

# Baxter County History



**The Wolf House is the most historical  
building in Baxter County.**

Photo courtesy of Ray Grass

VOL. 1 NO. 3

Published by  
**THE BAXTER COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

## THE BAXTER COUNTY HISTORY

Published Quarterly by the  
BAXTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Mountain Home, Arkansas

Regular Monthly Meetings at 7:30 p.m., the first Tuesday of each month, at the Arkansas Power and Light building, on S. W. 62, Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Active Membership, \$5.00 per year.  
Associate Membership, \$2.50 per year.

## Co-Editors

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Rt. 4, Emerald Bay Rd., Mountain Home, Ark. 72653

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Correspondence concerning membership dues, membership, orders for the "History", and other business matters should be sent to the Treasurer. Available back issues are \$1.00 each.

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POSTMASTERS OF MOUNTAIN HOME, BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
As furnished by H. Bodenhamer and submitted  
by Arthur Rusk.

Established in 1870 in Marion County

Eli C. Jones                          October 6, 1870

County changed from Marion to Baxter

John M Casey	January 3, 1876
James M. Woolf	June 3, 1877
James H. P. Wallis	May 7, 1878
Joseph H. Case	November 7, 1878
John S. Russell	September 1, 1885
John W. Due	December 13, 1890
John M. Casey	September 14, 1893
Oscar A. Eatman	November 30, 1895
Issac J. Morris	February 4, 1898
Mayme Pattilo	1914
Issac J. Morris, reappointed	May 29, 1930
Ben F. Love	July 1, 1933
Mrs. Louise McCabe	February 19, 1937
William F. Nelson	September 1, 1937
Jewel L. Bodenhamer	January 16, 1942
Hal E. Bodenhamer	October 11, 1963

\* \* \* \* \*

The first County Court was held July 7, 1873. A.T.R.

\* \* \* \* \*

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## BAXTER COUNTY CHARIVARI \*

by Ralph R. Stafford  
(as told to Joe Bloom)

"When you got married in the early days of Baxter County you knew you were going to be Charivaried - it was not a question of IF but WHEN. If you didn't get charivaried you were a social outcast - it had to do with your standing in the community. It was something every one anticipated and hoped they would

Right after the ceremony the couple would usually sneak off somewhere. Usually not too far because they didn't have much money - maybe to one or the other parents, married brother or sister or other relation. It didn't take long before someone found out where they were spending their honeymoon and would pass the word around along with the night to charivari.

When you took part in a charivari you always took your own noise maker. Some brought shot guns. A plough share and hammer along with cow bells and old pans were popular. Skillets - steel skillets, cast iron skillets don't make much noise, but a steel skillet and a mixing spoon to beat on the bottom, along with hoops, hollars and yells makes a lot of noise. Firecrackers were good but not always available and too expensive.

All met the night selected and sneaked up to the house after dark. The boys are stationed around the house and then wait until the couple goes to bed - or at least till all the lights are turned out. Normally they just blew out the light and would sit in the dark with their clothes on because they usually knew somewhere on the outside were boys ready to let loose a lot of noise. As the light goes out, somebody chosen before, goes up close to the front door and hollers, "This is a little civil Charivari. Don't mean any harm". Then everybody lets loose.

After the noise quieted down some you'd be invited inside and given a treat of some kind. Some didn't have much. A lot of times it was a stick of candy. You could buy two or three sticks of peppermint candy for a penny. They knew they would be charivaried so they usually had on hand 25 or 50 cents worth of stick candy and perhaps cigars for the men. Maybe we'd pop corn or roast peanuts. Sometimes we'd boil molasses and have candy pulling.

Every charivari seemed different. Sometimes they didn't go so well and you weren't invited in - like that one in Mountain Home. He was as tight as the 'bark on a tree'. We got him a striding a rail round the square and he soon 'shelled down the corn'.

One couple, I remember, we charivaried three or four times. The first time we gave him a good charivari but he didn't invite us in. His wife left soon after and went home to her mama for two weeks. When she got back we decided to Charivari them again. And again, no invitation to come in or were we given any treats. It wasn't long before she went home to mama again. This time when she returned he let it be known he was "damn well getting fed up with that noise and he was going to stop it". He said he had his daddy's 'biting dog'.

cont. next page

## "CHARIVARI" - cont.

His daddy did have a 'biting dog' - half hound and half cur with straight standup hair on him, and real mean! He had him chained to the front porch post. It was a 2 x 4 oak but it had been there for 30 to 40 years and was not too strong.

But we decided to give him the works anyway. When we arrived and the boys saw the 'biting dog' they weren't sure they wanted to go ahead. I told them, "Never mind the dog. I'd take care of him." So the boys made a circle around the house.

I walked up to the front porch with my double barrel 12-gauge shotgun, just short of the dog. He kept jumping at me - just the length of the chain. Then I hollered, "Just a civil charivari. Don't mean no harm!" and let both barrels of the 12-gauge go just over that 'biting dog's' head. That mean dog left, porch post and all. First it pulled loose at the bottom - then at the top. The last we saw of him he was going full tilt over the hill.

We heard later the dog was found about daylight the next morning about a quarter of a mile from home. He had tried to return home but couldn't because the post, still fastened to his chain, was stuck in the fence.

As I remember we didn't stay around long enough to be invited in that time either.

It's really a shame we don't have them anymore!"

\* Cha re va re (shiv a rē) from French caribaria (headache).

Ralph Fred Stafford who tells us about the Baxter County Charivari is a native of the region. He has a keep memory for many events and people of past Baxter County and tells them in a very interesting way. We also look forward to more contributions from Ralph.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PUMPKIN CHIFFON PIE RECIPE

1 envelope Knox gelatin	) mix	
1/4 cup cold water		
1 1/4 cup canned pumpkin	)	
1/2 cup milk		
1/2 tsp. ginger	) cook until thick, add gelatin.	
1/2 tsp. nutmeg		Beat 3 egg whites, add 1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp. salt		fold into above mixture. Put in
1/2 cup sugar		gingershap piecrust
3 beaten egg yolks		

This delicious pie was made by Alice Marberry from a 1947 cookbook printed by the First Christian Church when it was located where the gas company now is. submitted by Elizabeth Smith.

ALLEY ABSTRACT COMPANY  
MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS

State of Arkansas )  
County of Baxter )

Petition to Incorporate Town  
of Mountain Home, Arkansas  
Dated: April Term, 1888  
Record: C, page 167

To the County Court of said County May Adjourned Term, 1884

The undersigned Petitioners and residents of said County within the territory described and prayed to be incorporated as a town known by the name of "The Incorporated Town of Mountain Home."

Most respectfully the court to grant an order incorporating the town of Mountain Home embracing the territory indicated by the map or plat herewith filed consisting of the O. L. Dodd's Plat of the original town of Mountain Home and A. J. Truman's and Wm. H. Lane's Addition there to as follows:

Beginning at a point 27 rods due North of the NW corner of Block 44 of Lane's Addition in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 9, Twp. 19 N. Range 13 W.; thence East to the line between the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of said Sec. and 15 rods beyond into the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; thence South to a point in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same Sec. from which a line running due West will include the Mountain Home Cemetary and on to the Creek or branch running from O. L. Dodd's spring, the said branch to where it crosses a line running due South from the SW corner of Lane's Addition, thence North by said line to the point of beginning along the Western boundary of Lane's Addition to said town. Z. M. Horton being appointed and authorized to prosecute this application for and behalf of your petitioners who are majority of the electors residing within said territory.

And we further pray that this Court will make such orders as may be necessary to the granting this Petition according to law.

Petition to Incorporate the Town of Mountain Home

- |                     |                     |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. B. F. Bodenhamer | 11. J. M. Schoggen  | 21. Wm. H. Morris     |
| 2. J. M. Wolf       | 12. J. H. P. Wallis | 22. J. H. Case        |
| 3. J. H. Wolf       | 13. G. W. Wallis    | 23. Ed. M. Wolf       |
| 4. W. A. Love       | 14. J. T. Adams     | 24. J. H. B. Wolf     |
| 5. A. J. Truman     | 15. C. A. Eatman    | 25. H. C. Allen       |
| 6. J. L. Leonard    | 16. A. C. Hull      | 26. James Littlefield |
| 7. James A. Haley   | 17. W. C. Hull      | 27. W. D. Henderson   |
| 8. J. M. Casey      | 18. C. T. Hull      | 28. A. L. Richey      |
| 9. J. B. Simpson    | 19. Z. M. Horton    | 29. R. C. Wallis      |
| 10. R. C. Davant    | 20. A. J. Brewer    | 30. C. R. Boaz        |

(The petition was filed in 1884 but the County Court did not grant or make the order incorporating Mountain Home until 1888.)

ARKANSAS AND ITS PEOPLE \*  
BAXTER COUNTY - (North Central)

Population 9,520 in 1930. County Seat, Mountain Home. Land area 375,040 acres. Value of manufactures \$201,092.

County formed March 24, 1873. Line between Izard and Fulton defined October 16, 1875; line between Marion changed Mar. 9, 1881. Land area, 586 square miles; elevation, 800 to 1,400 ft., topography rolling, hilly and mountainous; hardwood, pine and cedar; drained by the White River. Principal crops corn, wheat, oats, grasses and fruits. Minerals, zinc, lead, manganese, phosphates and limestones; industries, sawmilling and mining.

Parts of Fulton, Izard, Marion and Searcy counties went to the creation of Baxter, in 1873, and the new county was named in honor of Elisha Baxter, then Governor of Arkansas. Mountain Home, a sawmill hamlet, became first the temporary county seat and later this was made permanent. This village was incorporated April 16, 1888, and had a population, in 1920, of 492, and 585 in 1930. An old-time academy was established in Mountain Home, Feb. 21, 1859. In 1893 the Mountain Home Baptist College was opened, with William Denton as president of the first board of trustees, and Professor W. S. Johnson as the head of the faculty.

Other incorporated towns are Cotter, Gassville and Norfork, these having populations, in 1920, of 884, 191 and 224 respectively, and 1,064, 182 and 247 in 1930. Cotter is the railroad town, the place from which most of the shipments of farm and forest products are made. Lumber is in large supply; cedar of a quality to make pencil slats, railroad ties, stave bolts, being included among the dimension lumber. The county as a whole might well be one of the banner fruit sections; with improved roads its hills and clear streams will invite summer visitors. On the Big North Fork and the White are some of the best power sites in the Ozarks. There is a famous Lithia spring a few miles west of Mountain Home. The zinc and other mineral deposits of Baxter may eventually be developed as the need, capital and railroad combine to create a sufficient demand.

TOWNSHIPS	1930	1920	1910
Bayou.....	525	528	747
Big Flat.....	...	524	436
Buckhorn.....	...	284	303
Buford.....	509	716	825
Greenwood.....	...	426	610
Grover.....	...	164	190
Independence.....	...	530	549
Logan.....	...	479	366
Lone Rock.....	...	290	...
Matney.....	...	314	624
Mill.....	536	486	590
Mountain Home (including Mtn. Home town)	...	1,382	1,291
North Fork (including Norfork).....	...	1,000	834
Pigeon.....	...	654	456
Union.....	418	654	666
Whiteville (including Cotter & Gassville)	2,049	1,785	1,902

\*Arkansas and Its People, A History, 1541-1930, Vol. II, pp. 662-663. Edited by David Y. Thomas.



R. I. P.

(Second in a series of articles on Cemeteries in Baxter County)  
by D. Garvin Carroll

The Beginning of a search for the final resting place of a Government appointed Indian Agent, and prominent citizen in early day Government of this section, Major Jacob Wolf -- 1786-1863

## CHASTAIN CEMETERY

MALDRED WOLF (First wife of Major Jacob Wolf) 1786-18--?  
JACOB WOLF (Not Major) 1844-1872--Husband of Amelia ? --  
SALLIE P. Wife of J. E. Wolf--1862-1885  
MARTHA E. HARGRAVE -- 1853-1864 --  
LUCY JINKENS -- 1888- ---?--  
JOHN A. MOS -- 1819-1874 (Mason) --  
FANNIE J. MILLER -- 1835-1884, --  
JAMES B. ROE -- 1828-1870 --  
ELIZA J. THOMAS -- 1859-1887 --

The Chastain Cemetery, from which the above names were recorded, is located South and West of a little Arkansas Town, Norfolk, approximately six (6) miles. Along and near the Missouri Pacific Railroad, between the tracks and the famous White River. The railroad right-of-way cuts the corner of this cemetery.

Mr. Lloyd Fisk, a Mountain Home Realtor, Mr. Clyde Thorn, Jr., (son-in-law of Mr. Fisk) and myself visited this spot early this year, searching for the burial place of Major Jacob Wolf.

A weather worn grave marker, indicating the final resting place of the Major's first wife, was located. But nothing was found that led us to believe that this burial ground contains the grave of Major Wolf. There are an estimated fifty (50) graves, with few markers remaining.

We have now what is probably our last chance to save and preserve the numerous private and/or "Family" cemeteries here in Baxter County, Arkansas.

In many parts of Arkansas, old cemeteries are being destroyed by earth moving equipment to open up new sub-divisions or land for cultivation. In our county, old cemeteries are being lost in the woods, as is the Chastain Cemetery. As rural people move away and communities change the very memory of many cemeteries perish. Those of us who remain must strive to prevent these Burial Grounds from disappearing.

(See picture of Wolf gravestone on page 35.)

\* \* \* \* \*

## JACOB MOONEY - an early settler of BAXTER COUNTY

-----  
by Mary Ann Messick

It is generally believed by family researchers that Jacob Mooney was born about 1790 in old Tryon County, North Carolina, at the home given to his father, Jacob Mauney, for loyal service to the crown during the French and Indian wars. Jacob Mauney came to the colonies in 1750 from Ireland--via Holland, as his family was religious objectors to the Catholic reign in Ireland. The name has been spelled Mauney, Money, Moony and Mauny but was changed to Mooney after the Revolutionary War when Tryon County, N. C. was divided up and part of it became Warren County, Tn.

In the 1820 census of Warren County, Tn. our Jacob Mooney is listed as the head of his household. The name of his first wife is unknown. They were the parents of three sons:

JACOB - who was born in 1812 at McMinnville, Tn. That is all the information we have on him.

TOBIAS - who was born in 1814 in Tennessee. His first wife was Rachel whom he married in 1823. After their divorce he married Elizabeth and after her death, he re-married Rachel. In the 1850 census of Texas County, MO. Tobias is listed as the head of his household along with these children, and his wife, Elizabeth:

Henrietta, born 1836 in TN.

Nancy C., born 1837 in TN.

Polly M., born 1839 in MO.

James C., born 1843 in MO.

Charity M. born 1844 in MO.

Diadama E. born 1846 in MO.

After his re-marriage to Rachel (the day after Elizabeth's funeral) Tobias--also known as Bye Mooney--moved to the Whiteville community on land owned by his father, Jacob, and built a house near the old Whiteville schoolhouse. He and Rachel were the parents to three children:

Issac, date of birth unknown.

Eliza, born 1864 at Whiteville, died 1950 in Crange, TX.

Eliza married Willie Jason White and their children were:

Willie, born Aug. 23, 1884.

May, born 1885, died young.

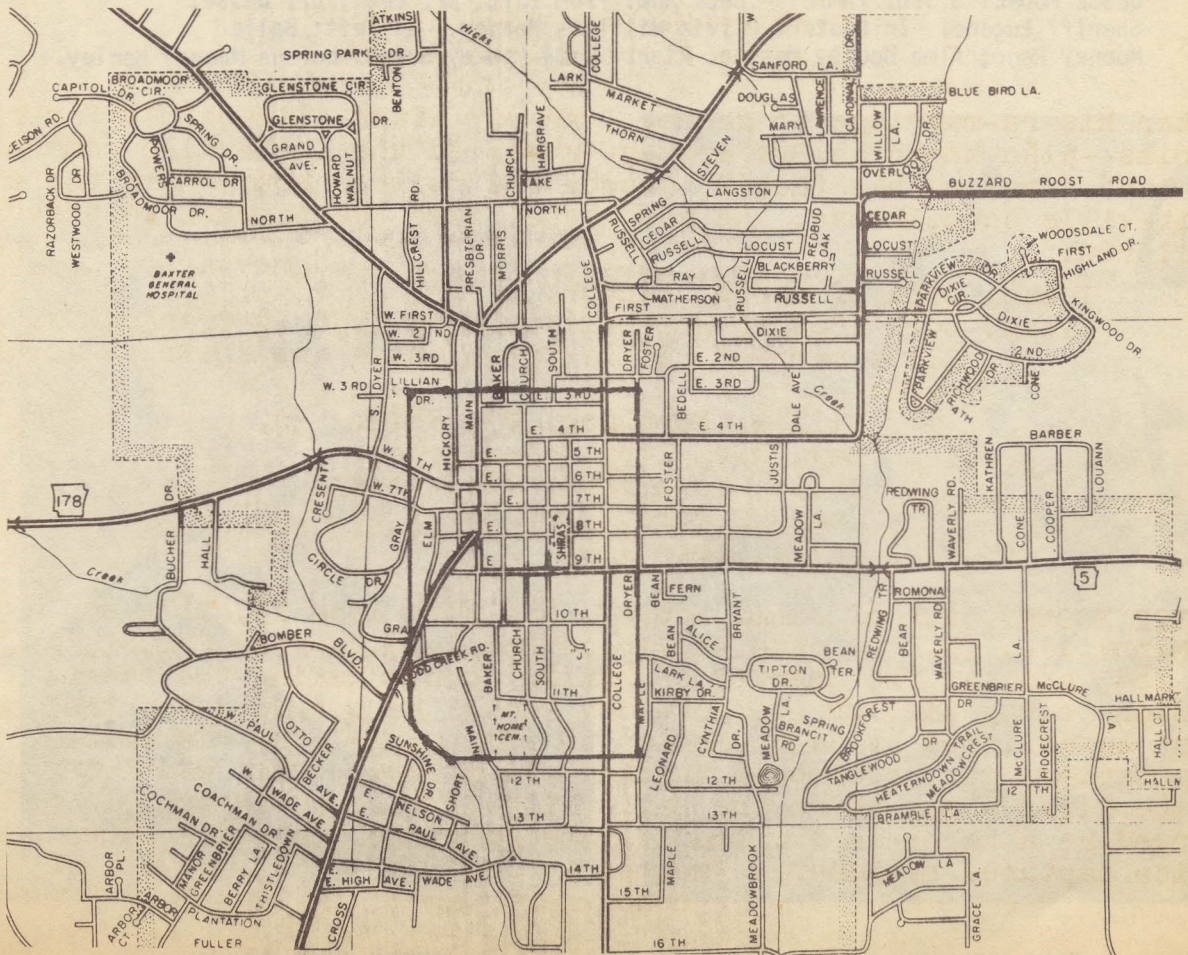
Katie, born 1886, died young.

James Claude, born April 17, 1887

Lelia, born 1890

JESSE MOONEY, son of Jacob Mooney, was born June 15, 1818 at McMinnville, TN. He came to Marion County, AR. from August, AR. in 1843 and was the Sheriff of Marion County during the famous Marion County War, or Everett-Tutt Feud. He operated the trading post established by Jacob Mooney in 1811 along with his cotton plantation, gin, steamboat landing and saloon. This was located on White River about where the Valley Fly-In Airport is today. He served as a Major in the Confederate Army and was twice wounded and twice captured by Federal Troops.

cont. next page)

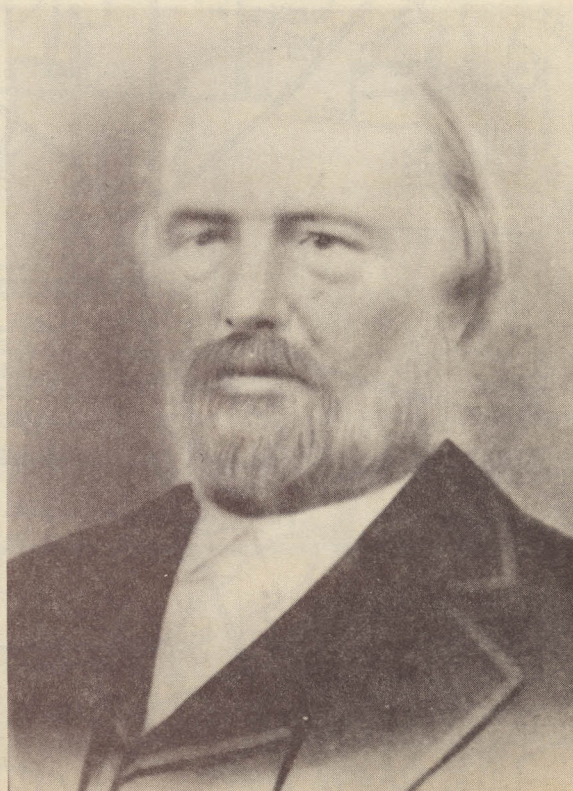




JESSE MOONEY'S 3rd. FAMILY - Back Row: from left, Dr. Leon; Dr. Jesse; Sheriff Eugene. In Center: Olivia Williams Mooney. On left: Belle Mooney Reno; Alma Mooney Messic. Right: Emma Mooney Suggs; Lorena Mooney Henley.



ALMA IRENE MOONEY



MAJOR JESSE MOONEY

## JACOB MOONEY - cont.

Jessie Mooney died June 9, 1884 and is buried in the Gassville cemetery, under the giant trees of paradise.

The name of Jesse Mooney's first wife is unknown. In the 1850 census of Marion County they are listed as the parents of:

Tom, born 1835 in TN.

John B., born 1837 in TN.

Daniel M., born 1841 in Arkansas

Calvin, born 1846 in AR.

Jesse Mooney was very young when he married the first time, and his wife taught him how to read and write, so well, that later he became a very successful business man and lawyer. Nothing is known of their family, except that Tom was presumably killed during the Marion County War on his way back from Little Rock where he had gone to request help for his father from Gov. Roane.

In 1848 Jesse Mooney married Sarah Haynes, born 1824 in Georgia. Sarah died in 1864 and is reported to be buried at Pyatt, AR.

They were the parents of:

George Clayton, born 1848 in AR., died 1927 at Purcell, OK.

Clayton entered the Confederate service with his father and served as his scout, receiving the honorary rank of Captain.

Clayton married Amelia Williams, daughter of Barnett and Mary Jane Black Williams, born 1849 in Georgia.

Calhoun Mooney, born 1850 June, died August 1885 and is buried at Gassville beside his father. Calhoun was married to Narcissa Jane Harvey, born 1853 at Rolla, Mo.

Martha Mooney, born 1852, married John Williams, son of Barnett Williams. They moved to Lampasses, TX.

Greenwood Mooney, born 1857.

Mary Jane Mooney, born 1859 at Gassville, married Robert Foster Farmer in 1874 and moved to Lampasses, TX.

After the Civil War, Major Jesse Mooney married Olivia Williams, born March 11, 1840 in North Carolina. Died Dec. 11, 1928 and is buried beside her husband at Gassville. She was the daughter of Barnett and Mary Jane Black Williams and a sister of Amelia and John, who married her husband's children by Sarah Haynes. Jesse and Olivia were the parents of:

Dr. Jesse Mooney, Jr., born July 7, 1866 at Gassville, died 1915 at McCloud, OK. He married Ella Courts Ridley, daughter of Dr. Robert Courts and Nira Coleman Ridley, born in Callaway County, KY. Oct. 18, 1867 and died Oct. 17 1952 at Shawnee, OK. Ella was the first registered lady pharmacist in Oklahoma. She attended the Gassville academy as a girl and one of her best friends was Belle Mooney. One day she saw this handsome young man in Gassville and told Belle that was the man she wanted to marry. Belle said "Oh, I'll introduce you, that's my brother, Jesse!"

## JACOB MOONEY - cont.

Lura Belle Mooney, born Jan. 7, 1868 at Gassville. Died Aug. 11, 1952 at Cotter and is buried in the Gassville cemetery. She married Williams Sherman Reno, son of John and Belinda Reno in 1899.

Emma Mooney, born 1872 at Gassville, died 1943 and is buried at Whiteville near the Old Jake Mooney and Uncle Bye Mooney farm. It is also reported that Jacob Mooney is buried there and periodically haunts the cemetery as his grave was fenced out of the cemetery proper. Emma married Belle Suggs, born 1872, died 1942.

Sheriff Eugene Williams Mooney, born Jan. 30, 1874 and died Oct. 5, 1907 in Oklahoma. Sheriff Mooney accidentally shot himself while bringing a prisoner back by train from Oklahoma. He was married to Linda Elizabeth Anglin, daughter of Matt and Orlean Collis Anglin, born March 18, 1873 at Gassville and died March 20, 1952 and is buried beside her husband in the Gassville cemetery. After Eugene's death, Linda married Milton Mooney, son of George Clayton and Amelia Williams Mooney.

Dr Milton Leon Mooney, born Dec. 12, 1876 and died April 1, 1947. After Eugene's death, Leon served as Sheriff and saved his money for medical school. His first wife was Laura Martin, daughter of Dr. D. P. and Mary C. Martin. His second wife was Effie Baker, daughter of William J. and Rebecca Rose Baker.

Lorena Mooney, born Sept. 11, 1879, died July 10, 1918 and is buried at Gassville. She was married to Thomas Henley, son of Joseph M. and Elizabeth Hawkins Henley. She was named by Major Mooney for his favorite Civil War ballad "Lorena".

Alma Irene Mooney, born 1884 and died May 1938 and is buried at Gassville beside her parents. She married William Alfred Messick, son of Alfred Christopher and Elizabeth Jane Trammell Messick, born 1877, died 1940.

Jacob Mooney and his second wife, name unknown, were the parents of two daughters, Mary Jane and Polly A., and one son, Issac. All that is known of Polly is that she married near Springfield, MO. and was the mother of 19 children. Issac moved to Indian Territory about 1880.

Mary Jane Mooney, daughter of Jacob Mooney was born August 4, 1831 in Tennessee, died 1906 at Theodosia, Mo., married William J. McDonald and they were the parents of:

John Henry McDonald, born March 10, 1854 in Tx., died 1919 at Springfield, Mo. He married Rebecca Mary Ann Turner.

George W. McDonald, born Dec. 1, 1864 in TX., died Sept. 19, 1932 at Gainesville, Mo. Married Julia J. Early.

JACOB MOONEY - cont.

Mary Nora McDonald, born August 22, 1874 at Gainesville, Mo. died June 15, 1947. She was married Jan. 20, 1895 to Jesse Carter Wood, born Dec. 21, 1870.

It would probably be impossible to write the complete history of the Jacob Mooney family as many were the parents of a dozen children or more, and they married into the same families so much--such as the Williams and Anglin families. Beginning at the Whiteville church and school and going up Rainbow Drive, you are in "Mooney Country". This area has become a mecca for Mooney descendants, who often wonder what Jesse Mooney would think if he could see airplanes landing in his cotton fields. We feel he would be very pleased--as far as he was concerned Progress was the Name of the Game! He helped organize Baxter County and served as attorney for the city of Mountain Home and for the county. Besides his well known family, political and business activities, he had two other claims to fame. In 1859 he took his steamboat, THE RAY, to the mouth of James River, the farthest point up White River a boat ever reached. In the spring of 1862 it was rumored that he bragged about having the honor of shedding the first Federal blood to fall on Arkansas soil. This was after Federal troops had commandeered his ferry boat. Shortly after this brief battle, Mooney was captured by Federal troops and taken to the infamous Garriot Street Prison in St. Louis, Mo.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mary Ann Messick, author of our story about JACOB MOONEY is also the author of "HISTORY OF BAXTER COUNTY", an excellent book. Mary Ann has been writing and telling the stories of people of the region for a long time. We hope to hear from her again in the near future.

Joseph & Irma Bloom

\* \* \* \* \*

Understand the U. of A. at Fayetteville has some very helpful material for the genealogical researcher. The University Library has the Federal Census of Arkansas as well as many histories of the region.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Public Library at Fort Smith specializes in the history of west Arkansas. Records have been compiled from funeral homes since 1880. They also have an index for the 1830 Federal Census of Tennessee.

Genealogical Notes by Joseph & Irma Bloom  
R. 4, Mtn. Home, Ark.

\* \* \* \* \*

COMMENTS: by Robert L. Gatewood, President and Editor, Bradley County Historical Society, Warren, Arkansas.

The following are excerpts from R. L. Gatewood's letter to our President, Quinby Smith.

"If I might I should like to point out an error in your article Prehistoric vs History"---I do this not with criticism but in an effort to help. No one person can know everything about everything but within your Society should be people of various disciplines and thus each should read the various articles before they are published so that errors can be kept to a minimum. For these articles will be kept for generations and any errors which are allowed to stand will in later years be slavishly copied for most people are lazy and if they find their work already done (some student, perhaps, writing a history theme in school) they will copy down what they find in archives without question.

Thus with historians the foremost question should always be suspicion. Or is this correct? Or is this logical? Did this really happen in the time frame given it?

To give you two examples of gross errors. First in Faulkner County. Goodspeed along with later authors always said the county seat, Conway, was named for the Conway family of Arkansas history who were governors. Yet the truth is that in reality the town of Conway was named for the work train engine "The Conway" owned by the Fort Smith-Little Rock Railroad Co. The town itself was developed by the railroad's chief engineer Asa P. Robinson and HE ordered the engines and named them and thus the town of Conway was named for the first engine delivered to the railroad for use.

Secondly, a son of Hugh Bradley is quoted in Goodspeeds County History of Arkansas (same as above reference) as saying that the city of Warren, in Bradley County was named for a Negro slave of his father Hugh Bradley, Sr., for whom the county was named. The truth is that when broken off from Union County the new county of Bradley (1840) already had a Warren township, a prominent family by the name of Warren and one of whom would be district representative in Washington and thus Hugh Bradley, Jr., story is incorrect. In addition the town itself was not developed by Hugh Bradley, Sr., but by others and they thus would not give him a chance to give THEIR town a name.

Your error occurs when you say "Both Arkansas and the Ozarks are Indian words, or derived from Indian words".

Arkansas could be, possibly debatable, Ozark never. For you see Ozark is a French word, pure Gallic, and not based upon the remotest portion on an Indian corruption.

I am aware that the Arkansas and Missouri literature is full of stories that the word "Ozark" is a corruption of the common Osage tree or Osage Orange tree as some call it, or Maclura aurantiaca, as named by Thomas Nuttall and said to be called by the French trappers bois d'arc or bow wood and thus corrupted somehow into Ozark, the Osage Indians using the wood for bows.



COMMENT - by Roby. Gatewood, cont.

It is wonderful that many historians never consult the experts. While writing "A History of Faulkner County" in 1964 I consulted the late Dr. Ethel M. Wilson, of Conway, who took her doctorate from Northwestern University in French and here is what the French language tells us.

In 1790 when these French explorers came here about 1790 or even earlier thus in this wild range of hills when they met by accident in this forest of trees they might say to one another "Gaston, from where have you hunted?". Gaston, then in turn might say, "Pierre, waving his hand in a wide gesture to the north, "At the place of the bows." Meaning with the Osage Indians who used long bows of wood throughout north Arkansas, southern Missouri and even further west.

Now this conversation was spoken in French and the French for "At the place of the bows" is "Aux Arcs". Thus the American word is easily plain from the unique methods of pronouncing French, without corruption in any manner.

The French word for "at" is "A". "The" becomes "les". To make a phrase, however, "at the" our French form becomes ~~saapp~~us les or "aux". Add to this "arcs" which is the French for "bow", we now have "aux arcs" or at the bows.

Here a unique twist takes place for when two French words are used together and the final word begins with a vowel we must change the final letter of the first word and the first letter of the next word into "z". Thus we are able to finish our diagram.

Aux Arcs -----	Aux Arcs (Auz zrk <del>s</del> )? -----
the name we use today.	O z rk. It was and is simply Ozrk the name we use today.

I trust that you do not think me peevish, but I am attempting to show that history is a very serious matter. One does not just sit down and say, "Today I will write some history". One must consult the known authorities, if any, do some spadework in the archives (the only reliable authority), indeed much spadework, before committing to paper, and quarterly publications, the result of any investigation of a given subject.

Greetings, and best wishes as you begin your Society.

Robert L. Gatewood, Pres. and Editor  
Bradley County Historical Society  
Warren, Ar 71671

## OUR HERITAGE - FLOWERS

by Hazen Bonow

In the early Spring as one travels along the country roads you will see Daffodils and Narcissus blooming where there was once a farm house. Occasionally there will be a fireplace chimney still standing where the home once stood. These daffodils seem to announce the beginning of Spring and are always such a delight to see. I have the desire to stop and pick a few but Walter always says "NO!"

Flowers were a part of the pleasures of the early settlers. The busy housewives took time from their many chores to plant, care for and enjoy their beauty. Many an old log cabin had a Wisteria vine clinging to the porch. There were the old-fashioned roses with a fragrance all their own. The "seven-sisters" rose was a rambler rose in those days. Cuttings of roses were made and placed in the ground with a Mason jar or glass covering them until they rooted ready for transplanting. Hollyhocks could be seen along the garden fence and there were the "flags" (now called Iris) and the spicy scented pinks growing near by. The honeysuckle seemed to grow wild by the side of the roads and near old cemeteries. They are so fragrant!

Some sixty years ago I remember the rows of Sweet-peas, Nasturtiums and Pansies my mother planted yearly. It was my job to pick them daily to keep them blooming. I have tried so much to grow some like them in my flower beds without success.

Our present home is near the old Oakley farm. There is still the remains of the very small house but the yard has Daffodils, Narcissus, Roses and Tiger Lilies growing. Olive Knight and I love to roam in this area every Spring.

There is an old saying "If you say Thank You for a gift plant or cutting it won't live".

We should be grateful that we have the love of flowers as one of our heritages.

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## BAXTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRESS

Our 1975 membership totaled 64 with an average attendance of 35 at our meetings. Our programs have been very worth while and of a great variety.

OCTOBER - Elmer Rexin gave a program on "Earthquakes in Arkansas". He has a seismograph which records the strength and approximate locations of the tremors. He told of the past earthquakes in our area, and the possibility of more. Our nearest fault is in the vicinity of Bull Shoals.

NOVEMBER - Mr. William Durow, an antique collector, talked on old time tools. He displayed a large number of wooden tools and explained how they were used. Similar tools were probably used on the old Casey house.

DECEMBER - a DELICIOUS old-fashioned Christmas dinner was planned by Alice Mae King and Veronica Hambleton. They prepared turkey, dressing, gravy etc., while the rest of the menu was pot-luck style. Thanks to Alice Mae and Veronica for the excellent food and the beautiful table decorations.

All the 1975 officers were unanimously re-elected for the coming year.

Hazen Bonow - Historian

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"A GOOD CURE FOR THE ITCH - AS EXPERIENCED BY WELTMER KING"

As young teen agers the King boys - Edgar, Elmer and Weltmer had a bad case of the itch. This disease never ceased to be a problem in the early school rooms. The King boys - now all deceased - were sons of Charles and Maggie Sanders King of Advance. They caught the disease from school mates at the Advance school. They also gave the disease to a few friends. That school was about two miles from the present Russell Razor store.

The boys heard of a good remedy that was sure to cure - boiled poke root. They built a big fire in the outside kettle and made a good strong mixture of the root letting the mixture cool some before they carried it up the stairs to their bedroom. Weltmer was the first patient to try their remedy. He stripped down to his birthday suit and stepped happily into the pleasant looking medicine thinking of the disappearance of his irritating malady. His brothers and a friend with the same malady wanted to help him so they poured the medication on his shoulders and back. Weltmer jumped out and ran screaming down the stairs and through the dogtrot to the creek - still in his birthday suit. Needless to say the other boys were afraid to try the treatment - but Weltmer was cured!

Alice Mae King

## GUIDE TO VITAL STATISTIC RECORDS IN ARKANSAS - CHURCH ARCHIVES

Prepared by The Arkansas Historical Survey Project, Division  
of Community Service Programs, Works Projects Administration.

## BAXTER COUNTY

## BIG FLAT:

Assemblies of God, 1923--Big Flat  
Register: Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of A. S.  
Kelley, (1940--). Big Flat.

Independent.  
Church of Christ, 1866--, Big Flat.  
Register: Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of  
A. S. Kelley, (1866--). Bog Flat.

## CLARK RIDGE:

Independent.  
Church of Christ, 1940--, Clark Ridge.  
Register: Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of  
Johny Crawford, (1940--). Clark Ridge.

Church of Christ, 1934--. Clark Ridge.  
Register: Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of Albert  
Lewis, (1934--). Clark Ridge.

## COTTER:

Baptist.  
First Baptist Church, 1904--. Cotter, Ark.  
Register: Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of  
Homer Goodman, (1904--.) clerk, Cotter.

Methodist.  
Cotter Methodist Church, 1904--.  
Register: Record of Marriages, and Members, 1 vol., in  
custody of (1911--) Mrs. Frank Ortman, Cotter.

Presbyterian.  
Correr Presbyterian Church, 1908--.  
Register: Record of Members, and Deaths, 1 vol., in  
custody of Grant (1909-33.) Bridgeman, clerk, Cotter.

## CUMI:

Baptist. Now Athons Baptist Church, 1891--. Cumi.  
Register: Record of Members, 2 vols., in custody of  
Charley Tolbert, (1900--,) clerk, Cumi.

(to be continued)