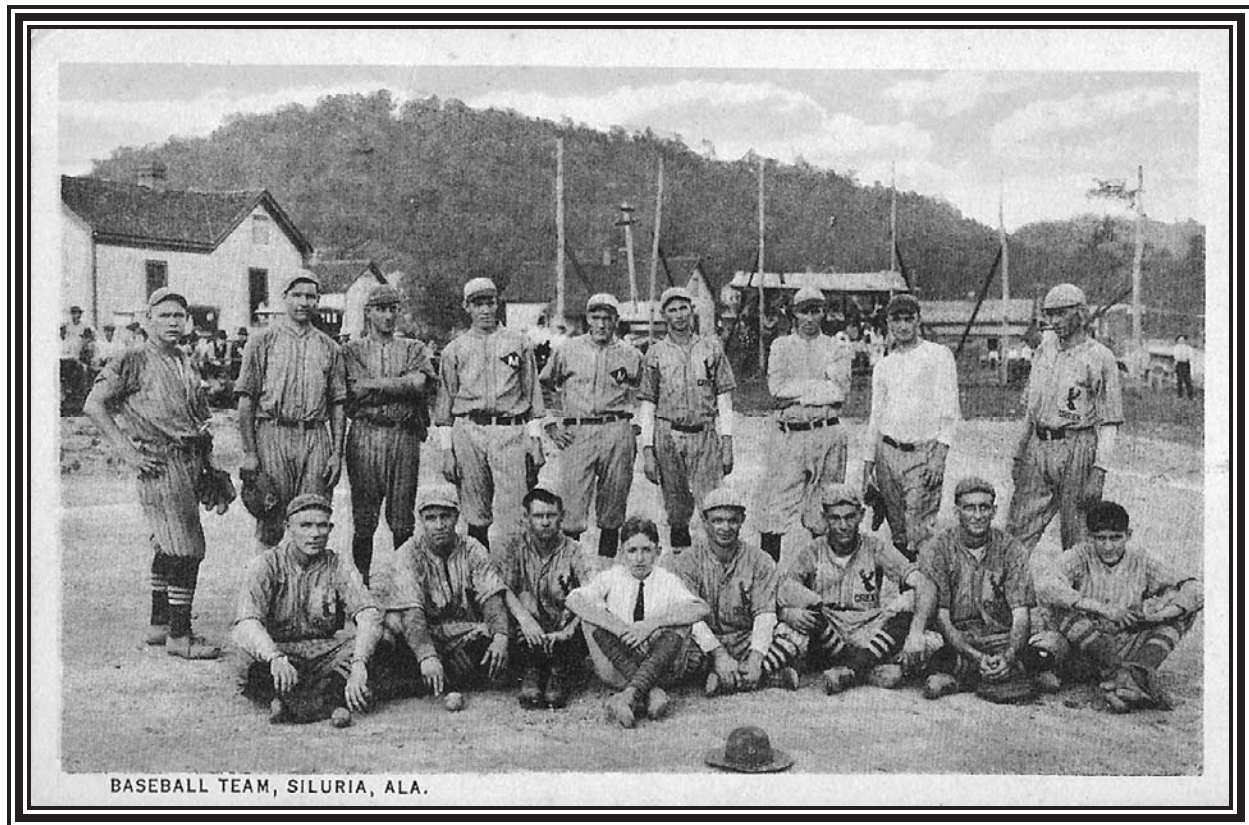


QUARTERLY



Early Baseball Team Siluria, Alabama



Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 457
Columbiana, Alabama 35051-0457

December 2010

Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.

1854 Old Courthouse
P.O. Box 457
Columbiana, Alabama 35051-0457
Phone: (205) 669-3912

www.schsociety.org

Mission Statement: *The Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.*, founded on 18 January 1974 is dedicated to the discovery, collection, and preservation of all things related to the history of Shelby County Alabama; to the encouragement, promotion, and sponsorship of historical research and the public dissemination of that research; to the acquisition of physical artifacts and documents and provision of their public display; and to the presentation of educational programs and other activities for our citizens and visitors about our past history and our heritage.

The Quarterly is published yearly in June and December by the *Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.* Neither the Editor nor the Society is responsible for errors in fact or for the opinions of the contributors. (Editor: Scott A. Martin)

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

President: Bobby Joe Seales
First Vice President: David L. Nolen
Second Vice-President: Dr. Fred Olive, III
Third Vice-President: Scott A. Martin
Recording Secretary: R. Glenn Nivens
Corresponding Secretary: Mickey Griffin
Treasurer: Gladys Beasley
Historian: Carolyn Knowles

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

William R. "Bill" Justice, Evan K. Major, Jr., John R. Walker (2015)
Barbara Gilliland, Herbert J. "Jim" Lewis III, Theoangelo Perkins (2013)
Diane Ellis, Della Fancher, Joel D. Powell (2011)

ADVISORY BOARD (2010-2011):

Commissioner Daniel M. Acker
Judge James Warren "Jim" Fuhrmeister
Tim Prince

2010-2011 COMMITTEES

Ambassador Program: Judy Hunt & Sandy Crumpton
Hospitality/Refreshments: Diane Seales
Photographer: Marshall Goggins
Pioneer Certificate Program: Rosalyn Lucas



DON'T FORGET!
IT'S TIME TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP
FOR 2011!

The *Constitution and Bylaws* of the Shelby County Historical Society, Inc. indicate that all renewal membership dues become due on January 1st and delinquent after February 1st of each year.

Please complete the form on the back of this perforated page and return with your 2011 membership dues before January 1st
OR
you may now renew your membership with Paypal!

Please visit the SCHS website at
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~alshelby/applicationpaypal.html>
and renew your membership with Paypal today!

We appreciate your support in the past and are looking forward to your continued support in 2011!

Memberships make a great Christmas present!



Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.

~Founded January 18, 1974~

Membership Application

Check One: New Membership Renewal Membership Change of Address

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

- Individual.....\$20.00 Sustaining.....\$50.00
 Couple.....\$20.00 Patron.....\$100.00
 Check Here if this is a "GIFT" for a New Membership... gift acknowledgement will be mailed.

The annual dues are from January 1 through December 31. All renewal dues become due on January 1 and delinquent after February 1 of each year. Those that join after January 1 will be placed on the mailing list and will receive all previously published *Quarterly* magazines for that year.

Effective 2010, the *Quarterly* magazine will be published twice yearly, in June and December. This publication provides members with local historical and genealogical information and photographs. Members are also entitled to publish free queries and publicity about personal historical and genealogical materials.

The SCHS Newsletter will be published yearly in February, May, August and November.

The society must be notified of any change of address as soon as possible and are not responsible for *Quarterly* magazines and/or newsletters sent to an old address. The *Quarterly* is mailed non-profit organization bulk rate and is not forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service to a new address.

Please mail check payable to Shelby County Historical Society, Inc. and mail with application to:

Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.
Museum and Archives
1854 Old Courthouse
P.O. Box 457
Columbiana, Alabama 35051-0457

EDITOR'S PAGE



The Shelby County Historical Society appreciates your membership!

DECEMBER 2010

1.....Editor's Page
 2.....Buck Creek Mill Baseball
 10..... Shelby County Pioneer Certificate Program
 11.....Shelby County Pioneer Certificate Recipients
 12.....SCHS February & May 2011 Quarterly Meetings
 13.....In Memoriam
 13.....Coal Mine Company Store Paid Its Due
 14..... Cahaba Coosa Chapter, ALSSAR
 14.....A Brief History of Veteran's Day
 14.....2010 Wreaths Across America
 15.....News from the Shelby County Historical Society
 16.....Tidbits of the Past

CONTENTS

"History Never Written Is Soon Forgotten"




**SHELBY COUNTY
ALABAMA**
We're Proud of our County
www.shelbycountytourism.org

*As we celebrate the gladness and the glory of this holy season,
we would like to express our deepest feelings of
friendship and good will to all of you.*



*The Staff, Officers and Board of Directors
Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.
Museum & Archives*



BUCK CREEK MILL BASEBALL

By Joe P. Holley



During the golden age of baseball, roughly from the turn of the 20th century to 1960, a local amateur or semi-pro team was a vital component of a community and a town or village felt inferior if it did not field a team. The team was often sponsored by a local industry and the Birmingham area was blessed with mills, mines, by-products plants and other manufacturers who fielded very talented and very competitive teams.

From about 1930 to the 1960's, Buck Creek Mill was a major player on the baseball scene, not only in the Birmingham area, but throughout north Alabama and even other states. At times, the team played as an independent entity, in the Birmingham Amateur Baseball Federation, the East Alabama Industrial League, the Shelby County League and the Bessemer All American Amateur Baseball Association. While it would be remiss not to mention statistics, the primary purpose of this writing is to present an overview of the men who played the game, the often excellence of the team and its impact on the community.

Although the company possibly sponsored a team in prior years, it really came into its own in the early 1930's. For whatever reason, the company decided to make a major investment in its team during the depths of the great depression and, in 1932, retained former professional minor league player Henry (Moose) Parrish as player manager. He was also charged with the responsibility for scouting and recruiting players. Players were offered a "job" at the mill with the understanding that their primary duty was to practice and play baseball and, to play for Buck Creek Mill, who usually played from 50-90 games per season; baseball was virtually a full-time job. Some players were retained and paid on a per game basis and, if necessary, players were provided company housing. The employment was often only for the duration of the baseball season but many younger players grew up in the mill village and made a career at the plant.

Blocton natives Johnny Thomas and the Moore brothers were recruited from the Piper Mine team and Clay Bryant from the Acipco neighborhood in North Birmingham. Later, in 1938, Bryant would pitch the Chicago Cubs to the World Series. However, the best recruit was a Fairfield youngster, Wilson (Dee) Miles, who would end up in the show with the Washington Senators. For two seasons, Miles was a terrific pitcher and hitter for the Bucks. Former professional players signed included old Birmingham Baron Hilton (Toots) Brandon and Moon Mulkin. Blessed with such talent, the Millers were possibly equivalent to a lower-level minor league professional team.

In 1932, the team played in the East Alabama Industrial League which consisted of Avondale Mill teams from Pell City, Sylacauga, Bevelle and Sycamore, Russell Mills from Alexander City and the Bemis Bag Company of Talladega. Buck Creek won the pennant from those old established teams while, concurrently, beating many other outstanding teams. League games were played on Saturday and non-league opponents were booked for other days. On August 7, seven professional scouts were at the Buck Creek ball park for a game against Piper. After the game, the Detroit Tigers offered to sign Dee Miles while the Birmingham Barons reportedly made overtures to Nig Yates and Lefty Parker. All three chose to remain with the Millers.

In 1933, the squad elected to play with no league affiliation. Besides playing local teams like Piper-Coleanor and Dogwood, the Millers played the very best semi-pro competition from far and wide. They played Red Bay, in Sheffield against the great Southern Rails team, Flat Creek Mine and Jasper's Woco Peppers in Walker County, Dallas and Merrimack Mills in Huntsville, Clanton and Tallassee Mill. They handily defeated Birmingham-Southern and Samford (then Howard). The Bucks were an outstanding gate attraction on the road and generally played for a guarantee or a split of the gate. The admission was usually \$.25 per adult. It should be remembered that was an era when even a trip from Siluria to

downtown Birmingham was accomplished by driving a narrow circuitous two lane highway through mountainous terrain; therefore, Buck Creek's wide-range touring was arduous. One exception was when they traveled to Sheffield to play Southern Rails. The home team's sponsor, the Southern Railroad, would provide railroad passage as an incentive for an attractive team to travel to northwest Alabama. Buck Creek's wool flannel uniforms usually displayed a buck head or antlers on the left breast or sleeve. The majority of Buck Creek's games were played at the wooden fence enclosed home field located on the village grounds in Siluria and many were played on Sunday which was very unusual due to the then prevailing "Blue Laws" that prohibited Sunday recreation. Because of the excellent paid attendance and the ability to play on Sunday, it was easy to bring outstanding teams to Siluria. Many teams would travel to Siluria free of charge simply for the privilege of challenging the Bucks.

The late Red Lowery of Oneonta told a great story of the pride of the Buck Creek team. In late July, 1933, the Blount Countians traveled to Siluria and beat Buck Creek 3-1 in a huge upset. It was only the Bucks third loss of the season against about 50 wins (during one stretch, Buck Creek won 31 games in a row before being edged by Jasper). The infuriated Millers demanded an immediate rematch and, later in the week, went to Oneonta and destroyed the locals by a score of 17-3.

By the end of 1933, Buck Creek was a superb baseball team. The Millers entered the post-season State Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament held at the home of the Birmingham Barons, Rickwood Field. The tournament, which extended into October, was a meeting of the best semi-pro teams in Alabama and it was played for money. After paying an entrance fee, teams shared a portion of the gate receipts in games they played and the four finalists earned cash awards to be divided among the players. Buck Creek defeated Jacksonville, Russellville, Cordova, East Thomas and Tuscaloosa twice to win the event.

Over several years, other stops included Florence Wilson Dam, Callaway Mill of Lagrange, GA, West Point Mill of Shawmut, Fairfax Mill, Bemiston-Talledega, Indian Head Mill of Cordova, Haleyville, Meridian, MS to face the great Moss Specials and their favorite opponent Gadsden-Goodyear. They also played outstanding local teams such as Acipco, Stockham Valve, Sloss, and various Tennessee Coal & Iron (TCI) and Avondale Mill teams. Over a three year period, the Bucks won 7 of 8 games from Birmingham-Southern.

The 1934 team continued the tradition of playing outstanding teams and beating them. Unfortunately, two factors brought about a brief demise of the dynasty. The first was the effects of the great depression and the second was state-wide labor unrest in the textile industry. When, in mid- July, a state-wide walkout of textile workers occurred, the team disbanded and most of its players scattered to the winds. By late in the season, Buck Creek stalwarts Amos, Lowery and Caton were playing for Helena in the Shelby County League

The 1935 season brought about a return to glory for Buck Creek athletics. An independent team was assembled that would rival any of its predecessors. Management brought in a young Mortimer Jordan graduate, pitcher Luman Harris to complement Johnny Thomas and Red Amos. By 1942, Harris would be pitching for the Philadelphia A's. A young North Birmingham Infielder, Bobby Bragan, was signed. By 1940, he too would be in Philadelphia with the Phillies. Former Birmingham Baron Handley "Jake" Daniel joined the Millers. By 1937, he would be a Brooklyn Dodger. Other players from previous years were bought back into the fold and the team continued to play and beat most challengers. They opened the season by beating Samford in three consecutive games.

In early August, Buck Creek combined with the Gadsden team and played in the first National Baseball Congress Tournament in Wichita, Kansas (a tournament in its 76th year this season). The 32 team double elimination tournament was historic in that it featured a Japanese team, an American Indian team, three all-black teams and one integrated team. That was during an era when professional baseball was totally segregated. The tournament was won by the integrated team from Bismarck, South Dakota led by the Shelby County Historical Society

December 2010

legendary black Hall of Fame pitcher Satchel Paige. The Bismarck team is generally credited with being the first integrated baseball team to gain national attention. The Alabamians did not face any of the exotic teams. They were beaten by the Wichita Water Works and Rossville, Georgia in one run losses but, between the two losses, annihilated the California teams from Lompoc and Riverside by scores of 13-0 and 20-3 respectively.

After the Kansas adventure, Buck Creek again joined the top teams from Alabama in the State Semi-Pro Tournament. Again, Buck Creek handily won the prestigious tournament by beating Muscoda Ore Mine, Wattsville, Red Diamond Mine, Mulga and Nashville Bridge.

The same season, the Mill also sponsored a team in the Shelby County League. The team was managed by Max Caton and was primarily intended for younger players. However, occasionally, a veteran such as Red Amos would pitch for the youngsters. The team started slowly but came on like gangbusters to capture the county title. Several future long-time Buck Creek players such as Earnest Massey and Acie Langston began with that team.

The late Johnny Harris, the brother of Luman Harris, was a long-time major league scout for Baltimore, Houston and Atlanta and an astute judge of baseball talent. His opinion was the Buck Creek teams from 1932-1935 often approached the AAA professional level. He thought they were the best semi-pro teams to ever grace Birmingham area diamonds.

Finally, the effects of the depression fully hit the Millers. In addition to the departures for professional ball, the Moore brothers and Moon Mulkin took their baseball talents to Gadsden-Goodyear and Johnny Thomas joined Acipco. Red Amos, Russell Lowery and Chuck Harris were three of the few veterans to remain with the team and rebuilding was slow. In 1936, the team played more local teams than in prior years, but did play against a few excellent opponents. At one point, the Millers rode the arm of Red Amos to a seven game winning streak. A late season highlight was a win over Acipco in which Amos bested his old teammate Johnny Thomas. In 1937, rather than overwhelming college teams, Buck Creek actually lost a game to Montevallo High School.

In 1938, the weakened team entered possibly the toughest semi-pro league in Alabama, the Central Division of the Birmingham Amateur Baseball Federation. League members included American Cast Iron Pipe (Acipco), Stockham Valves & Fittings, Acme Lunch of Bessemer and Homewood. Support for the Millers remained strong. In June, a home game with Homewood drew an attendance of more than 500. Buck Creek finished the season in the middle of the tough league. League games were played on Saturday so Buck Creek continued to play non-league opposition such as Gadsden-Goodyear, Clanton, Talladega and Oneonta on other days.

In 1940, Brunner Nix, the former manager of Andalusia in the professional Alabama-Florida League, was retained as Buck Creek's "Athletic Director." He brought with him his younger brother Clarence who played with the team and also played halfback with Thompson High School. One of the Millers leading players was Art Hanes who would later serve as Mayor of Birmingham. At the time, Hanes was the head football coach at Thompson. (Note: Brunner Nix would later be elected sheriff of Walker County) Again, the squad played in the legendary Central Division of the Birmingham Amateur Baseball Federation. The Millers finished in 4th place in the six team league behind Acipco, Birmingham Paper Company and Stockham Valve. That was far from disgraceful as Acipco and the Paper Company ended the 1940 season by winning the National Amateur Baseball Federation and American Baseball Congress national championships, respectively.

Before Buck Creek could return to its previous excellence, World War II intervened and caused a virtual halt to semi-pro ball until the armistice. After the war, the game returned with as much exuberance as before hostilities. By 1947, Buck Creek was regaining its baseball prowess as Chuck Harris assumed the

manager's position. The team won 45 games and defeated Pelham in a three game play-off for the Shelby County League title. The press commented on the "old time Buck Creek war horses (Harris, Lowery and Amos). Those old men can still play and they have a team of sparkling youngsters to help them." Company President, J.T. Phillips, was so proud of the team's resurgence he feted his squad (and also the Pelham team) with a post-season fried chicken feast.

In 1948, Chuck Harris led Buck Creek back to its previous glory. (Note: When Siluria was incorporated, Chuck Harris was appointed Chief of Police and was later elected Sheriff of Shelby County) The season opened with great fanfare on April 30 when the Millers defeated the future ABC national champion Stockham Valve team in a dedication game at the new Buck Creek baseball field. The press reported "the Phillips family has erected a fine park for the Buck Creek fans, one that would be a credit to a Class C or D (professional) club." The beautiful field was lighted and had a grassed infield, both rarities for the time. Buck Julian of U.S. Pipe & Foundry remembered it being the first grassed infield he ever played on. It was advertised that adequate seating was available for both "white and colored fans." Indicative of societal change, "ample parking" was provided at the new facility. In the old days, village residents walked to the ball park.

Harris' squad returned to a far ranging schedule playing such teams as Mignon Mills of Sylacauga, Central Foundry of Holt, Centre, Gadsden, Tuscaloosa, Maxwell and Gunter Air Force Bases and Bemiston-Talladega. They handed the mighty Seale Lumber Company team of Birmingham its only regular season loss. Harris also began to avail himself of a new source of talent, the college player. Mississippi State's Jimmy Bragan and Ed Self were given summer "jobs" to play for Buck Creek. Bragan, the younger brother of old Buck Creek infielder Bobby Bragan, would go on to a long professional career as a player, major league coach, scout and President of the Southern League.

The Rev. Guy Morton, as a Tuscaloosa High School Junior, played for the great 1948 team. He was scouted and recruited by Chuck Harris and worked the summer in the mill as an electrician's assistant. He recalled he made about \$300 per month. He, and a few other players, lived at a boarding house in Siluria. In 1949, Morton signed with the Boston Red Sox and, before entering the ministry, enjoyed nine years of professional baseball including a brief stint with the Sox. Morton says his season with Buck Creek was one of the best summers of his life and he considers it to be his "Field of Dreams" experience.

To cap the '48 season, Buck Creek won the Alabama State Semi-Pro Tournament but lost a best of three play-offs to the Georgia state champion, the Fort Benning U.S. Army team. The loss denied the Bucks a return trip to the NBC Tournament in Wichita.

As the team entered the 1950's, new youngsters came on board but old veterans were also utilized. In June of 1950, old Buck Creek pitcher Luman Harris retired from professional baseball. Two weeks later, on July 4th, he took the mound for the Millers and tossed a five hit win against the Huntsville Boosters. In 1951, a young Montevallo High School All-Star, John Galloway, joined the team along with veteran pro and former Birmingham Baron Glen "Shine" Rawlinson. Galloway recounted the team participated in the Bessemer Association but continued to play non-league games in Decatur, Huntsville, Childersburg and other locales. A favorite road trip was to face the Kilby or Draper Prison teams where they would have lunch with the inmates prior to the game. On one occasion, one of the prisons had an inmate who was an excellent player and also soon to be eligible for parole. Mr. Phillips assured prison officials he would give the inmate a job in the mill and he was released (of course, he also played for Buck Creek).

In the early 1950's, a young third baseman joined the team and he would prove to be the most successful baseball player ever to grace the Buck Creek diamond. James Houston (Peanut) Davenport was a member of, what might be considered, the first family of Buck Creek Mill baseball. Over the years, numerous Davenport brothers, uncles and cousins played (and even umpired) for the Millers. In 1950, brothers Walton and Jim, along with their cousins Bill and Charles, played on the same Buck Creek

squad. Jim was from a ten member family and was born and reared in Siluria where his father was an overseer at the mill. He was a football and baseball star at Thompson High School and was awarded a scholarship to Southern Mississippi where he continued to pursue both sports. Probably, the high-light of his collegiate career was quarterbacking the Golden Eagles to upset football victories over the University of Alabama in both 1953 and '54. In 1955, Davenport elected to forego his senior season and was signed to a San Francisco Giant contract by scout Dickie Martin.

By 1958, he was the third baseman for the Giants and remained a fixture there through 1970. In 1962, he was a National League All-Star and played in the World Series. In 1985, he managed the Giants and remains with the organization today in an executive position.

The 1950's saw a rapid decline in the corporate sponsorship of baseball teams and other social programs. In many instances, the baseball team was a component of corporate welfare whereby a company would provide housing, medical care and recreation for its employees and their families. As miners and factory workers edged toward middle class status, they preferred the company offer greater compensation and allow the employees to provide their own entertainment. Other factors contributing to the decline included the advent and popularity of television, increased emphasis on youth baseball, and a diversification in recreational opportunities.

In the case of Buck Creek Mill, a more dramatic event interrupted baseball sponsorship. On April 18, 1953, a devastating tornado destroyed the upper floor of the Mill building and caused extensive damage in the Siluria village. Approximately 400-500 employees were idled and the plant was closed for over one year. By the 1954 season, Buck Creek baseball stalwarts Bill Davenport and Grady Wilson were playing for Calera with others scattered around the Birmingham area.

By the late 1950's storied old baseball programs such as Acipco, Gadsden Goodyear, U.S. Pipe and Foundry and Avondale Mills ceased to exist. However, in 1960, Buck Creek renewed its sponsorship and, for four seasons, the team played in the Bessemer All American Amateur Baseball Association. The far-flung league had teams from Jefferson, Shelby, Bibb, Tuscaloosa, Chilton and Walker Counties. The team, playing under the banner of Buck Creek or Siluria Mill, never enjoyed its previous success. While always respectable, the team won only one division title and never the league title. After the 1963 season, the team went the way of most adult baseball programs.

For many years, with the possible exception of the University at Montevallo, the Buck Creek baseball team was the most widely known entity in Shelby County. Other locales might not know exactly where Siluria was located or what was produced at Buck Creek Mill, but they knew of the renowned baseball team. When Buck Creek came to town, it was a major sporting event as can be attested by banner headlines from the Shoals area to the Black Belt and from the Chattahoochee Valley to Eastern Mississippi. The *Meridian Star* heralded a visit "from Alabama's finest baseball team." The *Florence Times* urged local Shoals area fans to come out and "watch Buck Creek demonstrate how the game is intended to be played." The *Mountain Eagle* assured Jasper fans they would receive their money's worth if they attended the Jasper-Buck Creek series.

A survey of the old yellowed Buck Creek box scores will reveal the names of players who went on to major league fame. One will note others who became elected officials, educators, coaches and distinguished business and civic leaders. However, most were simply reasonably good athletes, who survived the great depression, did their duty during World War II or the Korean Conflict, raised their families and were good neighbors who lived quiet decent lives. There is, however, one thing they all held in common---a story. I have heard many and hope to have done an adequate job telling them.

**PLAYERS WHO PLAYED PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL
BEFORE OR AFTER THEY PLAYED FOR
BUCK CREEK MILL**

MAJOR LEAGUERS

Clay Bryant
Wilson (Dee) Miles
Luman Harris
Bobby Bragan
Handley (Jake) Daniel
Jimmy Bragan (Coach)
Rev. Guy Morton, Jr.
Jim Davenport

BIRMINGHAM BARONS

Hilton (Toots) Brandon
Clay Bryant
Johnny Thomas
Glen (Shine) Rawlinson
Handley (Jake) Daniel
Robert (Smoky Bob) Loveless

OTHER MINOR LEAGUE
PROFESSIONALS

Henry (Moose) Parrish
Herman Ware
Troy (Moon) Mulkin
Brunner Nix
Clarence Nix
Acie Langston
John Galloway
Clay Bearden
Frank Costa
Dugan Johnson
Walt Davenport
Teck Galloway

FORMER BUCK CREEK PLAYERS WHO APPEARED IN A WORLD SERIES

Clay Bryant-Chicago Cubs-1938
Bobby Bragan-Brooklyn Dodgers-1947
Jim Davenport-San Francisco Giants-1962

FORMER BUCK CREEK PLAYERS WHO ARE ENSHRINED IN THE ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Bobby Bragan
Luman Harris
Jim Davenport

FORMER BUCK CREEK PLAYERS WHO MANAGED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES

Bobby Bragan-Pittsburgh Pirates (1956-57)
Cleveland Indians (1958)
Atlanta Braves (1963-66)

Luman Harris-Baltimore Orioles (1961)
Houston Astros (1965)
Atlanta Braves (1968-72)

Jim Davenport-San Francisco Giants (1985)

**LISTED HEREIN ARE SOME OF THE MEN WHO PLAYED FOR BUCK CREEK MILL. THIS LIST
WAS GLEANED FROM MANY SOURCES AND IS CERTAINLY FAR FROM COMPLETE. THERE
WERE MANY OTHERS WHO PLAYED FOR BUCK CREEK OVER THE YEARS.**

1932

Henry (Moose) Parrish (M)
Howard (Lefty) Parker
Johnny Thomas
Russell (Hooks) Lowery
Speedy Johnson
Toney (Red) Amos
Clay Bryant

Fern Ward
Sonny Birchfield
Wilson (Dee) Miles
Hilton Tubbs
Charles (Chuck) Harris
W. Armstrong
M. Armstrong
Yates
Max Caton

Hunt
Jake Moore
Jack Cason
Robert (Smoky Bob) Loveless
Troy (Moon) Mulkin
Charley Chapple
Laster
Buddy Moore, Batboy

1933

Moose Parrish (M)
Hilton (Toots) Brandon
Johnny Thomas
Jake Moore
Tobe Moore
Chuck Harris
Red Amos
Dee Miles
Hilton Tubbs
Howard Parker
Frank (Sonny) Birchfield
Fern Ward
Jack Hulsey
Russell Lowery
Sheppard
Yates
Herman Ware
Buddy Moore, Batboy

1934

Moose Parrish (M)
Johnny Thomas
Jimmie White
Jake Moore
Russell Lowery
Clay Beardon
Fern Ward
Red Amos
Walton Wright
Hilton Brandon
Tobe Moore
Chuck Harris
Thompson
Lefty Tingle
Hunt
Max Caton

1935

Shelby County League Team

Max Caton (M)
Russell Lowery
Earnest Massey
Acie Langston
Sonny Birchfield
Red Amos
John Calvin (Puncher) Creamer
Claude Northcutt
Clopton
Thomasson
John Fletcher Glasgow
Scott
Findlay
Williams
Luther (Luke) Zuiderhoek

Lacy (Curly) Creamer, Batboy

Independent Team

Johnny Thomas
Luman Harris
Red Amos
Jake Moore
Trap Moore
Bobby Bragan
Chuck Harris
Joe Germans
Handley (Jake) Daniel
Howard Thompson
Bill Morrill
Louis (Lefty) McClendon
Troy Mulkin
Fern Ward
Sonny Birchfield
Frank Costa
Henderson, Batboy

1936

Red Amos
Chuck Harris
Russell Lowery
Acie Langston
Earnest Massey
Thornton
Howard Thompson

1937

Earnest Massey
Howard Thompson
Adron Kendrick
Acie Langston
Lloyd Thorp
Guy
Claude Northcutt

1938

Lee
Thornton
Wyatt
Russell Lowery
Chuck Harris
Smith

1938

Red Amos
Earnest Massey
Teck Galloway
Louis McClendon
Howard Thompson
Chuck Harris
Adron Kendrick
Acie Langston
Lloyd Thorp
Lundy

Willbanks
Sam Sharp
Russell Lowery
Art Hanes
Wyatt
Wilson

1939

Chuck Harris
Red Amos
Douglas (Dugan) Johnson
Adron Kendrick
Acie Langston
Earnest Massey
Lloyd Thorp
Howard Thompson
Posey
Wilson
Gast
Walton Davenport, Umpire
Fern Ward, Umpire

1940

Brunner Nix (M)
Earnest Massey
Art Hanes
Adron Kendrick
Howard Thompson
Edgar Foshee
Red Amos
Lloyd Thorp
Clarence Nix
Acie Langston
Gray Melton
Shelly Oglesby
Buddy Braley
Walker Reach
Douglas (Dugan) Johnson
Troy Henderson, Jr.
Guy
Ed Green
Shaub
Tom Reynolds
Walton Davenport, Umpire
Fern Ward, Umpire

1947

Chuck Harris (M)
Red Amos
Hank Spires
Walker Reach
Russell Lowery

1948

Chuck Harris (M)
Red Amos
Walker Reach
Ed Self
Jimmy Bragan
Dugan Johnson
J. P. Johnson
Paul McGinnis
Howard Wallace
Adron Kendrick
Troy Henderson
Hank Spires
Fred Wilson
Jim Talley
Jerry Vandiver
Jimmy Jefferson
Guy Morton
James Howell
Cutcliffe
Smith
Guy
Jim Davenport, Batboy

1949

Chuck Harris
Red Amos
Walker Reach
Jerry Vandiver
Hank Spires

1950

Luman Harris
Red Amos
Walker Reach
Dugan Johnson
J.P. Johnson
Lloyd Thorp
Baker
Ralph Hunt
Red Nichols
Charles Davenport
Bill Davenport
Walt Davenport
Jim Davenport
Jerry Vandiver
Jimmy Jefferson

1951

Red Amos
Jim Davenport
Charles Davenport
Dugan Johnson
J. P. Johnson
Glen (Shine) Rawlinson
James Howell
Ralph Hunt
John Galloway
Walker Reach
Hank Spires
Guy
Reid

1960

Jim Mack Lawley (M)
Ronald Smitherman
Leonard Davenport
Bill Genery
Bill Davenport
Charles Davenport
Alton (Bozo) Johnson
Grady Wilson
John Galloway
Donald Bunn

1961

Jim Mack Lawley (M)
Ronald Smitherman
Charles Davenport
Bill Davenport
Grady Wilson
Bill Genery
John Galloway
Donald Jones
Donald Bunn
Leonard Davenport

1962

Bill Davenport
Charles Davenport
Bobby Harris
Walt Davenport
Jerry Busby
Grady Wilson

1963

Bill White
Grady Wilson



Buck Creek Cotton Mill

Shelby County Pioneer Certificate Program Expanded

Shelby County Pioneer is a certificate program, founded in the year-2000, offered by the Shelby County Historical Society, Inc. and is designed to identify and honor the memory of the early residents of Shelby County Alabama. Anyone may apply. Applicants need not be residents of Shelby County Alabama, nor ever lived in the county. Separate certificates will be issued for each ancestor properly submitted.

Due to popular demand we have expanded the Pioneer Certificate Program, effective January 1, 2008.

The Shelby County Historical Society, Inc. will issue three categories of certificates to direct descendants of the early residents of Shelby County Alabama. For many years these ancestors have gone unrecognized. We hope that this certificate will be a source of pride for your family.

- (1) PIONEER CERTIFICATE ...1830 or earlier.
- (2) SETTLER CERTIFICATE ... 1831 through 1860.
- (3) EARLY RESIDENT CERTIFICATE ... 1861 through 1900.

The criteria for Shelby County Pioneer Certificate Program include (1) Current member of the Shelby County Historical Society, Inc. (2) Completion of the Pioneer Certificate Program Application for each certificate. (3) Documentation of proof of direct descent for each generation of each early settler. (4) \$20.00 certificate fee for each submission.

For each qualifying ancestor you will receive a beautifully designed 8-1/2" x 11" certificate ready for framing. Each certificate is numbered and signed.

Acceptable Sources of "Proof of Direct Descent" for each generation [Please number "Proof of Direct Descent" to correspond to each generation number.]: (1) Census records. (2) Birth records. (3) Death records. (4) Marriage records. (5) Military records. (6) Land records. (7) Wills. (8) Obituaries or Funeral Home records. (9) Tombstone inscriptions or cemetery records, name and location of cemetery. (10) Estate records. (11) Bible records. (12) Books or written articles with proof of copyright date. Please submit copies [do not send original documents] of evidence of direct descent for each generation.

Documentation will be filed in the archives of the Shelby County Museum and Archives to help preserve the history of your ancestor and will be made available for public research.

Please mail (1) "Pioneer Certificate Program Application" with documentation of "Proof of Earliest Year" ancestor lived in Shelby County Alabama (2) Copy of documentation of "Proof of Direct Descent" for each generation (3) and \$20.00 certificate fee to:

SHELBY COUNTY PIONEER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 457

Columbiana, AL 35051



Certificate No.	Type of Certificate	Date Issued	Issued to	Direct Descendant of
1	Pioneer	02/04/2000	Seales, Bobby Joe	Seale, Herod
2	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	Overton, David
3	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	Overton, Jesse
4	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	Bailey, Winifred Lee
5	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	Bailey, Rev. Robert
6	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	Acton, John, Sr.
7	Pioneer	03/31/2000	Headley, Woodrow W.	DeShazo, Peter Harmon
8	Pioneer	06/08/2000	Martin, Scott Allen	Lindsey, David
9	Pioneer	07/05/2000	Holsomback, Patty	Holsomback, Abraham
10	Pioneer	05/03/2001	Lewis, Myra Browne Koenig	Stevens, Sally Brooks
11	Pioneer	05/03/2001	Daniel, Myra Lewis	Stevens, Sally Brooks
12	Pioneer	05/03/2001	Lewis, Harbert James III	Stevens, Sally Brooks
13	Pioneer	11/04/2001	Caldwell, Tom O., M.D.	Scott, Rev. James Mark
14	Pioneer	02/04/2002	Grund, Constance H.	Lee, Needham, Jr.
15	Pioneer	06/27/2002	Cagle, Carrol D.	Brinker, Isaac
15/16	Pioneer	09/19/2002	McCain, Eleanor O'Brien	Scott, Rev. James Mark
17	Pioneer	01/31/2003	Sweeney, Shawn P.	Butler, Zachariah
18	Pioneer	03/10/2003	Sweeney, Shawn P.	Farrell, William
19	Pioneer	03/11/2003	Sweeney, Shawn P.	Cost, Thomas
20	Pioneer	05/20/2003	Sweeney, Shawn P.	Miles, Tillman L.
21	Pioneer	08/19/2003	Hosey, William, "Darrell"	Hosey, Jesse (Hosea)
22	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, Thomas Floyd	Lindsay, David
23	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, Floyd Alan	Lindsay, David
24	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, James Paul	Lindsay, David
25	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, Ashley Lane	Lindsay, David
26	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, David Alan	Lindsay, David
27	Pioneer	03/08/2004	Robinson, Kelsi Alyssa	Lindsay, David
28	Pioneer	07/27/2004	Whitfield, William J. Sr.	Whitfield, William
29	Pioneer	05/12/2005	Flournoy, Jo Ellen Cauthen	Merrell, Amos
30	Pioneer	05/12/2005	Cauthen, Eunice D. Atchison	Merrell, Amos
31	Pioneer	05/12/2005	Potts, Mary Ethel Cauthen	Merrell, Amos
32	Pioneer	07/15/2005	Young, Martha Ann Cauthen	Merrell, Amos
33	Pioneer	07/15/2005	Flournoy, James Emory III	Merrell, Amos
34	Pioneer	07/15/2005	Flournoy, Joel Atchison	Merrell, Amos
35	Pioneer	05/26/2006	Hoskins, Janice Kay Mitchum	Lolley, Jesse
36	Pioneer	06/26/2006	King, Tommily Henderson	Henderson, Mollie Middleton
37	Pioneer	09/16/2006	Holsomback, Patty A.	Pickett, Abner, Jr.
38	Pioneer	08/30/2007	Olive, Fay Thomas	Frost, Hannah Wilson
39	Settler	02/29/2008	McEwen, Peggy Lester	Lester, Alfred Musgrove
40	Settler	02/29/2008	Garrett, Joanne Lester	Lester, Alfred Musgrove
41	Settler	02/29/2008	Crowley, David Tyrone	Horton, Henry Cauthen
42	Settler	02/29/2008	McGaughy, Herbert G.	McGaughy, Samuel R.
43	Pioneer	08/21/2008	Olive, J. Fred, III	Frost, Jesse
44	Pioneer	08/21/2008	Olive, J. Fred, III	Harless, Catherine
45	Pioneer	08/21/2008	Olive, J. Fred, III	Frost, Hannah Wilson
46	Pioneer	09/01/2008	Davis, Keith George	Davis, Bennett
47	Pioneer	09/12/2008	Ruff, Sharon Yarbrough	Oldham, John
48	Pioneer	09/12/2008	Justice, Katherine M.	Elliott, Amos
49	Pioneer	11/10/2008	Smith, Martha S.	Carden, James Harvey Reuben
50	Settler	12/08/2008	Pate, Johnnie	Pate, Elias
51	Settler	01/06/2009	McLeod-Williams, Doris A.	Kidd, Early

52	Pioneer	01/09/2009	DeShazo, Thomas D.	Bailey, Winifred Lee
53	Pioneer	06/22/2009	Satterfield, Betty Faye Ray	Hughes, William
54	Pioneer	06/22/2009	Satterfield, Ray L.	Hughes, William
55	Early Resident	07/26/2009	McGaughy, Herbert G.	McGaughy, Herbert N.
56	Pioneer	11/01/2009	Crumpton, Sandra Ray	Ray, William
57	Settler	11/05/2009	Cooper, Waylon Eugene	Cooper, William Marion
58	Pioneer	11/05/2009	Gaskin, Sharon Holyfield	Holyfield, Jacob
59	Pioneer	12/06/2009	King, Tommily Henderson	Harmon, Allen
60	Settler	03/18/2010	Weaver, April Clark	DeShazo, William Clinton
61	Pioneer	06/15/2010	Dinsmore, Charles Lloyd, Jr.	Godwin, Alexander M.
62	Pioneer	06/15/2010	Dinsmore, Jonathan Wade	Godwin, Alexander M.
63	Pioneer	06/15/2010	Dinsmore, William Atlee	Godwin, Alexander M.
64	Pioneer	06/15/2010	Dinsmore, John Wilson	Godwin, Alexander M.
65	Pioneer	06/15/2010	Farrar, Gresham Talmadge, Jr.	Godwin, Alexander M.
66	Settler	09/28/2010	Brasher, William E., Jr.	Brasher, Samuel S., Lt.

NOW AVAILABLE!

Transcriptions From Shelby County, Alabama Newspapers (1868-1888)

BY LARRY E. CAVER, JR.

529 Pages ... \$45 + \$5 Postage



**Available from
PIONEER PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 408
CARROLLTON, MS 38917
PHONE: (662) 237-6010**

<http://www.pioneersoutheast.com/index.htm>



**SHELBY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

Mark Your Calendar Now!

Sunday, February 6, 2011 at 2:00 PM : Shelby County Birthday Celebration.....193 years old!

Sunday, May 1, 2011 at 2:00PM

CENSUS QUESTIONS?

Need to know what questions were asked in what census? Here's a page that has links to all census questions asked in every census from 1850 and onwards: <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumForm.shtml>
(c) Michael John Neill, "Genealogy Tip of the Day,"
<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com>, TIPDATE.



~IN MEMORIAM~

MAYHEW, Leonard “Buddy”, age 78, a lifelong resident of Calera, passed away on Wednesday evening, Sept. 29, 2010. Born in Alabama on Nov. 24, 1931, Buddy was the son of Frank and Flossie Busby Mayhew. He was a former Calera Police Officer, had a love of life, loved traveling and had an extreme love for the study of history and sports. Buddy was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Roy F. Mayhew; sister, Margaret Mayhew Nabors; and brother, Jimmy Lee Mayhew. He leaves his nieces, Joyce Thompson of Calera and Pam Taylor (Robert) of Lebanon, Tenn.; great-nieces and nephews; and great-great-nieces and nephews. Graveside services were held in Shelby Memory Gardens on Saturday at 2 p.m. Joyce Thompson officiated at the services. Flowers are accepted and memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements were by Charter Funeral Home.

VICKERY, Myra Belle Stinson, age 92 of Bessemer, passed away suddenly on August 18, 2010. She was born March 18, 1918 in Shelby County. She is preceded in death by her husband, H. Claude Vickery, father Thomas C. Stinson, and mother Belle McGiboney Stinson and brother Paul T. Stinson. She is survived by a brother, Handy E. Stinson, Little Rock, AR, and by many nephews and nieces. She was a graduate of Shelby County High School. She also graduated as a nurse from Norwood Hospital in Birmingham (later Caraway Methodist Medical Center) and worked as a public health nurse in Alabama. Later, she graduated from a program in Physical Therapy at Stanford University and continued her public health career in California until her retirement. She moved back to Bessemer, Alabama in 2003. She developed a deep passion for family history, traveling extensively to conduct genealogical research and leaving behind an extensive network of grateful family members and close friends. Remains will interred in El Cerrito, California and a memorial service will be held at Columbiana United Methodist church at a later date. *Editor’s Note: The Memorial Service for Myra Belle Stinson Vickery was not held at the Columbiana United Methodist Church as noted in the obituary but was held at the Shelby County Museum & Archives on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.*

“Coal mine company store paid its due”

by Katie Hurst

26 August 2010 *Shelby County Reporter*

On the outskirts of Montevallo, in what remains of the small coal mining community of Aldrich, a local historian is doing all he can to preserve the culture and history of a time passed. Henry Emfinger, owner of the Aldrich Coal Mine Museum, had a success this summer when the Montevallo Coal Mine Company Store was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage in July. The store may be the last mining company store in the state, according to the Alabama Historical Commission. It was built in 1928 and now houses the bulk of the coal museum that Emfinger runs. Emfinger, whose father was a coal miner for 30 years, grew up in Aldrich. In fact, Emfinger took many of the historical pictures on display in the museum when he was only 12 years old; using an old box camera he got from Santa Claus. Now he has made it his personal mission to preserve the Aldrich area, including the company store.

In its heyday, the store was a central part of the mining community, Emfinger said. The miners were paid in clackers and scripts, a currency that could only be used in the company store. When they weren’t buying groceries or goods, the miners used the store’s large front porch as a social gathering place, Emfinger said. “The miners would sit out there and play dominos and play dice on porch,” he said. “Well, Mr. Aldrich said ‘I’ll show them’ and he tore most of the porch off so they couldn’t do that. He was a party pooper.” When the mine closed in 1942, the store remained operating until 1944. Emfinger said it was common in that time to tear whole mining communities down when the mine closed, making Aldrich a rarity. “It still breaks my heart every time a house goes down,” Emfinger said. “Either burned down or torn down.”

Emfinger started the museum in 1989 and has recovered many of the town’s original artifacts including the store’s elaborate cash register and the old post office boxes. “I’m so thankful for all the things that came back home,” he said. Near the museum, the mouth of the mine and air ventilation system coming out of the ground can still be found. Emfinger’s dream is to create an Alabama Coal Mine Industry Park in this area, with walking trails around the old mine. In the meantime, Emfinger gives museum guests a guided tour through his own simulated coal mine located inside the company store. Guests can relive another era through Emfinger’s stories of old Aldrich and his passion for coal. “God created the heavens and the earth and when he did that he made coal,” Emfinger said. “And I believe that.”

*Cahaba-Coosa Chapter
Alabama Society
Sons of the American Revolution*



Chartered in Pelham, Shelby County, Alabama on August 22, 2003

Any man of age eighteen years or over, who is a lineal descendent of an ancestor who supported the war for American Independence is eligible for membership. These ancestors are referred to as Revolutionary War Patriots and include those persons who fought in the military and/or militia, who provided supplies to the American cause, who served on political bodies supporting the Revolution, who signed oaths of support and similar acts.

The Cahaba-Coosa Chapter monthly schedule for meetings will be the third Sunday of each month at 2:30 pm. The meetings will be held at the North Shelby County Library located at 5521 Cahaba Valley Road, Pelham, AL

For more information, please contact 205-669-3912

A BRIEF HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day, formerly known as **Armistice Day**, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In legislation that was passed in 1938, November 11 was "dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day.'" As such, this new legal holiday honored World War I veterans.

In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress -- at the urging of the veterans service organizations -- amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

In 1968, the **Uniforms Holiday Bill** ensured three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. Under this bill, Veterans Day was moved to the last Monday of October. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holiday on its original date. The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on Oct. 25, 1971.

Finally on September 20, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed a law which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of Nov. 11, beginning in 1978. Since then, the Veterans Day holiday has been observed on Nov. 11th.



*On this Veteran's Day we salute and thank
The Veterans of Shelby County and Alabama
For Their Dedication and Sacrifice to our Country*

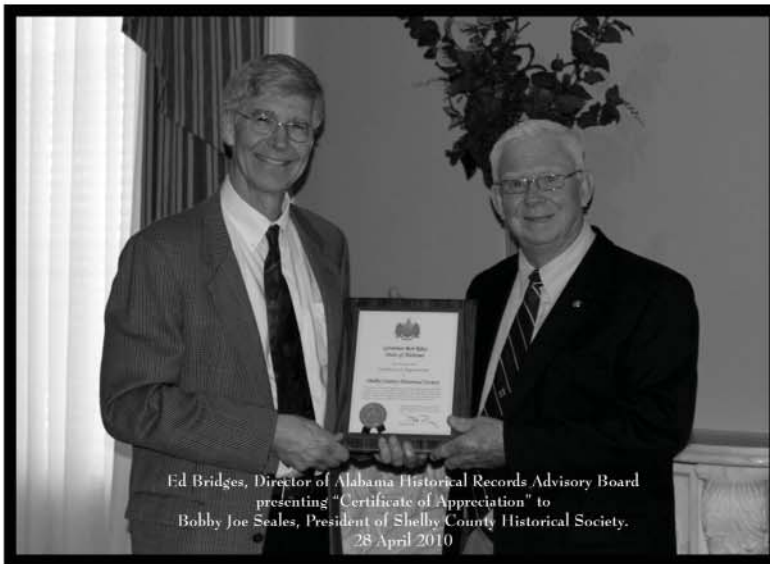


2010 Wreaths Across America – Alabama National Cemetery

The Blue Star Salute Foundation, Inc. (BSSFI) of Alabama is seeking sponsors for the 2010 Wreaths Across America, a nationwide fundraising effort to place fresh wreaths on veterans' graves this holiday season. All wreaths sponsored through the BSSFI fundraising campaign will be laid on veterans graves at the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo during a Wreaths Across America National Remembrance Ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on December 11, 2010. The cost to sponsor a wreath is \$15.00.

For more information about the Blue Star Salute Foundation, Inc., or Wreaths Across America, please visit the organizations' websites at Bluestarsalute.org or Wreathscrossamerica.org.





Ed Bridges, Director of Alabama Historical Records Advisory Board
presenting "Certificate of Appreciation" to
Bobby Joe Seales, President of Shelby County Historical Society.
28 April 2010

"Governor Honors Seales"

26 May 2010 *Shelby County Reporter*

Bobby Joe Seales, right, President of the Shelby County Historical Society and executive director of the Shelby County Museum & Archives, recently received recognition from Ed Bridges of the Alabama Historical Records Advisory Board in Montgomery on behalf of Gov. Bob Riley. The recognition was in appreciation for Seales' effort to collect, preserve and disseminate information on historical Shelby County records, newspapers and artifacts through operation of the Shelby County Museum & Archives.



"Seales work Honored by State"

18 August 2010 *Shelby County Reporter*

The August 1, 2010 Shelby County Historical Society Quarterly Meeting highlighted the 11 towns and cities of Shelby County with displays recognizing the town or city. Additionally, Bobby Joe Seales was honored with a presentation on behalf of the Alabama Tourism Association from Stacy Walkup, executive director of the South Shelby Chamber of Commerce, for his support through the Shelby County Historical Society of these historic marker dedications. The presentation was signed by the mayors and municipalities in Shelby County.

A MESSAGE FROM BOBBY JOE SEALES:

*Thank you Shelby County Historical Society for your support
and confidence in allowing me to serve as "your" President.*

Bobby Joe Seales

Tidbits of The Past In Shelby County Alabama



Copied by Scott A. Martin

The Shelby Sentinel, Columbiana, 9 October 1879

W. & A. Oats (Pelham) have bought the large store house recently built here by Mr. Thos. Johnson, and expect to move into it soon.

The Shelby Sentinel, Columbiana, 15 December 1881

Messrs. W.& A. Oates are having their large store house painted, which when completed will add considerably to the looks of Pelham. They contemplate moving into it soon.

Mr. M. J. O'Barr recently had the misfortune to lose the chimney to his residence. It fell and "great was the fall thereof" but fortunately it missed the apple tree.

Cotton continues to roll into Pelham, and our live merchants have up to this date brought 182 bales – Cost (91) and Oates (91).

Our young and respected friend and fellow townsman, Shelby Cross, left us on Saturday last, accompanied by Miss Mary Payne, for Florence, Alabama, to attend school. He will be absent until January 1st.

The Shelby Sentinel, Columbiana, 22 December 1881

Died at the residence of her son, Mr. Mose Davis, near this place, on Saturday night last, the 17th inst., Mrs. M. Davis, aged seventy-five years. The deceased was apparently in as good health as usual on Saturday, spent the night at a neighbors and returned home after night. She retired early but her son and a nephew who had been out in the neighborhood returned home about ten or eleven o'clock, when she got up. Taking a seat by the fire she joined them in a cup of coffee, as they had not eaten supper, and were eating. After they had eaten, she lit her pipe and smoked, laughed and talked with them for an hour or more before retiring. Next morning as she did not get up as usual some member of the family went to arouse her and found her cold and stiff in death. She had passed away during the night. She was the mother of Messrs. Moses, James and Hiram Davis, of his vicinity. Thus has another one of the mothers of Israel 'passed over the river to rest under the shade of trees.'

The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, Columbus, GA, 20 November 1887

Friday night an unfortunate accident happened to Mr. P.Q. Camp, who has charge of a squad of hands at work on the Columbus and Western extension. The accident occurred between Childersburg and Sylacauga. The gentleman was returning to his camp on a hand car, which collided with a pole car. Both of Mr. Camp's legs were broken below the knees. No one else was hurt.

The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, Columbus, GA, 26 November 1887

An Unfortunate Accident Ends the Life of Mr. P. Q. Camp. Several days ago the ENQUIRER-SUN contained a notice of an accident which occurred on the Columbus and Western extension, in which both of Mr. P.Q. Camp's legs were broken. Mr. Camp, we regret to learn, died from the effects of his injuries yesterday morning. The deceased was a middle-aged man, and stood well in the community in which he lived. He had charge of a force of hands at work in the extension near Sylacauga when the unfortunate accident occurred.

The Shelby Chronicle, 18 December 1902

Street Shooting – Driver Killed while Performing his Duty – C. H. Hope, better know as "Bud" Hope, a driver for the Birmingham Ore Company, was shot through the lung and killed Monday afternoon while drive a wagon along Avenue H near 22nd Street, Birmingham. The shooting was done by a young man who had been in the wagon with Hope, and police followed him to his home on the other side of the mountain. It is stated his name is Massey. One of the policeman who went after the man said that they went to his home and found his family there, but that he had been home and obtained some articles of clothing and other necessaries and then left for the hills. The two men were quarelling. The bullet entered the left breast of Hope about 2 inches above the heart, and ranged downward, breaking one of the ribs on the right side and penetrating the left lung. At a late hour Bob Massey was arrested at his home in Shades Valley, four miles from Birmingham, on a charge of being implicated in the killing of Hope,

and locked up in the county jail. Massey is past middle age and this morning related an account of the killing. His son, Will Massey, who, it is said shot Hope, has not been arrested. As soon as he reached home Monday afternoon his father stated that he kissed his little sister, and telling the members of the family goodbye, left home and then heard a shot, which the father thinks was discharging to let him know in which direction he was going.

The Shelby County Reporter, 2 October 1924

Miss Ida Lee Littleton who is attending Thompson High School at Siluria visited relatives her last weekend. She reports a fine school.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Curry and daughters, Mildred and Leslie, were the guests of Mrs. Ben Scoggins Sunday afternoon.

The possums are eating up Mr. Charlie Ansley's and boys, he will be glad if you would relieve him of the pests by killing them.

The Shelby County Reporter, 4 February 1926

Sixty-three miners were trapped late today in Mossboro mine of the Premier Coal Company near Helena, and it is feared 38 of that number are dead. Twenty-five men have been brought out alive. The known dead numbers ten, that many bodies having been recovered. The mine is in an isolated spot, difficult of access and cut off from wire communication. A relief train was en route to the scene from Birmingham carrying doctors, nurses and mine rescue crews. No local experienced nurses are available. Twelve men alive were brought out in one group to be followed by another squad of 13 workers, reports reaching here said. The cause of the accident is undetermined. Mining men familiar with the physical aspect of the property said they believed a pocket of gas had in some manner accumulated and exploded. The men were entombed just at quitting time. News of the disaster spread rapidly by means of the "communication of the hills," and within 30 minutes wives and children and other relatives were about the pit waiting and calling for loved ones. A biting cold wind added to the misery of those awaiting word from their relatives. The mine is on property belonging to the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway Company and is leased to the Premier Coal Company. It is almost a new mine with a 1,000 foot slope. A telephone report from the neighborhood said that grave fears had been expressed that all men in the pit were dead. A large number of the miners lived in Helena. The road from that town to the mining camp, narrow and ill kept, was crowded with automobiles, wagons and pedestrians, all rushing to Mossboro. Four crews of expert workers were on their way to the mine tonight, including a unit of the United States mine bureau. Miners brought out alive told grave stories of a sudden roar, a flash of fire -- of men screaming and dying at their side. One man told of seeing his brother killed in the same entry in which he was working while others told of friends with whom they had worked and played for years being horribly burned and killed in the flash of flames.

Listing of Fatalities and Injured in the Helena Mine Explosion:

White: JAMES ADAMS; ROBERT BALL; PAT BURKE; WILLIAM CARRICK; GLENN DUNCAN; HENRY GOLD; W. J. HARRISON; M. J. HOLLOWAY; DOYLE LAMBERT; JOE MAYNER; HENRY OAKES.

Negroes: W. M. ODUM; HASSEY HARRIS; WILL JOHNSON; HENRY PETERSON; ENOCH WOODWON; W. H. SEGRESS.

Those still in the mine, but who are believed to be dead are:

Colored: AMBERSON GRIGLEY; MORE COILLINS; ELI TREADWELL; WILLIE TEMPLE; CLIFF GIBSON; WILLIE FITTS; PRIMUS HENDERSIB; RODGER WILLIAMS; SAM HAWKINS.

Those who escaped:

Whites: J. D. LOWERY; J. B. LOWERY, a son EDGAR LOWERY; ZACH CHAPMAN; LONNIE CHAPMAN; LLOYD ROBERTSON; B. D. GOLD; GEORGE ZIMMERMAN.

Negroes: WILL SIMMONS; JESS CHESTNUT; STANLEY MADDOX; WALTER PEARCE; ARCHIE JACKSON; PERCY PEARCE; SCOTT SAULDERS; FLETCHER ANDERSON; WILL LAMBERT; MILLARD GARNER; G. G. GARNER.

(Transcribed by Stu Beitler – courtesy of www.gendisasters.com)

The Dothan Eagle, 6 May 1933

Storms and tornadoes lashing Alabama and South Carolina yesterday claimed 40 lives, injured scores and left hundreds homeless. Deaths in three Alabama counties reached 22, and in South Carolina where a wide area was swept by a storm, 18 died of injuries. Rehabilitation went forward in the storm-swept area in Alabama today, with the national guard supplying tents, cots and blankets for the homeless, and the Red Cross administering food, medicines and clothing. More than 100 are under treatment in Alabama hospitals, and nearly that many in South Carolina. Deaths from storms in the South since the middle of March are nearly 200. The storm struck at Demopolis, where two were killed; at Centerville; at Brent, where three were killed; at Union Grove, Adamsville and other small communities. **Coalmont, four miles from Helena, was reported to be practically wiped off the map.** Leeds reported one person hurt and 20 houses wrecked. Only a few houses were left standing in Helena and most of the town's population huddled in the muddy streets, half dressed and hungry. One of Helena's dead, MRS. N. D. THOMAS, wife of a deputy sheriff, was found high in a tree several yards from the house where she had been sleeping, her body badly mangled. All three of Helena's churches were destroyed; the winds wrecked boxcars parked in the railway yards there, and twisted power and communication lines into a wreckage that left the section without communication. The storm swept over an area a mile and a half wide and four miles long and left little standing before it. Many dead chickens were scattered about the town, while others, crippled and without feathers, were being put out of their suffering. Fate played a cruel trick on C. B. DAVIS and his family. Early in the night, MR. DAVIS said he and his wife and baby, alarmed by high winds, went to a neighbors' storm pit and remained there for an hour or more. As the wind subsided he then returned to his home and went to bed. Continuing the story MR. DAVIS said: "We were awakened about 2:30 a.m. Friday by the howling of the wind. My wife and baby and I dressed and sat on the bed listening to the wind and wondering if it was going to blow the house away." "Suddenly came the answer. First a window of the house was carried out. Then as the wind filled the house the walls were carried into space. Three of us were left sitting on the bed." "I covered my child's body with my body when suddenly bricks from the chimney began falling on me. However, the wind was so terrific that it blew the bricks off me taking them into space. It was lucky that I covered my child or else the falling brick would probably have killed her." Four houses and a Methodist church were blown down at Union Grove, two miles from Adamsville in Jefferson county and a man and a boy were injured in Adamsville. The storm, which weather authorities say was probably two or three tornadoes, came roaring up from the southern part of the state along the western border, dipped at Centerville, Brent, Helena, Adamsville, Union Grove and probably struck other sections of Alabama that had not reported early Friday. Furniture was strewn everywhere and when the first ambulances arrived around 5 a.m. Friday they were greeted with cries of distress as injured ones tried to care for the numbers of their families who were more seriously injured. Entire families were swept from their beds by the force of the wind. The survivors said they were aroused before the twister actually struck as it roared its way about the doomed city. Residents said after they were disturbed by the roar of the wind they stood helpless waiting for the storm. Many remained in their bed and were swept into the streets. Some were carried across the street only to fall in other beds. In many cases walls were leveled and yet the inhabitants uninjured. Reports from Brent and Centerville, in Bibb County, were similar. Residents were awakened by the heavy roaring of wind the crashing of timbers and falling of trees.

Blytheville Courier News Arkansas, 25 January 1964

Rescue workers searched for more victims today after a tornado stormed through the small community of Harpersville in north central Alabama, killing at least nine persons and hospitalizing at least five. Bodies were taken from the ruins of three houses and other debris in Harpersville, a community of 1,000 population, 30 miles southeast of Birmingham. Some victims were children. Rescue efforts were hampered by fallen power lines and tree limbs, and a driving rain. Four inches of rain drenched the area before and after the twister struck. The disaster climaxed a night of turbulent weather in central and northern Alabama.

The Shelby County Reporter, 26 October 1972

Edward L. Gandy, 72, of Calera died at a Birmingham hospital on October 23. The funeral was held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the Calera Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Lena Mae, and four sisters, Mrs. H.G. Herrod, Plantersville; Mrs. J.H. Johnson, Mrs. W.J. Franklin, and Mrs. M.N. Brand, all of Calera.

SHELBY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOKS FOR SALE

*To order, please order by book name and send the amount for your order
plus shipping and handling for each book as noted.
Please make checks payable to Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.*

1. **Cemetery Census** of Shelby County Alabama ~ Gives tombstone inscriptions alphabetically. Contains the census of all known cemeteries at the time of the census in 1978 plus several cemeteries that have been discovered since that time and some updated cemetery census. Revised Edition. \$50.00 + \$4.00 shipping & handling
2. **Shelby County Historical Society Quarterly Magazines**, 2007 to current, while quantities last. [Sorry, no issues prior to 2007 available.] \$8.00 each + \$1.00 shipping & handling
3. **1850 Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama with alphabetical index. Each individual listed as to household number, name, race, age, sex, occupation and state of birth. Revised Transcribed Edition. \$20.00 + \$3.00 shipping & handling
4. **1860 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. This is an index of heads of households listed alphabetically with household numbers for ease of location on the census microfilm. \$8.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
5. **1870 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. An alphabetical listing of heads of households with race, post office, beat and page numbers within the beat. \$11.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
6. **1880 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. An alphabetical listing of heads of households with race, post office, beat and page number within the beat and household numbers. \$11.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
7. **1900 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. An alphabetical listing of heads of households with race, post office, beat and household numbers in that beat. Instructions in front of book for taking beat numbers and household numbers to find page number on microfilm. \$13.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
8. **1910 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. An alphabetical listing of heads of households, beat, household and family number and the page number in the beat. \$15.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
9. **1920 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. This is an alphabetical index to heads of households showing page number on microfilm. \$15.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
10. **1930 Index to Federal Census** of Shelby County Alabama. This is an alphabetical index to heads of households showing page number on microfilm. \$25.00 + \$3.00 shipping & handling
11. **1824-1850 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$9.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
12. **1849-1859 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$9.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
13. **1859-1867 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$9.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
14. **1860-1869 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$9.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
15. **1869-1885 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$20.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
16. **1885-1891 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
17. **1891-1896 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
18. **1896-1899 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
19. **1900-1905 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$12.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
20. **1904-1906 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
21. **1907-1911 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$12.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
22. **1911-1915 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$13.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
23. **1914-1919 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$13.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
24. **1919-1923 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$15.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
25. **1923-1927 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$15.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling
26. **1927-1930 Marriage Records** of Shelby County Alabama. These transcribed marriages are alphabetical by groom and bride. \$20.00 + \$2.00 shipping & handling

Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.
Museum & Archives
1854 Old Courthouse
P.O. Box 457
Columbiana, Alabama 35051-0457

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.26
COLUMBIANA, AL 35051

***Thank You for your support of
The Shelby County Historical Society, Inc.***



You are the key to our success!