, according to Kathryn Goddard Meyer, executive secretary, who issues a general invitation to join.

Mrs. Meyer says the association was organized in 1977 with four members and now has an enrollment of 1,168 members in 48 states, Mexico, Canada, England, Wales, Australia, Barbados and France.

"We descend from more than 65 immigrant ancestors in North America," she explains, pointing out the association publishes a quarterly newsletter, has compiled "The Goddard Book" (1,700 pages $60), and the next convocation will be held at Portland, ME in June. If interested write to Kathryn Goddard Meyer, 118 South Voluntas, Wichita, KS 67211.

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If you have a document with faded writing too dim to read, try a 75 watt black light bulb in any light that casts light directly on the material. It is reported to do wonders in bringing out the writing.

- - Williamson Co. Gen. Society, Texas
Chant of the Tax Collector

Tax his cow, tax his goat,
Tax his pants, tax his coat,
Tax his crop, tax his work,
Tax his ties, tax his shirt,
Tax his chew, tax his smoke,
Teach him taxes is no joke.

Tax his tractors, tax his mule,
Teach him taxes is the rule.
Tax his oil, tax his gas,
Tax his notes, tax his cash,
Tax him good and let him know
That after taxes he has no dough.

If he hollers, tax him more:
Tax him until he's good and sore.
Tax his coffin, tax his grave,
Tax the sod in which he lays.
Put these words upon his tomb:
"Taxes drove me to my doom."
... 

Even after he's gone we won't relax
We'll still be after his inheritance tax.

*****

I, MYSELF AND ME
1, myself and me
Sat down one nice
Afternoon for a cup of tea.

Taking turns, myself
Took several big swallows.
I, too, sampled the tea;
But oh gosh, it was all
Gone when the cup got to me!

*****

Rules for Female Teachers

1. Do not get married.
2. Do not keep company with men.
   (That certainly takes care of number 1.)
3. Be home between the hours of 8 p.m.
   and 6 a.m. unless attending a school
   function.
4. Do not loiter down town in ice-
   cream stores.
5. Do not leave town at any time with-
   out permission of the school board.
6. Do not smoke.
7. Do not get into a carriage with any
   man except your father or brother.
8. Do not dress in bright colors.
9. Do not dye your hair.
10. Do not wear any dress more than
    two inches above the ankle.
11. Always wear at least two petti-
    coats.
12. Always keep the school room neat
    and clean. Sweep the floor at least once
    daily. Scrub the floor at least once
    weekly. Clean the blackboards once a
    day and start a good fire at 7 a.m. daily,
    according to the weather.

*****

Mrs. James A. Cox of Route 1, Chatham
contributed these "Rules for Female
Teachers" printed in a 1915 Massachu-
setts school manual. Mrs. Cox was an
outstanding teacher at Spring Garden
public school until she retired in 1984.

BETTY BOOTH WINS PIIS RAFFLE

Betty Booth of Route 3, Ringgold, VA was the winner of the beautiful $500
handmade quilt in the Pittsylvania Historical Society raffle on "Colonial Day" in
Chatham December 4. Mrs. Booth purchased her winning ticket when she was at
the Callands Festival. Betty was so elated she give the little boy (Steven Clark) $10
for drawing her name and that made him happy too.
How Did The Hessians Get Into The Revolutionary War?

This is the story of a German school boy, who with a bundle of books under his arm, one fine morning April 1776, was on his way to the High School of Cassell, the small capital city of the Grand Duke of Hesse, when he was kidnapped by two soldiers of the Grand Duke of Friedrich II, to be sold to King George III of England for services in the rebellious Colonies of America.

He was quickly taken by the soldiers to the barracks and so closely was he held prisoner that he never again saw his parents nor brother and sister. Nor would they let him go to bid his family farewell before he was shipped out by way of England to America to fight in the Revolutionary War.

This seventeen year old boy was George Nicholas Spaht, the elder son of Michael Cunegunda Spaht. He had one brother, Mathias, and one sister, Charity. Why did not his parents protest against such tyranny? Autocracy was not a new development in Germany. History tells us that if a mother protested in a case like this she was thrown into prison; if the father protested, he was flogged. They were not alone in this suffering. This same Grand Duke furnished 22,000 soldiers to the English King and many of them were obtained in the same way. The finances of the Grand Duchy were considerably augmented at the expense of the welfare and morality of the people, and the dissolute ruler kept up a splendid court on the proceeds of the pay.

The Hessians were victims of the tyranny of their rulers who sold the lives and services of their subjects to the highest bidder. The English government was at that time the best customer. The large profits were realized by the petty princes who were willing to sell mercenaries for the war against the American colonies, as can be seen by examination of the contracts between the parties, contracts which were not kept secret.

All told the expense to England for the German mercenary troops was at least seven million pound sterling, the equivalent at present for one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty million dollars.

Friedrick the Great used his influence against the sale of recruits in other German States and refused to allow mercenaries who were intended for the American service to pass through his domain, says Prof. Faust in his great work, "The German Element in America."

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OUT OF PRINT MAPS STILL AVAILABLE

Trying to find the location of the small town of your ancestors? Call 1-800-USA-MAPS and you will get someone at the Earth Science Information Center (ESIC). They will send a catalog and ordering information for reproductions of out-of-print maps on paper and microfilm and a 12-page booklet, Maps Can Help You Trace Your Family Tree.

-- from Southern Echoes, Augusta Gen. Society

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Religion often gets credit for reforming sinners when old age is the real reason.
February 1994 Queries

(Probe to members to aid others with similar interests.)

Seeking information about the deaths of Daniel CLEMENT and wife, Wilmath IRBY. They sold property in Pittsylvania Co., VA in 1819 to a Marlow aunt and went to Tennessee. Write Mrs. Walter MCMURREY, 4409 Paul Avenue, Tampa, FL 33611-3321.

Researching the MULLINS, MULLEN, MULLINGS, MULLEN family from Pittsylvania Co., VA. William MULLINS Sr. listed on tithable list 1767. He was born in Hanover, VA and is believed to have died Aug. 28, 1778. Does anyone know where he is buried? Also researching his sons - John MULLINS Sr. and Joshua MULLINS Sr. who served in Revolutionary War from Pittsylvania Co., VA. Both lived in Carter Co., TN in 1790s, then settled permanently in eastern Kentucky. Write: L. Scott HANES, 3401 Clintwood Rd., Midlothian, VA 23112 (Phone 804-744-6029).

Seeking the location of Altavista Plantation along Staunton River in NE Pittsylvania Co., VA. According to DAR, my g.g.g.g. grandfather Thomas EAST is buried there. Also seeking information on the EAST, BELL, WEST, CUSTER and WALDEN families. Write: Patricia (EAST) DENNEY, 3822 Elmcrest Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46809.

BACKGROUND: About 1812 our ancestor, John HARVEY of Southern VA married a daughter of Capt. Richard E. BOOKER of Pittsylvania Co., VA (born about 1755) died after 1811. Capt. Richard E. BOOKER of Revolutionary War fame, had five daughters, all born in VA.

REQUEST: Can someone please give me the following information: 1 - Which BOOKER daughter married John HARVEY? (Elizabeth?) 2 - Year and place of the marriage. 3 - Proof of this marriage is where? Write to me: William I. BOOTH, 3530 North 59th Ave., Apt. # 56, Glendale, AZ 85302.

I would like to correspond with anyone researching the following families who are connected to Pittsylvania Co., VA Rebecca BLANKENSHIP, born 1771 married Archibald Prewitt AUSTIN, ca 1790, moved to TN. Wealty PREWITT, married Joseph AUSTIN ca 1777. William COX b. 1794, married Clary AUSTIN b. 1794, m. 1814 TN. James HOGAN b. 1728 married Silence m. ca 1749, moved to Anson County, N.C. William HOGAN, b. 1750, m. Nancy WADLEIGH ca 1770. Write: Barbara Andrus IRWIN, 1400 Canyonwood Court #8, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3621.

I am looking for descendants of my grandfather, Crispin David MAYHEW's two older sisters. His mother, Mildred MAYHEW (BAYNES or BAINS) had four illegitimate children. (She married a John BAYNES 10-28-1860, they had a son who died in infancy. Mildred stayed with John BAYNES about a year. Afterward she took her maiden name back.) She had one child before her marriage to John BAYNES and three children after they separated. The oldest sister was Demita MAYHEW, born about 1856. She married James H. TALBOT 1-30-1873. The second sister was Lucy Catherine MAYHEW, born 9-1862. She married Benjamin DALTON Jr. 10-11-1877. I am seeking any information about two sisters and their families. Please write to Chris Diane HARDY at 3003 Trenton St., Hopewell, VA 23860.
(QUERY -- CONTINUED)

I wish to correspond with anyone distantly related to William BENNETT, born 1703, lived on Frying Pan Creek, Pittsylvania County, VA. Write to Wilma BENNETT, Box 1304, Newcastle, OK 73065.

Can anyone help me locate the diaries of Samuel Thomas MILLER which are mentioned in the footnotes (Pg. 219) of "The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia," by Maud Carter CLEMENT?? Mr. Miller’s diary mentions his flower garden March 5, 1859. I am also interested in reading paper published by Samuel Hartshorn MILLER, son of Samuel T. MILLER about 1850 or 1860. Please write to Cay A. LAFRENIER, 4716 Aberdeen Lane, Stone Mountain, GA 30083.

Seek information on Christian MAYES and Elizabeth RAGAN - were married in Halifax County, VA September 15, 1784. Who were their parents? Their daughter Lettice (Letty) married Josiah BAYES (Bays) February 15, 1808 in Pittsylvania County, VA. $150 bond was posted. The bondsman was Fleming MAYES (MAYS). Could Christian be called Chris or possibly Christopher? Christian and Elizabeth were my great-great-great-grandparents. Please write to Linda Bays LANCASTER, P. O. Box 304, Wagoner, OK 74477-0304.

Seek information on my ancestors Henry HALL and Sally Harpen HALL who moved to Pittsylvania County, VA about 1800 and then moved in 1816 to Martin Co., Indiana. Three children born in Pittsylvania were Nancy 1801, Aaron December 25, 1802, Thomas?, Washington May 1809 and Thompson 1811. I would appreciate it if anyone can put me in touch with someone to help confirm the above and trace the roots of Henry HALL who was born 1774 near Hagerstown, Md. and died Dec. 24, 1846 in Locomi, Il. Write Robert F. HALL, 31 Old Orchard Rd., Morristown, N.J. 07960.

Tracing Your Roots Thru Upshur Family?

A new edition of "UPSHUR FAMILY IN VIRGINIA" may help you trace your roots. This recent publication traces this family from Arthur Upshur who came to the Eastern Shore of Virginia in 1640. Many wills and deeds trace people and property from early days to the present.

You may obtain this handsome hard-cover book with 269 pages, 17 illustrations and two maps by sending $35 (delivered) per copy to: Dr. Thomas T. Upshur, 3105 Cranehill Dr., Lynchburg, VA 24503.

Elliott 'n' Kin Newsletter Coming!

An Elliott family newsletter for the collection and interchange of family history and genealogical data about Elliott's and their related line is coming. The newsletter will be published four times a year in February, May, August and November. The first issue is planned for February 1994.

I am seeking queries, interesting stories of family history, funny family anecdotes, and Elliott genealogy and their related lines. Please document genealogical information submitted. I welcome your input of this information submitted. I welcome your input of this information and anything else that you would like to submit which would be of interest to others and help you in your research, says John Burrows.

Cost of subscription $6 per year. Write to John Burrows, 815 Hartsook Blvd., Roanoke, VA 24014.
Workshop Focuses Attention On Plans For Heritage-Tourism Week

H. Byron Mitchell, Deputy Director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, brought a group of state representatives to Danville, VA to meet with local citizens in a workshop to hear concerns, suggestions and ideas for creating a plan for preservation of historic resources for Virginia.

Pittsylvania Historical Society was represented at the workshop by Jeannette and Pete Brown, Josephine Evans and Mary Catherine Plaster. The Pittsylvania representatives learned of the need to identify the area’s historic resources and to enlist the assistance of others to plan for restoration and preservation.

The State representatives assured participants that the state department will be there to help with decisions and plans for the local area. The plan should be in place within the year and may be used as a guide for state preservation.

The Department of Historic Resources and the Virginia Division of Tourism will combine forces in 1994 to organize and plan for "Virginia Heritage - Tourism Week" May 1 to 15.

The cooperative efforts between towns and counties in celebrating and promoting local heritage and historical sites are expected to result in a boost to tourism.

It is pointed out that in 1991 that eighty-one percent of tourists to Virginia visited Virginia’s historic sites.

It was emphasized that local historical societies and organizations must work with the Department of Historic Resource to be successful in the restoration and preservation of local heritage. - Jeannette Brown

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The Story Of Jeb Stuart And His Staff

"They Followed The Plume" is the story of 48 men who served on the staff of Major General "Jeb" Stuart from the time he became brigadier general on September 24, 1861 until his death on May 12, 1864 after the Battle of Yellow Tavern. This 400 page book with 38 photos and maps by Robert J. Trout is a biographical record of Stuart and staff with fascinating tales of the Civil War. Trout spent six years researching the book. It sells for $24.95.

Author Robert J. Trout of Myerstown, PN is vice-president of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. He has come forth with a second book about Stuart entitled "Riding With Stuart" with the memoirs containing the most detailed behind the scene stories and accounts of Stuart's encampments. The writing style is very readable and most entertaining. It is hardcover, 150 pages, 18 photos, sells for $19.95.

Books may be ordered from Robert J. Trout, 119 North Railroad St., Myerstown, PA 17067. (The books will be autographed if requested.)

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EPITAPH TELLS SAD STORY

Here lies the body of Solomon Pease,
Under the daisies, under the trees;
But Pease is not here, only the pod,
Pease sailed out and went home to God.

--Contributed by James W. Faucette
Hillsborough, NC 27278
MEMBERS WRITE LETTERS

I enjoyed the Fall issue of The Packet and was particularly interested in the article entitled "Heart Attacks, Cancer Seldom Mentioned In Last Century." T. Richard Ferrell Jr., West End, N.C.

I do appreciate your offer to help me resolve my problem of getting "proof of marriage" of our John Harvey to a daughter of Capt. Richard E. Booker.

I want a list of the publications that your society has for sale. Betty Jon Gorman, Shreveport, LA.

A number of persons have learned of my work in genealogy research through The Packet. Some of the people I do research for wind up being kin to me or one of my lines. Steven B. Harris, Rt. 4, Box 341, Greta, VA 24557.

I enjoy the Pittsylvania Historical Society newsletter The Packet. It is well done. Whittington Clement, Member of Virginia House of Delegates, Danville, VA.

Here is a contribution to the PHS. I wish I had a million dollars to give to this worthy cause. Hubert D. Bennett, Richmond, VA.

I am sorry to learn of the passing of Katherine Buck. I did not know her personally, but she was always courteous and prompt when I corresponded. My research in Pittsylvania County is going well. I am glad I have families to research in Pittsylvania County. It has such a proud heritage. It is also a very beautiful and photogenic country. John Burrows, Roanoke, VA.

IN MEMORY OF
MRS. KATHERINE WALLACE BUCK

In the sudden death of Katherine Wallace Buck on November 10, 1993, the Pittsylvania Historical Society has lost a dedicated member and faithful worker who served as the Society's corresponding secretary.
She not only gave freely of her time to the historical society, but she was an active volunteer with the Chatham Rescue Squad.
Her contributions of service to the Society and Rescue Squad will long be remembered.

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Directors: Norman Amos, Virginia Chapln, James "Mack" Doss, Alice Overby and Catherine Overby

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