

# Poplar Ridge School

*“Still Standing  
After All These Years”*



**1858 - 2008  
CELEBRATING  
150 YEARS**

**A smattering of history in SE Madison County**

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**By  
Priscilla J. Scott  
Secretary  
Poplar Ridge Homemakers**



### The Author

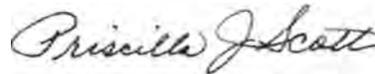
Twenty Five years ago, my family moved to New Hope, Alabama, from Franklin, Illinois. My husband's job had been eliminated in Springfield, Illinois, and the opportunity came to be a part of the Space Shuttle Program in Huntsville, Alabama. John and I came down for his first two weeks training, and to find a place to make our new home, and thanks to Margaret Earl Mann, we found 854 Old Gurley Pike, New Hope, Alabama! It was certainly NEW HOPE! that we needed.

While Margaret Earl was finalizing the loans, closings, etc., she mentioned that New Hope had a football game at Brewer on Friday night and why didn't we come and meet some of the people! She already knew our two High Schoolers would be in the band. Our home school didn't even have football, but we didn't have anything better to do, so...we went!

We called the movers on Monday, to finish packing, and went home the next weekend to gather up the three kids and say our goodbyes, and were back in New Hope to register for school on Wednesday of the third week.

Six weeks after we moved in, I went to my first "Home Demonstration Club" meeting! I've held several positions through the years, in the club, which is now "Poplar Ridge Homemakers". Currently, I am back in the position of Secretary, and so I am:

Respectfully yours,



Priscilla J. Scott, Secretary  
Poplar Ridge Homemakers



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“Still Standing After All These Years”

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## Acknowledgements

Big Thanks to:

- Members of the Poplar Ridge Homemakers who have tried to be patient with me.
- Doris McGee, a sounding board to help fill in the gaps and correct me.
- John Ed and Cornelia Butler for their vigilance in keeping us aware of things needing to be done at the school. They have answered many questions and provided a few pictures.
- Nellie (Moon) Martin, who also keeps an eye on the school up the road, and has spent much time listening to my questions and answering with her lore, and who lived where, and was related to whom.
- Charley McPeters has a wealth of information that he has absorbed from stories his Moon and McPeters relatives have handed down. He provided pictures also.
- Wyona Moon for writing the Moon book, that helped me visualize this one.
- Louise Brockway Thedford has been an inspiration to me. She has gathered an unbelievable amount of Genealogical information, published a number of local family genealogy books, and made them available to the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library for reference. She even took the information that she didn't use for her own families, and put it on a CD Rom titled "Pioneer Families" for others to be able to use for making their own family trees. With her permission, I printed out the indexes of names for the families on the CD Rom, and put that notebook in the reference department at the library. I have spent many hours searching in [www.dimplesattic.net](http://www.dimplesattic.net) and the searches there have helped with this book.
- Teresa Ballard, who knows all the tricks of researching on the internet, to how to find ways to get around the roadblocks. She introduced me to Madison County Records Center!
- Kudos to Rhonda Larkin, and all the volunteers who make the information from the Madison County Records Center available to the rest of us out here.
- All those who work in the Heritage Room at Huntsville-Madison County Public Library.
- Lou Ann Poole, and her mother, Syble Whitaker. If they don't already know it, they know where to find it. If not, call Teresa!
- Mr. William Sibley researched in old newspapers for Poplar Ridge headlines, and provided a couple of teacher pictures.
- Buddy Hilliard, who has written several Cemetery books for the local area has assisted me also. I attended the Hayden Cemetery Walk off Poplar Ridge Road, Saturday before Mother's Day, and got to know some of the people in this book, dead or alive, a little better.
- Bertie Faye (O'Neal) Preston furnished the Branum pictures. I didn't even use half of what she had available. I hope she will get a Branum book made. To my knowledge non exists.
- The men and women at the New Hope Senior Center have helped to keep me straight about who is related to whom, and where they live or lived.
- Bobbi Keene and Gerry Brown and fellow volunteers at the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library at New Hope, for putting up with me doing my own research while I was supposed to be on duty, as well as loaning out books that aren't loanable!
- Many others who answered their phone, having no idea what I was talking about, but furnished what information they could.

I'm sure I've left out more than I included. but this has definitely not been a one person job!



## Foreword

The idea for this book really began when I started to put together the materials from the Dedication Day for the Historical Plaque at the Poplar Ridge School, in October 2003. We wanted to donate the information to the newly formed Historical Association in New Hope.

Someone noticed that the school started in 1858, so, this would be the 150<sup>th</sup> year. The next Poplar Ridge Homemakers meeting, we decided to have a Sesquicentennial Celebration on July 12, the closest Saturday to the signing of the deed 150 years ago.

It's my thought, with this book, everyone will have something to take home with them as well as spark an interest in creating their own "Family Tree", if one does not already exist. The books and family files presently in the library, make me wish there were more, and so this will make one more.

I have truly enjoyed working with everyone digging up historical records and finding the information herein. There has been some frustration also, when there seemed to be no source to make a connection, but I've tried to make a connection between the benefactors of the land and the trustees named, to their descendants that still live in the area.

When we first moved to New Hope, I was warned to be careful who I talked about, because everyone was related! This project has really shed a light on that truth, and yet, I find, it's amazing how many Cobbs aren't even related to each other!! I neglected to say in the Acknowledgements, that Lou L. Sams website "THE COBB FAMILIES OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA" helped me not only with the Cobbs, but with the reality of the need to double check everything and somehow keep track of your sources. I had not done that, and therefore, in this book I have just listed places I looked and found information, but a lot of this material is word of mouth, and I didn't always record whose mouth it was! I've tried to prove as much as possible, and even removed some information I had because of a sniggle of doubt. I hope you will read to enjoy, but check and double check, if you want to use it to prove your genealogy.

The sale of the George Taylor Moon property in the Poplar Ridge and Cherry Tree Road area was a strong impetus to make me aware that nothing is forever except God and our soul. Houses get torn down and roads get moved and whole families move in and out through the years. What was bought for \$1.25 per acre, in the 1830's can bring up to \$12,000 per acre.

If you the reader, see any discrepancies, please feel free to post a note or contact me in some way of the change needed.

Thank you for letting me share in your lives.

Priscilla J. Scott  
Secretary, Poplar Ridge Homemakers

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256-725-4397 or 256-655-4105

To start at the beginning, I had to ask, "Why is it called Poplar Ridge?" Teresa Ballard put me onto a book right there in our own library shelves, titled, "On the Occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Alabama", a Valley Leaves special edition. December 1969. It is a book well worth the read, if you're interested in the real history of Poplar Ridge, and in fact the whole area. Starting in the middle of that book is a section titled, "Later History of Madison County. And, Incidentally, of North Alabama", written by "a Reliable Scribe". I'm including here, from Chapter IX – New Madison (written March 27, 1884), page 76, part of the closing descriptive paragraph, that answers my question, and baits my curiosity for even more searching.

"South of Keel's Mountain there are many mountain spurs and detached ridges interspersed over an otherwise level country between the waters of the Paint Rock and Flint, giving great diversity of soil, including the pine flats west of New Hope, the rich alluvial lands on the banks of the rivers, the black fertile lands of the cedar ridges, and the dark clay soil of the Cedar Ridge and Paint Rock, once covered with the magnificent poplar growth from which Poplar Ridge precinct derives its name. The northern portion of New Madison is mostly in the coves and valleys of Mountain Fork and Upper Hurricane, comprising some of the finest lands in many respects in the county. The region known as New Madison was formed by nature for the home of small farmers, and but little over half a century has elapsed since its permanent settlement. In no other portion of North Alabama has the population been more permanent or the original settlers as largely represented by their descendants on the homesteads of their fathers. A large number of these old pioneers have passed away in the memory of the present generation, and a few here and there still survive and live on their old homesteads purchased in 1830, and I propose before proceeding in the history of the county to devote one or more chapters to the memory of the pioneers of New Madison, who were here at the time of the land sales, and give their location."

Chapter X – "Land Sales of July, 1830", begins: "The preemption law was enacted in May, 1830. This act gave to all parties who were in actual occupancy or who had cultivated or improved any public lands in the year 1829 the privilege of filing a preemption claim on their lands and obtaining a patent at the minimum price fixed on government lands, and fixed the minimum price at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and reduced the minimum of quantity from one hundred and sixty acres down to eighty, except for fractions ranging over eighty acres and less than one hundred and sixty. This was a valuable concession to actual settlers wanting small homes, as each settler who could command one hundred dollars could secure his home.....the greater part of these lands sold at low prices and were bought by actual occupants."

Chapter XII has further descriptions and includes names of the early pioneers.

Seanah Smith began purchasing land in 1839 when Martin Van Buren was President, of the United States. In 1850, he purchased more under Millard Fillmore's term, and a part of this land he sold to the trustees of Township #5, for the sum of one dollar, for the purpose of a public school. Notice at the top of his land purchase, "Cherokee School Lands".

*Cherokee School Lands* 145

**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

CERTIFICATE }  
No. *610* }

**To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:**

**WHEREAS** *Seanah Smith, of Madison County, Alabama,*

*has* deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the REGISTER OF THE LAND OFFICE at *Montville* whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said *Seanah Smith,*

*according to the provisions of the*

*Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section twenty four in Township five, Range two, East, in the District of Lewis subject to sale at Montville, Alabama, containing forty acres, and so thirty five hundredths of an acre,*

*according to the official plat of the survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, which said tract has been purchased by the said Seanah Smith,*

**NOW KNOW YE,** That the United States of America, in consideration of the Premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress, in such case made and provided, **HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED,** and by these presents **DO GIVE AND GRANT,** unto the said *Seanah Smith,*

and to *his* heirs, the said tract above described: **TO HAVE AND TO HOLD** the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature, thereto belonging, unto the said *Seanah Smith,*

*and to his heirs and assigns forever.*

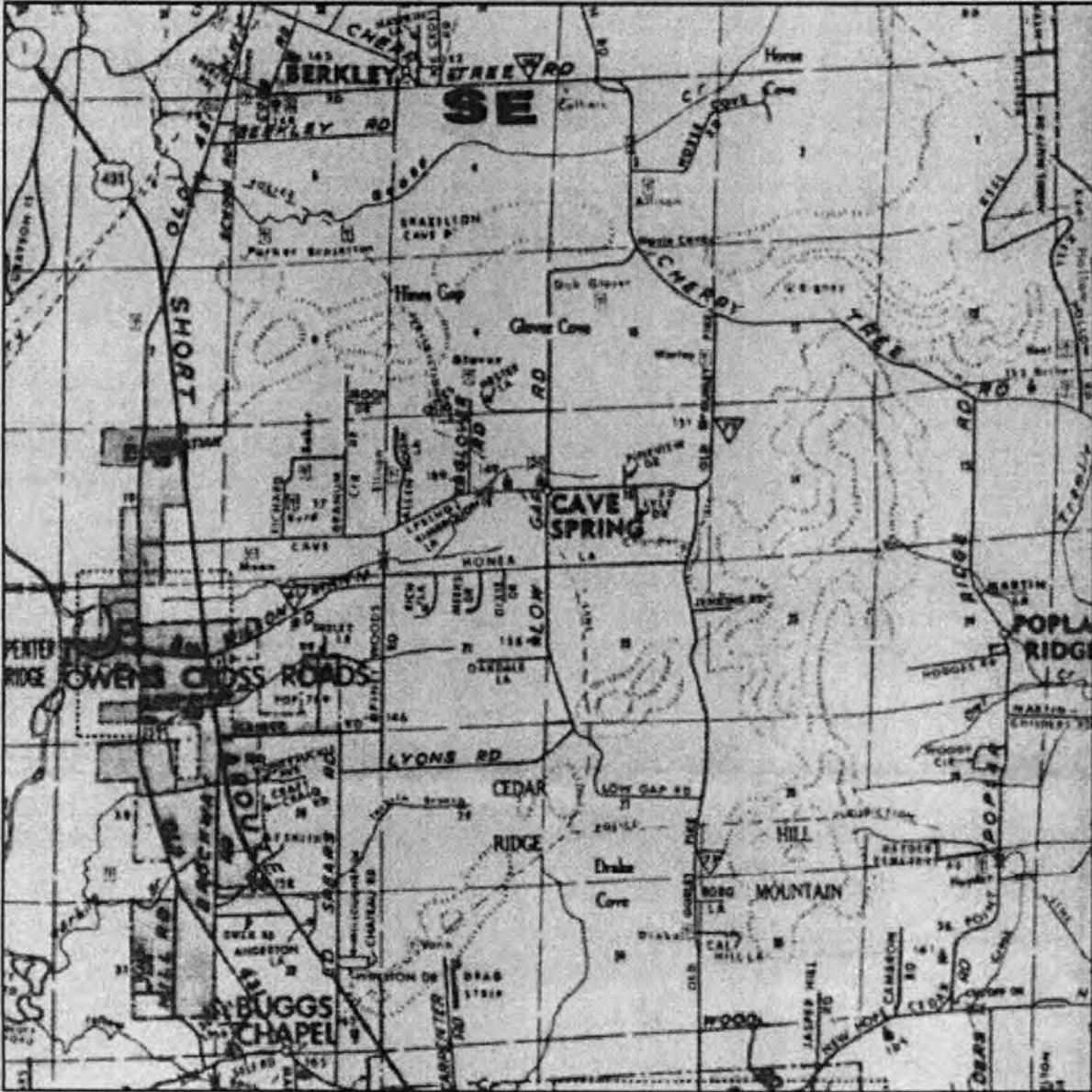
**In Testimony Whereof,** *Millard Fillmore*  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made **PATENT,** and the **SEAL** of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

**GIVEN** under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the *twentieth* day of *August* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *fifty* and of the Independence of the United States the *Seventy fifth*

**BY THE PRESIDENT:** *Millard Fillmore*  
By *E. M. Evans* Sec'y.  
*A. J. Sargent* Recorder of the General Land Office.



Range 2 East, Township 5 South  
Madison Co., Alabama



This 1978 map shows the Sections as well as the names of the roads in the area. The small square below the Poplar Ridge dot, at the corner of Hodges Road and Poplar Ridge Road, indicates the piece of land that was sold to the Madison County Board of Education by Seanah and Margaret Smith in 1858. This map was copied from a link that Louise Brockway Thedford has on her [www.dimplesattic.net](http://www.dimplesattic.net) site.

*Seanah Smith, and wife*

Deed of Conveyance.

*Dickson Cobb, James H. Poor, and Canada Butler, Trustees*

*This Indenture made this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight between Senah Smith and Margaret B, his wife of the County of Madison in the State of Alabama of the one part, and Dickson Cobb and James H. Poor, and Canada Butler, Trustees of Publick<sup>1</sup> Schools in Township No. 5 and their successors of the other part witnesseth, that the said Party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar to them in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath this day given, granted, bargained, and sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents doth give, grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release, convey and confirm unto the said Parties of the second part a certain Peace or Parcel of land lying and being in the County of Madison and State of Alabama, and more particularly described as lying in the South East corner of the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section (24) Twenty Four, Township No. 5, Range 2 East, containing one acre and twenty five hundredths of an acre. Said lot of Land conveyed to the said Parties of the second Part for the entire use of said Township to erect a house to be kept up and used as a Publick School House. To have and to hold the above described and hereby granted premises with the Tennemints and appertences thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining unto the said Parties of the second part and their Successors as aforesaid for the purposes before mentioned and the said parties of the first part for themselves their heirs, Executors and Administrators do hereby and in consideration of the premises Warrant and Will defend the title to the above described and hereby granted Premises unto the said Parties of the second part as aforesaid (so long as said Land shall be used for the purposes before mentioned, but this conveyance to be void when the said Lot or parcel of Land shall cease to be used for the purposes before specified from and against themselves and all and every person or persons whomsoever claiming or holding under them the said Parties of the first part and also against the lawful Title, Claim or demand of all and every person or persons. Claiming or holding by, from, or under the Government of the United States. In Testimony Whereof the said parties of the first part hath hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.*

*Seanah Smith (seal)*

*Margaret B. Smith (seal)*

*The State of Alabama, Madison County. I, Canada Butler an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid hereby certifys that Seanah Smith and Margaret B. Smith, whose names is signed to the foregoing conveyance and who is known to me acknowledged before me on this day that being informed of the contents of the conveyance they executed the same Voluntarily on the day the same bears date. Given under my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 1858.*

*Canada Butler, J. P.*

*The foregoing Deed of Conveyance was delivered into the Office of the Judge of Probate of Madison County in the State of Alabama for Registration on the Thirtieth day of September in the year 1858. and was duly recorded on the First Day of October in the same year.*

*F. L. Hammond. Judge P.C.*

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<sup>1</sup> The spelling on this page is the same as in the document copied at the Madison County Records Center.

*Where the Benefactor and Trustees Lived*

**On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860, Horatio H. Haden began taking the Census for the New Hope area.**

He began that day at the home of James and Martha (*Dilworth*) Nichols. then Sam Beems, W. P. Campbell, a county school teacher, then 2 more homes before Wm. Brannum, the Blacksmith. He went to 20 houses that day. June 12<sup>th</sup> Horatio is at Eleazer Cobb's house, (Dickson's brother), then Ellick Booth, and Jackson Bond, then family 236, Dickson Cobb, a farmer born in S.C. Joseph Giles lives next to Dickson, and J. W. Branum, a county school teacher, lives with Joseph. On the 13<sup>th</sup> day, his 280<sup>th</sup> family is Jas. H. Poore. He's a farmer from Virginia. His son George lives next door. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, family 351 is Canada Butler and Nancy, living between Isaac W. Sullivans and George Martin. Rev. Bartee, the Methodist Minister, and family are living with the Sullivans. The 356<sup>th</sup> family is Seanah and Margaret Smith, who had donated land for the Poplar Ridge School just 1 ½ years ago!!

1860: S E Division, Madison, Al.

**(Dicson) Cobb 57** (*he's a PR trustee 1858*)

(*Looking at the actual page it is Dicson*)

(*Louisa*) Ann Cobb 29

(*Elizabeth*) Jane Cobb 6 (*attended school within the year*)

James (*Mote*) Cobb 4

Leaser (*Eleaser*)Cobb 25 Laborer (*this is most likely his son, b. 1835*)

Joseph Cobb 2

1860 New Hope, Madison, Ala

**Jas H. Poore 57** (*he's the PR trustee 1858*)

Lucy 52

Rob`t 16

John 14

Belinda 12

Williamson 8

Lucy A. (*Poor*) 18 (*and husband*) John P. Moon 20 and daughter Orpheus 1/12

Home in 1860: S E Div, Madison, Al

**Canada Butler 38** (*Canada is a PR trustee 1858*)

Nancy Butler 37

Jas E Butler 17

Frances Butler 13

Geo Butler 10

Margaret Butler 6

Nancy Butler 3

Hudson Butler 31

1860: SE Division, Madison, Alabama

**Lena (*Seanah*) Smith 60** (*Seanah and Margaret sold the land to the School District in 1858*).

**Margaret (*B*) Smith 56**

Henry (*Andrew*) Smith 31

Elisabeth Smith 21

Wm (*P.*) Smith 18

**SEANAH SMITH - ( Benefactor of the land for the Poplar Ridge School)**

b. Oct. 13, 1799 S.C., d. Sep. 12, 1881 Madison Co., Al. B@Hayden  
 m. 1825 Williamson Co. Tn. Margaret West, b.1803, D./ Isaac W.P. and Elizabeth West.  
 (Seanah is the son of Luke L. and Sione Smith, Williamson County, Tn.)<sup>2</sup>

1. Isaac West Smith b. Aug. 1826 d. Feb. 1827
2. Andrew Henry Smith b. 1829 Ala.
3. Elisabeth E. Smith b. 17 May 1839 Ala.
4. William Price Smith b. Dec 1849 d. Jul 1892 B@Hayden, CSA Co.H, 49<sup>th</sup> Al Inf.  
 m. Sarah J. (Sallie) Hayden b. 1850 dau. of Horatio H. and Tranquilla (Jenkins) Hayden  
 m.lic. 10-27-1866 (*The census says W.P. is b.1842; Grave Stone says 1849*)  
**(See separate page for details of William Price Smith children.)**
  - a. William T. Smith b. 1870 m. Aladie Cooper on 5 Sep 1893. (*See his own Page*)
  - b. Jeanette Smith b. 1871-1963 m. 1889 Robert Benjamin Woody (*See Page*)
  - c. Margaret Jane (Maggie) Smith b. 1873-1957 m. Robert Lee Cooper (*See Page*)
  - d. Horatio Hue Smith b. Jan. 9, 1876 on *WWII Reg.*-d. Feb. 2, 1944 B@Hayden
  - e. Susan Tea Smith b. 1878,
  - f. Senah? Smith b. 1882? (17 in 1900 census)
  - g. Gus Wilson Smith b. Feb 1884 d. Jun 1965 m. Ella Story b. Jun 1884, d. Jan 1916.
  - h. Mattie Lee Smith b. Nov 1886 m. Alonza Hughie Wilhelm (*See her own Page*)

Seanah- 2m Mrs. Sarah Ann (Susan) (Medlin) Christian Sep 1861 (MCRC)  
*(Susan is 76 and living with John and Eliza in 1910)*

5. Eliza Jane Smith b. 16 Nov 1863 d. 28 Mar 1952, B@ Gurley City Cem, Gurley, Al.  
 m. 1879 John William Harless, b. 1862, d. 1920 B@ Nelson Chapel Cem. 12 children
  - a. Baby Harless 1881-1881
  - b. Willie Eldridge Harless b. 1882
    - 1m. Dec 1905 Mary Lee Cobb b. 10 Jan 1888
      1. Marvin Wilson Harless m. Mary Evelyn (lives in Maryland)
      2. Maimie Lou Harless graduated from Gurley H.S.
    - Willie -2m. Emma Banks
      3. Lonnie Lee Harless 1884 m. Laura Humphrey
        - a. Wilbourn Humphrey Harless m. Lela Mae Hall
        - b. Bernard Ellis (Dump) Harless m. Mattie Baker
          1. Frances Harless m. Glynn Woods and 2. Tracy
        - c. Robert Lee Harless m. Mar 1949 Martha Beal
        - d. Ruth Harless m. Earl Cleveland Baker b. 1925
          1. Richard Wayne, b. 1952
          2. Earl Cleveland Jr. b. 1954
  4. Fannie Lou Josephine b. Nov 1886 d. Nov. 1981, B@ Hayden Cemetery  
 m. Atrit Atwell Hill,
    - a. Charles Graham Hill b. 1912, m. Pauline Tabor
      1. Tabor Hill m. and had 3c, Timothy, Melissa, Jerry Lynn
      2. Charles Gerald Hill m. ?, 2c, Graham and Allison in Fla.
      3. Joe Wiley Hill 1m. Barbara ? 2m. Debbie 2 sons
        - a. Joey, b. Phillip has 1 daughter

<sup>2</sup> Found Information in "Probate Genealogy of Williamson County, Tenn. at the Heritage Room in Huntsville.

- b. Nell Marie Hill b. 7 Jul 1920, m. James Long
  - 1. James Larry Long b. Jul 1944, m. Paula Frank Wright
    - a. Dustin Jay Long b. 1977, m. Tina Marie Richards, (she had 2 children by previous marriage)
    - b. Jason Paul Long b. 1977, m. Jamie Allison Cornet
      - 1. Alexia Grace Cornet Cooper b. 2002
      - 2. Gerilyn Paige b. May 2006
  - 2. Adonis Lou b. Jan 1946 m. William Harold Bailey b.1940
    - a. William Harold (Bill) Bailey b. Apr 1967, m. Deborah Hamilton
      - 1. William James Bailey b. Mar 2000
      - 2. Emma Grace Bailey b. Jul 2002
    - b. Lori Anne Bailey b. Jul 1970, m. Tim Wayne Shrode
      - 1. Riley Thomas Shrode b. Jul 2000
      - 2. Madeline Elise Shrode b. Oct 2001
    - c. Andrea Marie Bailey b. Jun 1973, m. Kenneth Wayde Abernathy
      - 1. Tyler Wayde Abernathy b. Nov 2000
  - 3. Peggy Jo b. 1956, nm. *(Peggy furnished this Hill/Long info)*
- 5. Lillie Sue Terry Harless 1889-1915 m. Marcellous U. (Selly) Hamer  
*( she died in childbirth 22 Nov 1913, the child died the next day)*
- 6. Gracie May Harless b. Sep1891- 5 May 1899 B@Hayden
- 7. Annie Drucie Harless b. Dec1893- d. 6 May 1899 B@Hayden
- 8. Walter Bernice Harless b. Jun1896- 28 Nov1969 B@ Hayden
  - m. May 1917 Bessie Wilhelm b. Jan 1898 – 23 Dec 1993 B@Hayden
    - a. b.and d. Aug 18, 1918 B@Hayden
    - b. Bernice Lorraine Harless b. Nov 1921
    - m. Oct 1940 Thomas Franklin Prestridge
      - 1. Tommy Ralph lives in Arab, 2. Beverly lives in Nashville
    - c. Billie Neil Harless b. Apr 1928 m. Shirley Phillips
      - 1. Ricky 2. Paula m. Tim Hendricks, 2c, Ashley and Alex
- 9. Mattie Ethel Harless b. Jan 1899- d. Jun 1902 B@ Hayden
- 10. Sally Kate Harless b. Dec1901- d. Jul1902 B@ Hayden
- 11. Allen Houston Harless b. Aug 1903
  - m. Emma Martin
- 12. Dama Buella Harless b. Mar 1906
  - m. Alonza Breasseale

(next page for Children of William Price Smith)

CHILDREN OF 4. WILLIAM PRICE SMITH:

- a. William T. Smith, b. 1870 (s. of William Price Smith and Sarah J. (Sallie) Hayden)
  - m. Aladie Cooper b. Sep 1893. (dau. of Andrew J. and Sarah J. Cooper.)
    - 1. Andrew P. Smith b. 1898 m. May 1920 Cecil Craft
    - 2. Almata Smith b. 1904 m. Robert Sidney Cambron,
      - a. Robert Sidney II m. Dorothy Cooper
      - b. Bobbie Jean died as infant
      - c. Barbara Diane m. Ed Glover
        - 1. Lisa Marie m. Jacob Hicks
    - 3. Earl R. Smith b. 1907
    - 4. Clyde C. Smith b. 1910
- b. Jeanette Smith, b. 1871-1963 (*Jeanette taught in Huntsville.*)
  - m. Sep 1889 Robert Benjamin Woody at the home of W.P.
    - 1. Maggie Lucy Woody b. Sep. 1890 m. Howard Moore
    - 2. Benjamin Price Woody b. 15 Jun 1894
      - m. Vinnie Spears (dau. Of John and Melissa (Cobb) Spears) 2m. Veda
        - a. Nolan Woody b.d. infant
        - b. Nannie Florence Woody b. 1916
          - m. Howard West @ Cookville, Tn.
        - c. Wilburn Wallace Woody b. 3 Apr 1922 d. ? 1m. Virginia
          - 2m. Agnes Lawson (Wright) Flannery (4 Flannery ch., 2 Woody)
            - 1. Maurice Joseph Flannery b. 1944 No Children
            - 2. Kittie Lawson Flannery m. Graf b. 1946 has 2c in Minn.
            - 3. Elizabeth Ann Flannery m. Dunn, b. 1948 has 3c in R.I.
            - 4. Thomas Wright Flannery b. 1950 d. 1988
            - 5. Robert William Woody b. 1958
              - 1m. Sharon Ann Poslajko,
                - a. Robert Chantz Woody
                - b. Ryan Price Woody
              - 2m. Roberta Moore
                - she had 2c. Kellie Cobb and Andrew Forrest.
                - Kellie has a daughter Kylie.
      - 6. Joan Florence Woody b. 1960
        - m. Michael Foote b. 1964
          - a. Thomas Foote b. 1988
    - 3. Sue May Woody b. May 1897 m. Aug 1915 Julian Elmer Sibley
      - a. Robert J. Sibley (Stone at Hayden says b. 1945 and no death)
      - b. Emma Sue Sibley 1m 2m (Peoria, Illinois)
      - c. Sarah Sibley m. (Knoxville, Tenn.)
      - d. Howard Ray Sibley m. Fernie Nell Baker (Huntsville, AL.)
- c. Margaret Jane (Maggie) Smith b. 1873- d. 14 Mar 1957 B@Hayden
  - Margaret Jane m. 1891 Robert Lee Cooper b. Jan 1868 – d. Jul 1930 B@Hayden
    - 1. Clarence Robert Cooper b. Jul 1892 d. Feb 1958 B@Hayden
      - m. Dec. 1911 Grace Beatrice Whitaker
        - a. Nancy Lee Cooper m. Austin Hornbuckle.

- 6c. Don, Steve, John, Linda, Kathy, Susan.
- b. William Rudolph Cooper, nm
- c. Simon Oberon m. Geraldine?, 1 son, Kenneth
- d. Margaret Kathleen m. Lawrence Hoggatt, nc
- e. Erma Louise m. Howard Dalton
  - 1c..Betty Rae m. Alvin Blume, 2c, Ray and Brenda
- f. Kenneth Hollis nm. Killed in WWII
- g. John Marlin died at 9 mo.
- h. Clarence Montroy m. Lela Estell (Lanier) 3c
  - 1.Montroy m. Bessie Florence Lewis, 3c, Mark, Phillip Alisha
  - 2. Judy m. ? Buckhanan , 2c, Daphine, Michael
  - 3. John m. Jeanie Jackson, 2c, Christopher and Kristi
- 2. Myrtle Cooper b. Dec. 1894 m. Joe Whitaker, 3children
  - a. Wayne 2. Loline 3. ?son
- 3. Sallie Jane Cooper b. 1898 m.1915 Shelby Whitaker went to Poplar Ridge
  - a. Morris Whitaker m. Nellie Rae Humphrey
    - 1.Jeanette married E. J. Gee, 1 child
  - b. Margaret Katherine Whitaker m. Eunice G. Keel, 1938 4c.
    - 1.June Keel m. Jimmy Dalton Mann
    - 2.Donald Keel 1m. Diane McDonald,
      - 3c, Donny, Danny, Gabriel
    - 3.Janice Keel m. Roger Stapler, 2c
    - 4.Randy Keel m. Martha Pence, 3c
  - c. Opal Lillian Whitaker m. Charles Aaron Broadway 5 Apr 1939
  - d. Lucy Whitaker 1m Edward Adams, 4c; 2m Leo Whitaker
  - e. Wallace Whitaker m. Rebecca Olene Foster d. 2008 B@ Whitaker
    - 1. Rebecca Diane Whitaker m. Michael Ricky Lovelady
      - a. Rebecca Diane Lovelady m. Bryan Mayes, 1c Ben
      - b. James Early Lovelady m. Shelly Cowart,
        - 1c James Tyler
      - c. Amy Diane Lovelady m. Marty Baswell
    - 2. Nancy Kay Whitaker m. John Robert Hicks
      - a. John Christopher Hicks m. Sharlene Spears,
        - 1. John Peyton Hicks
        - 2. Ryne Christopher
      - b. Jacob Ryan Hicks m. Lisa Marie Glover
    - 3. Denise Whitaker m. Ray Tate
    - 4. Steve Whitaker m. Corrin ?, Tenn.
  - f. Robert Grote Whitaker m. Naomi Martin,
    - 1. Cynthia
      - 1m. Steve Smith. 2 sons, Steve & Jason;
      - 2m Greg Layne
  - g.Sarah Ann m. Billy Minor, nc.
- 4. Ora Lee Cooper b. 1900 m. Ed Gardiner Butler 16 Dec 1919 was a grocer
  - a. Billie Butler m. Archie Mae Russell, 1c, Rhonda m. Ralph Cain, 4c
  - b. Jowilla Butler m. Claude Dorning, 2c, Claude Jr. and Drama

- c. Drama Butler m. Verbon Saint of Saints Carpeting, 2 sons
- 5. Gussie Cooper m. Roy Stapler, 1 son, Gene. They lived in Florida
- 6. Charles S. Cooper b. 1909-1974 m. Willie Clark, nc
  - g. Thelma Cooper b. 1912 lived in Florida
    - m. Harry Mercer, 2c Sallie Ann, Vera Jane
    - h. Robert E.(Billy) Cooper b. 1914-194? m. Mildred ?, nc.
- d. Horatio Hue Smith b. Jan. 9, 1876 *on WWII Reg.*-d. Feb. 2, 1944 B@Hayden
  - 1m. July 1901 Sarah E.Russell b.Sep 1875-d.May 1918. B@Hayden
    - 1. Elizabeth B. b. 1908?
    - 1. Louise b. 1914?
    - 2. Howard R. b. m. Ada L.
      - (Howard R. is listed as the nearest relative on Horatio's WWII Reg.)
  - 2m Dec 1919 Mrs. Emma B.Wright
- e. Susan Tea Smith b. 1878,
  - 1m. Charley C. Woody on 13 Dec. 1901
    - 1. Zada May Woody b. 1899 m. 20 Jul 1926, Joseph W. Keel  
(Charley's child when they married).
  - 2m. Albert C. Potts on 31 Aug 1935
- f. Senah? Smith b. 1882? (17 in 1900 census)
- g. Gus Wilson Smith b. Feb 1884 d. Jun 1965
  - m. Ella Story b. Jun 1884, d. Jan 1916.
    - 1. James Murray Smith b. 1912, m.Jan 1933Elma Pearl Whitaker
      - a. James Clyde (Jimmy) Smith m. Kay Taylor
        - 1. Greg Taylor Smith b.1975 m. 2003 Kay A. Langford b.1970
          - a. Sarah Katherine Smith b. Sep 2004
          - b. Hayden Randolph Smith b. Sep 2006
        - 2, Stanley Jay Smith b. 1978 m. Rachel Boyer b. 1980
      - 2. Ella Louise Smith b.1914 m. R.T. Cato, lived in Atlanta, (*called her Luke*)
- h. Mattie Lee Smith b. Nov. 1886 m. Dec 1911 Alonza Hughie Wilhelm
  - 1. Nannie J.Wilhelm b. 1913 m. Arthur Petersohn, 2 children,
    - a. Arthur Jane and 2. William Henry (Bill)
  - 2m. Glenn Billing, 1c, Douglas Glenn
  - 2. Holline M.Wilhelm m. John Allen Turner, 1 adopted child
  - 3. Edna Wilhelm b. 1916
  - 4. RaymondWilhelm b. 1922 m. Dec.1941 Dorothy Buford, 4 children  
Annette, Raymond Jr., Michael, and John
  - 6. M. L. Wilhelm b. Oct 1925 (M.L. is his legal name, named for his  
mother's initials who died the day after he was born.
    - m. Jul 1946 Ruby Mae Maples.
      - a. Micky Randall (Dick) Wilhelm b. Jul 1948
        - m. Sep 1971 Patricia Jean Price @ Goodsprings, Al. b.Aug 1945
          - 1. Rachel
          - 2. Daniel
        - b. Debra SueWilhelm b. Feb 1954
          - m. 12 Jun 1977 Kent Stephen Bliss. 2c
            - 1. Stephen and 2. John

Alonza 2m Annie Woody Apr 1926

1. Frances Sue Wilhelm b. Sep. 14, 1929  
m. May 1955 R. Coleman Wright, 2c, Patricia and Karen
2. Donald Wilhelm m. Vickie Turner
  - a. Bradley Thomas Wilhelm

Note: If your name or family has not been included where you think it should be, it is because I either did not know it went there, or I just ran out of time in researching and calling to find out descendants not already listed in other genealogies. Please feel free to let me know where names are missing, and I will try to keep track of changes needed in the Family Files at the library.

**(One of the 3 original Trustees for the Poplar Ridge School – 1958)****SQUIRE RICHARD DICKSON COBB** b. S. C.<sup>3</sup> (1803-1899), B@ Byrd

1m. Sarah b. 1825

1. John Cobb b. 1826, m. Aug 1844 Elizabeth Woods, b. 1828
  - a. James Thomas Cobb b. 1847 m. ? Cooper
    1. John Henry Cobb
    2. William Dixon Cobb
  - b. Richard, c. William, d. Kitty?, e. Ann, f. Mary, and g. Frank Cobb
2. Baby Cobb b. 1827
3. Nancy Cobb b. 1838
4. Thomas Cobb b. 1829
5. William C. Cobb b. 1834
6. Eleaser Cobb b. 1835, 1m 1855 Eliza Moon 2m. 1868 Martha Agee,
7. Sarah Cobb b. 1837, m.lic. 16 Dec 1856 to John Franklin Childress n/ 1936
8. Ripsey Cobb b. 1840

2m. Lousia Ann McKinney, Jul 1850 (dau of Thomas and Jane McKinney)

9. Elizabeth Jane Cobb <sup>4</sup> (1852-1901) B@Byrd
  - m. John Edward Maples (1846 – 1901) 12 c. Both are B@Byrd Cemetery  
(Go to ELIZABETH JANE COBB MAPLES page)
10. James Mote Cobb b.1855 d. Dec 1947 B@Byrd
  - m. May 1878 Minerva Butler (1859-1922) 19c B@Byrd
  - 10-2m Mary A. Elkins (1855-1933) B@Old Bethel, Poplar Ridge  
(Go to **JAMES MOTE COBB** page)
11. Louisa Fannie Cobb (1860-1937) m. 1879, Saint P. Ikard, she B@ Byrd
  - a. Elijah L. Ikard b. May 1880, Mountain Home, Tenn.
  - b. Savannah L. b. Sep 1881 m. Pening, NH
  - c. John Dixon Ikard b. Feb 1883, Madison
  - d. Saint Whitt Ikard b. Oct 1884, Huntsville
  - e. Effie B. b. Sep 1886 m. Clark, Falkville
  - f. Colledia Annie b. May 1888 m. ? Brooks, Huntsville
  - g. Martha H. b.Mar 1890
  - h. Eliza J. b. Nov 1891
  - i. Nannie W. b. Sep 1893 m. Cowan OXR
12. Smith D. Cobb (1863-1899) m. Dec 1884 Josie Landers
  - a. Homer Douglas Cobb (living w/Margaret Hornbuckle's in 1900)
13. Edna Caroline Cobb b.1865, m. May 1882 C.H. Rush; 2m. Damron
14. Margaret Ann Cobb (1866-1941) m. Charles Hornbuckle, B@ Byrd, 3c  
Istra b. 1896, Gracie b. 1900, Katie b. 1906
15. Martha W. (1872-1950) B@ Byrd m. Miles Jenkins Esslinger
  - a. Ida L. b. 1894, b. Perry C. b. Sep 1896, c. Maggie B. b. 1898

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<sup>3</sup> I have not proven the birthplace, but the census consistently says South Carolina..

<sup>4</sup> This family info is from "A Maple Leaf", see resources.

(from page 1 – Squire Richard Dickson Cobb)

9. **Elizabeth Jane Cobb**<sup>5</sup>(1852-1901) B@Byrd

m. John Edward Maples (1846 – 1901) 12 c. Both are B@Byrd Cemetery

a. James Posey Maples (1873-1939) m. Dec 1893 Maggie Ikard B@Byrd

1. James Herman Maples b.1895, m. Minnie Brannum, 5c

a. Magnolia Maples b.1916, m. Woodrow W. Carpenter

1. Jon Rowe, b.1939 m. 1958 Virginia Heard

a. Kelli Suzanne b. 1964, m. Mark Shull

2c, Andrea and Lauren

b. Jon Michael b. 1969, m. Teresa Poe

2c, Amanda and Anna Katherine

Jon 2m. Nancy

c. Scarlett

b. James Thomas Maples b. 1918, d. 1934 B@Byrd

c. Ira Mae Maples, b. 1919, m. 1923m. Murphy Hughes

1. Nannie Mae Hughes b. 1942

d. Walter Oneal Maples, b. 1921, d. 1969,

m. 1947 Frances Leslie Harwell

1. James Oneal Maples b. 1950, 2m.

2. Susan Maples b. 1953 m. 1971 Oneal Gibson

2. Minnie Florence Maples b. 1897 m. Oct. 1916 Richard Russell

3. Liza B. Maples m. Mar 1920 Marvin Porch

4. Betty Maples m. Dec 1927 Ed Smith

5. William Curtis Maples b. 1911, m. Dec 1939 Frances Walker

b. Madison Felix b. 1875 m. 1896 Exie Craig B@ Byrd

1. James Madison Maples b 1898, m. 1919 Tommie Edna Walker

a. James Walker Maples b. 1922, m. 1946 Joe Marie Elliott

b. Eugene Madison Maples b. 1924

1. Billy Russell Maples b. 1944 OXR

m. 1963 Ronna Gayle Shirley, 2 sons

c. Robert Murry Maples b. 1931 m. 1955 Mable Ashby

1. Cindy Maples

2. Keith Maples

2. William Wright Maples, b., m. 1921 Lucy Ann Hill

a. Exie Elizabeth b 1923, m. Lorenzia Woodis and Nelson Grafe

b. James Madison, b.1925, m. 1947 Mary Neil Wade

c. Lucy Maples m. John Sullivan

1. Nina

d. Amy Ann Maples b. 1930

m. Feb 1951 Billy George Lemley

1. Billy Lemley m. Mary Nell Clark

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<sup>5</sup> Descendants of Elizabeth Jane (Cobb) Maples are mostly from "A Maples Leaf", I have put them here in a very brief form with less specific dates etc. However, I have checked on, and added names of descendants that weren't known at the time "A Maples Leaf" was published.

- a. Amy Beth Lemley m. 1c
- b. Cary Lynn Lemley m.
- c. Jessie Lemley
- 2. Barbara Lemley
- e. Modena Maples m. J. H. Lemley
- f. William Wright Maples, Jr. b. 1935 m. 1956 Joanne Gipson
- 2m. Martha Sue Durrance
  - 1. Deborah Jo Maples b. 1957
    - m. Roy Edward Cowan, Jr.
  - 2. Johnny Maples m. Kathy Pence
    - a. Kayla Maples
    - b. Brandy Maples
- g. Mary Frances Maples m. Nolen Glover
  - 1. Ed Glover m. Diane Cambron
    - a. Lisa Glover m. Jake Hicks
  - 2. Stanley Glover
- h. Dorothy Maples m. Murril Martin
- i. John Nelson m. 1 dau, 1 son
- j. Donald Ray Maples b. 1948 m. 1972 Deborah Marcella Tipton
  - 1. Brian Maples
- 3. Virgie Mae Maples, m. 1925 Ollie A. Baker
  - a. Ollie Mae Baker, b. 1925 m. Melborn Eugene Perkins b. 1926
    - 1. Steven Eugene Perkins, b. 1965 m. Jennifer Jeffress, 2c
      - a. Katie Perkins, b. 2000
      - b. Matt, b. 2004
  - b. Guy Willard Baker, b. 1927, m. Jimmie Jones b. 1926
    - 1. Tony Baker b. 1948, m. Lanell Warren b. 1948
      - a. Shannon Baker m. Mike Dougherty
        - 1. Savannah Dougherty
    - 2. Joel Baker b. 1953, m. Debbie Chander b. 1954
      - a. Cara Baker, b. 1979, 1c. Shelby b. 1998
      - b. Casey Baker b. 1982
    - 3. Timothy Lee (Sam) b. 1959 m. Cathy Baswell
      - a. Joshua Baker b. 1992
- 4. Samuel Allen Maples m. Tressye Carpenter
  - a. Samuel Allen Maples Jr. b. 1932 m. 1957 Margaret Helen Lehman
  - b. Wanda Inez Maples b. 1948
    - m. 1968 Jimmy R. Glover, 2m. Allen Sine
      - 1. Jennifer Sine
      - 2. Tracy Sine
- 5. Bettie Ray Maples m. 1933 Alton B. Wallace
  - 4c Betty, Sue, Peggy and Jerry
- 6. Gracie Ann Maples m. 1934 George Wiley Paseur
  - a. George Wiley Paseur Jr.
  - b. John Felix Paseur m. Shirley Smith, 1 dau. Shot when 16 yr. old
    - 1. Johnny and 2. Keith

- c. Betty Ann Paseur b. 1939, m. 1964 Edward Mitchell Brown
  - 1. Melody b. 1968 m. ? Shubert, 1 dau.
  - 2. Mitchell b. 1969 m. Christine Merrill
  - d. Glenda Paseur m. Ray Patterson. 2 dau. Candy and Pamela
- 7. Olen Bruce Maples m. 1935 Bertie Lovell Butler
  - a. Martha Bruce Maples b. 1939 m. 1954 James Atchley
    - 1. Al Atchley m. Freda Anderson
    - 2. Ronnie Atchley
    - 3. Christopher Mark Atchley m. Terri Connally 3c
  - b. Michael Butler Maples b 1947 m. 1966 Rita Jean Conchin, (killed)
  - c. Lou Anne Maples b. 1954 m. 1973 Alton Leon Jackson
- 8. Amy Maples b. , m. Jim Cawthron, n.c.
- 9. Frances Maples b. m. Ellsworth Mann 2c
  - 1. Amy Ruth n.m.
  - 2. David m. Charlotte ?, 3 sons, Michael, Daniel, and Christopher
- 10 Thomas Maples b. 1919 m. 1943 Sarah Elizabeth White
  - 2 sons Larry, Tommy
- c. Lettie Josephine Maples b. 1877 m. 1898 George S. Grayson
  - 1. Mayme Grayson b. 1900 m. Tommy Self
    - a. Earlon Self, b. 1916 m. 1938 Lucille Martin
      - 5c Kenneth, Faye, Jerry, Cathy and Sherry Self
    - b. James Self m. Margie Taylor
    - c. Thelma May Self b. 1923 m. 1947 Albert Mayo
    - d. Syble Louise Self b. 1925 m. Clyde Whitaker
      - 1. Lou Ann Whitaker
        - 1m. Donald Roy Paseur, 2c. Andrew and Wesley
        - 2m. Mark Poole
    - e. Dimple Self m. William Martin 2c, Mike (died) and Regina
  - 2. Leonard O. Grayson m. 1933 Chalcie L. McCulley
    - a. Charles Edward Grayson b. 1934
      - m. Betty Joyce Hodge
    - b. Shirley Ann Grayson b. 1936
      - m. Billy Marvin Davis nc
- 3. Earnest Grayson m. Rachel Rutledge 4c.
- 4. Vennie Mae Grayson b. 1908
  - 1m. William David Osborne
  - 2m. Thomas M. Phillips
    - a. W. T. Osborne m. Carolyn Barnett
      - 3c Shelia, Mike and Rictor
    - b. Evelyn Louise Osborne, b. 1926
      - 1m. 1947 Howard Dean Golden 2c Ronald and Marilyn Golden
    - c. Dorothy Osborne m. Kenneth Dean
      - 3c Gary, Steve and Patti Dean
    - d. Eugene Osborne m. Janice Hyman nc
    - e. Melvin Osborne m. Barbara Woods
      - 4c Larry, Danny, David, and Rhonda

- f. Richard Osborne, b. 1933 m. Vera Hillis  
3c Donna, Bobby and Allen
- g. Marie Osborne, b. 1939 m. Glen Elkins  
2c Rebecca Elkins and Scott Elkins
- d. Tulletha Maples (1878)
- e. Charles Malone Maples, b. 1879, m. 1899 Lisa Effie Craig
  - 1. Lawrence Dewey Maples m.1928 Edna Cobb
    - a. Ritha Maples
    - b. Jewel Maples m. George Lemley
  - 2. Robert Shelby Maples m. 1919 Ida Mae Paseur
    - a. Marjorie Maples b. 1920 m. Johnny Isaac Myers, 3c
      - 1. Doyle Rex Myers, b. 1941
      - 2. Robert Isaac Myers, b. 1949
      - 3. Glen Garland Myers, b. 1951
    - b. Gardner Shelby Maples b. 1922 m. Doris Ruth Buford
      - 1. Margie Maples, b. 1947
    - c. Murry Malone Maples, b. 1924 m. Emma Catherine Buford
      - 1. Susan Maples, b. 1961, m. Phillip Christian
        - 2c Kyle and Jennifer
      - d. Ruby Mae Maples, b. 1926, m. M. L. Wilhelm 2c<sup>6</sup>
    - e. Nolton Maples, b. 1927 m. Dorothy Gates
      - 2c Sheri b. 1956 and Kenneth Maples b. 1960
    - f. Gladys Imogene Maples, b. 1930, m. Roy Lee Brooks
      - 1. Patricia Mae Brooks b. 1952 m. Alan Martin Lee
    - g. Chester Maples b. 1932, m. Shelby Jean Meeks
      - 1. James Murry Maples, b. 1960 m. Lora Embry
        - 2 sons Toby and Logan Maples
    - h. Shirley Maples, b. 1937 m. Billy Ray Bently
      - 2 sons Blake b. 1967 and Eric b. 1969
  - 3. Gladys Maples b. 1905 m. 1938 Vollie Emmett Kirkland
    - 4c Milton, Alton, Luther, Leon
  - 4. Charles Maples m. Easter Paseur
  - 5. Connie L. Maples m. 1928 Ethel Ricketts
  - 6. James Edward Maples, b. 1913 m. Jane Sue Godbeher
  - 7. Rayford Maples nm
  - 8. W. Ervin Maples b. 1915, 1937 Nora Ledbetter
    - 2 c. Billy and Elloweise
  - 9. Hannah Maples b. 1921, m. 1940 John Carlton Parks
    - a. Edwin Parks m. Mary Ann Martin, 2 daughters
    - b. Johnny Wayne Parks
    - c. Linda Parks
  - 10. Craig Maples b. 1924, m. Velma Lou Perkins b. 1928
    - 4c Larry, Mike, Gary and Dennis Maples
- f. Owen Duncan Maples (1881-1962) 1m. Armintie Vann, 3c in Okalahoma

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<sup>6</sup> M. L. Wilhelm and children etc. are in the Seanah Smith tree, previous.

- 2m. Stella Irene Scaggs
  - 1. Janie Marie Maples, b. 1931, m. 1949 Charles Erskine Clark
  - 2. Luzene Maples, b. 1934, m. 1954 James W. Bolton
  - 3. O. D. Maples, b. 1936, m. 1954 Tommie J. Powers
  - 4. James E. Maples, b. 1939, m. 1974 Ruby Nell Nix
- g. Minnie Bell Maples (1883-1929) m. Joseph Craig 29 Sep 1900 B @ Byrd
  - 1. Roy Ardell Craig b. 1902 m. 1925 Mamie Lou Hunt
    - a. Janie Belle Craig, b. 1928,
      - m. 1949, Willard Walton Whitaker
        - 1. Anita Joe Whitaker, b. 1953,
          - m. 1973, Russell Phillip Wingard
        - 2. Barbara Ann Whitaker, b. 1955
        - 3. Cherly Jane Whitaker, b. 1963
    - b. Doris Ann Craig, b. 1932 m. 1950, John Earl Buford
      - 1. John Earl Buford, Jr. b. 1951
        - m. 1973 Virginia Lyn Hammond
      - 2. Robert Glen Buford, b. 1954
    - c. Joe Hines Craig, m. Alene Craig
      - 2 sons, Charles Keith and Michael Scott Craig
  - 2. Mattie Esther Craig b. 1904, m. 1921 Ulos Dilworth Kennamer
    - a. Mary Belle Kennamer, b. 1922
  - 3. Fred Douglas Craig, b. 1905, m. 1930 Nannie Estelle Keel
    - a. James Douglas Craig b. 1931
    - b. Tommy Gene Craig, b. 1934
      - m. Naomi Ann Brannum
        - 3c, Cathy Ann, Carol Elaine, and Audie Bryant Craig
    - c. Jewell Dean Craig, b. 1936, m. 1955 Bobby Freeman
      - 1. Barbara Lynn Freeman, b. 1955
        - m. 1974 Howard Ray Cobb
      - 2. Donna Jo Freeman, b. 1959
      - 3. Gregory McClane Freeman, b. 1963
  - 4. Virgil Craig, b. 1907 d. 1908 B@Cedar Grove Cemetery, NH.
  - 5. Lois Craig, b. 1908, m. Clarence Brockway
    - a. Clifford Brockway m. Ruby Hanner
    - b. Roy Brockway m. Vennie Sue Goffney
    - c. Eugene Brockway m. Margaret Jones
    - d. Willard Brockway, deceased
    - e. Letha Mae Brockway 1m. ?Clark, 2m. Pat Mayo
    - f. Larry Ray Brockway
    - g. Craig Brockway
    - h. Joe Brockway m. Dora Sue Wright
      - 1. Marinda Lanette
      - 2. Gregory Paul
    - i. Johnny Brockway m. Dorothy Stapler
      - 1. David
      - 2. Lori

6. Laura Mae Craig, b. 1910, d. 1911 B@Cedar Grove
7. Larry Moore Craig, b. 1912, m. Nannie B. Smith
  - a. James Larry Craig m. Barbara ?
    - 4c Rickey, Kelley, Kalla, and Kim Craig
  - b. Curtis Craig m. Betty Martin 2c
  - c. Tony Craig
8. Joe Wade Craig b. 1914 m. 1934 Clerica Cobb
  - 5c Bobby, Wadena, Bryant, Douglas, and Debbie Wadena m. Elbert Deason, 1c, Amanda
9. William Malone Craig, b. 1917, m. Elaree Patrick
  - a. Jerry Craig m. Marian Jones,
    - 2c, Lynn and Mark Craig
  - b. Linda Gayle Craig b. 1946 m. James Nolan Hill
    - 2c. Craig and Harrell
10. & 11. Twins Elna and Elmer Craig, b. 1920
12. Margaret Inez Craig, b. 1921, m. 1938 William Doran Patrick
  - a. Wylrodene Patrick m. Doc Thompson
    - 3c. Michael, Angie, and Patrick Thompson
  - b. William Doran Patrick, Jr. b. 1944,
    - m. 1970 Ina LaNelle Patton, 1 son Ryan
  - c. Donald Patrick died at 18 years old.
- h. Edward Curtis Maples (1889-1975) m. Laura Mae Blackburn
  1. Bannie Leon Maples m. 1930 Mayme Claire Davis
    - a. Curtis Earl Maples b. 1932 1m. Goldie Lois Trapp
      1. Tony Curtis Maples b. 1955
        - m. 1974 Brenda Gail Bartlett nc
      2. Terry Maples
        - 2m. Robbie Cloud, 1 dau. Stacy
  2. Lela Belle Maples
    - 1m. 1930 Robert Easley Davis
      - a. Juanell Davis m. Billy Joe Ingram, 5c.
        - Suzanne, Elaine, Camilla, Gayala, and Curt Ingram
    - 2m. 1943 John Eddie Ray
      - b. Billy Ray m. Andy Lemley
  3. Emmett Malone Maples m. 1935 Bertha Pauline Maples
    - a. Joyce Mae Maples b. 1936 m. 1954 Frank Kelly
      1. Frankie Joyce Kelly
      2. Harold Kelly m. Annette Adams
      3. Susan Kelly
    - b. Paula Josephine Maples
    - c. Kallie Gaynell Maples
    - d. Sherry Dian Maples b. 1953, m. 1975 Byron Lamond Spurlin
  4. Edward Wilburn Maples b. 1917 m. 1948 Connie Lorene Hunter
    - 5c Michael Edward, Donna Gail, Woody Dale, Layne and Amanda
  5. Carrie Gaynell Maples b. 1921 m. 1938 John Paul Tullis 2c
    - a. Gwendolyn Tullis m. Lindsey Chandler

- 3c Jeanie, Anita and Rebecca Chandler
- b. Paul Wayne Tullis m. Joyce Jones 2 c. Paula and LeAnn
- 6. Exie Rebecca Maples b. 1924 m. 1943 Alex Dowdy
  - a. Norman Edward Dowdy m. Iris Rodgers
    - 2c Jennifer and Stephanie
  - b. James Larry Dowdy m. Stella Brooks
    - 2c James Larry Dowdy, Jr. and Donald Christopher
  - c. Barry Dowdy m. Suzanne Bafford, 1c Keith Dowdy
  - d. Karen Dowdy
- 7. James Nelton Maples b. 1931 m. 1949 Joyce Loretta Cowan
  - a. James Danny Maples b. 1951
    - m. 1971 Mary Ann Johnson, 1c Christy Michelle
  - b. Joy Gale Maples b. 1953, m. Douglas Earl Stewart
    - 3c Astasha Gayle, Tamera Nelline , and Doug Jr.
  - c. Thomas Keith Maples
  - d. Marsha Renee Maples
- i. William Delaney b.1891,
  - m. 1908 Obera Campbell 7c in California
    - Hewlett, Dempry, L. D., Alice, Susie, Edward, and Lone
- j. Oscar Lee (1892-1969) m. Tommi Davis
  - 1. Woodrow E. b. 1914 m. Marie Lyons Mann 1c Donald died.
  - 2. Gertrude Maples b. 1916, m. Olen Taylor
    - a. Glenda Taylor m. Eugene Hatcher
      - 2c Patricia and Richard Hatcher
    - b. Kay Taylor m. Jimmy Smith 2 sons<sup>7</sup>
  - 3. Mae Maples m. Mr. Brown
  - 4. Lila Maples m. Wilburn McDonald
  - 5. Erskine Maples
  - 6. Hobart Lee Maples m. Arlena Douglas
    - a. Wanda Lee Maples m. 1975 Troy B. Morris
  - 7. Ruby Maples m. Wade Esslinger
  - 8. Jo Ann Maples m. James Baker
  - 9. Leonard Maples
- k. Lawrence Dillard (1895-1971) B @ Walker
  - m. Ella Walker

Note: If your name or family has not been included where you think it should be, it is because I either did not know it went there, or I just ran out of time in researching and calling to find out descendants not already listed in other genealogies. Please feel free to let me know where names are missing, and I will try to keep track of changes needed in the Family Files at the library.

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<sup>7</sup> See Seanah Smith Tree preceding tree. Jimmy is Murry Smith's son.

(from page 1 of Squire Richard Dickson Cobb)

**10. James Mote Cobb** b.1855 d. Dec 1947 B@Byrd

m. May 1878 Minerva Butler (1859-1922) 19c B@Byrd

a. Martha Lou "Mattie" Cobb b. May 1879 d. Jul 1957 B @ Moon

1m 1897 Charley Craft

Gracy, Floyd, and Flossie were children of Charley

4. Herbert Craft m. Hattie Carpenter, 3c.

a. Tressye Craft m. ? Collins she B@ Moon

b. Mildred m.

c. Mattie m. Ed Keel

5. Hattie Craft m. Rev. Roy Stone, 2c, Virginia and Billy Stone

6. Annie Louise Craft m. Elbert Vann

a. Charles Leroy nm. died

b. James Earl m. Jean Lamb 3c, James Jr., Steve and Mark

c. Betty Faye 1m. Charles Cassidy

a. Valerie Cassidy m. Benny Pence

1. Lori

2. Heather

3. John

b. David Cassidy

c. Steve Cassidy m. Annette Luna, 1c. Stephanie Grace Ann

2m. Walter Fast, 1c. Ellen Elizabeth

7. Gardiner Craft m. Edna (Barnard) Ashmore

a. Nancy Jane m. Steve Hebert, div. 1c. Mary Jane

8. Alonza "Lonnie" Craft m. ? ? Ryder

9. Katie Craft m. Wilson Self nc.

2m. Dec 1920 Frank Brockway

b. James Clayburn Cobb (1881-1945) 1m. Nov 1903 Eliza "Cortis" Mann 8c.

1. Ruby Lee Cobb 1904

2. Lawrence William Cobb 1906

3. Walter Raymond Cobb 1908

4. Ruth Opal Cobb 1910

5. George Cobb 1913

6. James Shelby Cobb 1915

7. Jessie Woodrow Cobb 1917

8. William (Tom) G. Cobb 1920.

b-2m. Jul 1922, Lena Freeman they had 9c;

9. Clayton F. 1923

10. Edward Earl 1924

11. Howard Eugene 1926

12. Doris Jane 1927

13. Albert Leon 1928

14. Louise Ann 1931

15. Ben Clayburn 1932

16. Elsie Jean 1933

17. Ernest Boyd 1935.

- c. Sallie J. Cobb (1882-1968) m. George Castle lived in Toney
  - d. Lillie S. Cobb (1884-1970) ? Wall
  - e. Katie Mae Cobb (1889-1976 m. Nov 1909 to Adam Alexander Cobb,
    - 1. Ophelia Cobb m. Nov 1933 to Cecil O'Rear<sup>8</sup>
      - a. Mary Francis O'Rear
      - b. Robert Lindsey O'Rear m. Nedley ?
        - 1. 3c one was Brad
    - 2. Elmer Eugene Cobb m. Aug.1948 to Alma Jean Layne
      - a. Donna Cobb m. Tom Summerville, 1son Justin
      - b. Larry Cobb m. 1 son
    - 3. Roy Wilson Cobb m. Oct 1941 to Oradel Beadie Siniard
      - a. Mary Jane Cobb 1m. 1959 Grady Lee "Pete" Glover
        - 1. Gregory Lynn Glover m. Harriet Chandler, 1 son Shane
        - 2. Brian Scott Glover 1m. Margo ? 1dau. Ashley Nichole
        - 2m. Donna, 3m. Jessica
        - 3. Lee Ann Glover 1m. Alan Gibbs 2m. Carl Pounder
      - Mary Jane Cobb 2m. David McGaha nc.
      - b. Barbara Ann Cobb m. Jan 1968 Jerry Gilbert Drake
        - 1. Suzanne Drake m. Clay Giles, 3c, Kirsten, Callie, Nathan
        - 2. Bradford Jerry Drake m. 1 son
      - c. Sandra Ellen Cobb m. Jun 1970 to Bobby Gene Self, 3 dau.
        - 1. Lori Self m. Mark Jones, 2c Blake and Grant
        - 2. Karen Self
        - 3. Bobbi Lynn Self m. Greg Tilkens, 1c, Ruby Caroline
      - d. Lisa Evette m. Darryl Townsend, 3c, Jordan, Christopher, and Ryan
  - f. Robert G. Cobb (1892-1975) m. Bertie Worley, 5c
    - 1. William E., 2. James C., 3. Robert Gordan Jr., 4. Mary Virginia, 5. Ola Mae  
(*further information in the Cobb Family file at New Hope Library*)
  - g. Albert H. Cobb (1892-1960)
  - h. Bessie Cobb (1897-1978) m. 1913 Harry L. Russell
    - 1. Lee Allen Cobb m. Beulah Gibbs
    - 2. Jamie Cobb m. Eugene Maples
    - 3. "Shug" Cobb m. Baker
  - i. Clarence Cobb b.1901
  - j. Samuel B. Cobb b.1904 m. Nannie Ethel Worley, 3c
    - 1. Sam Jr., 2. Carrie Estel and 3. Doris Ann  
(*further information in the Cobb Family file at New Hope Library*)
- 10-2m Mary A. Elkins (1855-1933) B@Old Bethel, Poplar Ridge

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<sup>8</sup> Cecil was pastor of West Huntsville Baptist Church.

**(One of the 3 original Trustees for the Poplar Ridge School – 1958)**

**JAMES HARVEY POOR** b.1802 Gouchland,Va. s.of James and Martha (Mimms) Poor  
m. Lucy Houston, b.1808 Va. d.1849 Mad. Al.

(A land owner and Justice of the Peace, he married many couples in Madison County.)

1. Laura
2. Martha Caroline. b.1829 m. Aug 1850, Wm. Hughes 5c  
William b.1851, James b.1854, Mary b.1858, Robert, Lucy b.1861
3. James M. Poor b. 1831, CO E, 37 TENN INF, CSA d. 1863 B@Gurley Cemetery  
m. Feb 1853, Mary Ann Glass b. Mar. 10, 1835 d. Dec. 27, 1909
  - a. Martha b. 1854?
  - b. William M. b. 1859?
  - c. James A. b. 1861?
  - d. Mary M. b. 1863? (*John W.Cosby18 lives w/Harvey 1850*)
4. George Washington Poor b. 1834 m. Sep 1858 Mary Sewell, b. 1841
  - a. Laura F Poor b. Feb 1860 Al.
  - b. William J Poor b. Feb 1865 Al.
  - c. Arthur M Poor b. 1 Mar 1868 Al.
  - d. A S Poor b. 1871 Al.
  - e. Cecil Nuska Poor b. Jan 1877 Al.
  - f. George Derrick Poor b.Apr 1882 Al.
  - g. Robert E Poor
5. Sophia J. b. 1839 m. Jan 1859 George W. Fergerson
  - a.Sarah Fergerson b. 1861
  - b. Ann Fergerson b. 1865
6. Lucy Ann b.24 Jul 1841, d.19 Mar 1932 OXR, Al. (*See Lucy Ann's own page*)  
m. Oct.1853 John Peter Moon b. 1839, OXR, Al. (CORP CSA) d. 1912 B@ Moon
  - a. Orpheus Moon b.1860 OXR, Madison, Al
  - b. John Peter Moon Jr b.Sep 1861 (*See John Peter Moon Jr. page*)
  - c. James Robert Moon b.1866 d.1949 m. Mary Lou Beard b.1886 d.1940
  - d. William W. Moon b. 1868 m. Mar 1888 Leila Cushing 5c
  - e. Jesse V. Moon b.1871 OXR, Al., d. 1952 B@Old Bethel
  - f. Rachel Moon b.1874 OXR, Al.
  - g. Harvey C Moon b. 23 Jan 1875 d. 8 Aug 1921B@ Moon
  - h. Martha Moon b.1878 OXR, Madison, Al
  - i. Pearl D. Moon b. 1885 m. Sep 1906 Julian T. Craft, b. 1892-1958
7. Robert H. b. 1843 Co E 37 Tennessee Inf. CSA, d. 1862 B@Moon Cemetery
8. John H. A.Poor b.1845, Co F 4<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cav. CSA , d.1884 B@Stateline Cem.  
m. Susan (*could not find a marriage in MCRC*)
  - a. Emma b. 1872, b. Maggie b. 1874, c. Alice b. 1875, d. Willie b. 1878  
(*there is an Alice L. Poor 1875-1877 buried in the Stateline Cemetery*)
 Susan 2m. Dec 1885 Joseph Overton (*Willie w/Susan Overton 1900 Hazel Green, Susan is farming, mother of 4children, 3 living. Willie is a dressmaker.*)
9. Belinda b. 1849 m. Aug 1870 Henry Cobb
10. Williamson b. 1852

(From page 1 of James Harvey Poor)

6. **Lucy Ann Poor** b.24 Jul 1841, Madison, Alabama d.19 Mar 1932 OXR, Al.
  - m. Oct.1853 John Peter Moon b. 1839, OXR, Al. (CORP CSA) d. 1912 B@ Moon
    - a. Orpheus Moon b.1860 OXR, Madison, Al
    - b. John Peter Moon Jr b.Sep 1861 OXR, Madison, Al.  
*(See John Peter Moon Jr. page)*
    - c. James Robert Moon b.1866 d.1949 m. Mary Lou Beard b.1886 d.1940
    - d. William W. Moon b. 1868 m. Mar 1888 Leila Cushing 5c
      1. Katie b.Nov 1890
      2. Oscar b.Sep 1892
      3. Ellis b.Jan 1895
      4. Della b.Apr 1897
      5. Orman b. Sep 1898
    - e. Jesse V. Moon b.1871 OXR, Al., d. 1952 B@Old Bethel
    - f. Rachel Moon b.1874 OXR, Al.
    - g. Harvey C Moon b. 23 Jan 1875 d. 8 Aug 1921B@ Moon
      - m. Apr 1898 Cassie A. Maples b. Sep 1880 d.Dec 1913 B@Moon
        1. Minerva N Moon b. 1899 m. Aug 1918 John Newton Cobb
        2. Mattie B.(Pearl) Moon b. 1902 d. 19 Jul 1989 @Fyffe.  
m. 1921 Dewey Dunn, 3c, Edna Conaway, Ruby Richards, and J. D. Dunn.
        3. Harry H.Moon b. 1907
        4. Eddie Gardner b. 9 Nov 1910 d. 5 Nov. 2000
        5. Bessie A. Moon b. 1913
      - 2m.. Jun 1915 Eliza Jane Honea
        6. Harvey T. Moon b. Feb 1916 d. before 1998
        7. Arnie Clemmie Moon b. 12 Aug 1917 d. 15 Jul 2003 B@Hayden  
m. 4 Oct. 1947 Rosene Hodges b. 9 Oct 1916, d. 22 Feb 2005 B@Hayden
          - a. Betty Moon b. 1951
        8. Sadie Moon b. 11 Mar 1919, d. 22 Jun 2005
          - 1m.1939 Herbert Shaneyfelt, 2m. 1944 Frank Hutchens b. 1916 d. 1997
            - a. Sue Annette Hutchens b. 29 Nov 1944 m. Dec 1961 Ollie Cooper
              1. Donna Due b. 1964 m. Kelly Jo Finley, 1c Kristi
              2. Glen Cooper b. 1965 m. Anita Joe Hornbuckle
                - 2c. Rusty Glenn and Breanna Denae
      9. Dewey Moon b. 1921 d. 1940 B@ Moon
      - h. Martha Moon b.1878 OXR, Madison, Al
      - i. Pearl D. Moon b. 1885
        - m. Sep 1906 Julian T. Craft, b. 1892-1958
          1. Willie B. "Sister" Craft b. 1907 m. Leo Gibson
          2. Elbert O. Craft
          3. John Perry Craft b. Apr 1910
          4. Zedra Craft
          5. William Finis Craft

( cont. from page 2 of James Harvey Poor)

- b.. John Peter Moon Jr.** b. Sep.1861 OXR, Al. d. Sep 1933 OXR, Al. B@ Moon  
 m.Oct 1882 Elizabeth Nancy(Lizzy) Craft b.Jul 1866 d.Jul 1917 B@Moon
1. John Eugene Moon b.Jan 1884 d. Apr 1966 Huntsville, Al.
    - m. Feb 1909 Delilah Caroline Maples<sup>9</sup> b. Aug 1889 d. Mar 1971
      - a. Odell Moon b. 1910 died in childhood
      - b. Richard Moon, b. 1912 died in childhood
      - c. John Wheeler Moon, b. 1914 OXR, Al. m. 1936 Lorene Fanning, b. 1917, 4c, Jerrie Ann, Jackie Howard, Wheeler D. Pete, Sandra Ann
      - d. Captolia Moon 1916 OXR, Al. 1m. 1944 Hammond C. Carpenter
      - e. Francis M. Moon 1918 OXR, Al. m. 1950 James Robert Campbell
      - f. Maples E Moon 1920 OXR, Al. m. Betty Jane ?? 2c  
 Mary Grace and Diana Lynn
      - g. Robert C. Moon b.13 Jan 1922 OXR, Al. d.Nov 1991 in Va. B@Moon
      - h. Edna Carolyn Moon b. 1924, OXR, Al.  
 1m ? McCollum,2c,
        1. Carolyn
        2. Judy
      - 2m. Hilldring, 1c  
 3. Linda
  2. R.William "Bill" Moon b.27 Feb 1886 d.13 Jun 1965 B@Moon  
 m. Aug 1908 Mamie E Tabor b. Aug 1888 d.Aug 1959 Al B@Moon;
    - a. Lola Gladys
    - b.William Orville Moon b.1909 Owens Crossroads, Al.
    - c. Katherine Moon
    - d. Martha Olene Moon b. Dec 1922, d. Nov 1925 B@Moon
    - e. Clara Bee Moon
  3. Nora Ann Moon b.1889 d. Jun 1924 Doug Hill, Al B@Moon  
 m. Sep 1904 Daniel Everett Huffer Vann (1888-1940) Bessemer, Al.
    - a. Minnie Mae Vann b. Oct 1906 Owens Crossroads, Al.  
 m. Mar 1922 David Oscar Lyons
    - b, Maymie Delilah Vann b. Jun 1919 B@Moon
    - c. Lela B. Vann
  4. James Ernest Moon b.18 Feb 1892 in Owens Crossroads, Al.
  5. Cora Lee Moon b. 2 Aug 1893 d. 1987 Owens Crossroads, Al.
  6. Sebron Moon b. Mar 1895  
 m. Jun 1915 Katie Vann
  7. Posey Arthur Moon b. Jul 1896 OXR, Al.  
 m. Jul 1936 Mrs. Alberta King
  8. Gurtha Moon b.18 Feb 1898 d. Jan 23, 1979 Huntsville, Al.
  9. Allen W. Moon b.15 Oct 1900 d. 18 Jun 1985  
 m. Nov 1925 Clara C. Buford
    - a. Virginia Alene Moon m. Emmett Moore  
 1. Linda Paulette Moore m. Wayne Maples

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<sup>9</sup> Descendancy from "A Maples Leaf". I have not included all the dates and detail here.

- a. Cindy Lawayne Maples
  - b. Dewey Allen Maples
- 2. Dwayne Anthony Moore m. Sonya Owsley
  - a. Stephen Moore
  - b. Justin Moore
- b. Thomas Glyn Moon 1m. Wanda Ruth Stephens 2m. Gertha Lyle
  - 1. Debbie Moon
  - 2. Danny Moon
  - 3. Jan Moon
- 10. Laura Delilah Moon b.1904 OXR, d. Jefferson Co. Al.
- 11. Maimie "Nannie Lou" Moon b.1906 OXR, Al. d.1909 OXR
- 12. Murphey Moon b.1907 in OXR, Al. m. Dec 1927 Mae Maples
  - 2m. Aug 1918 Jennie E McMillian, b.1889 d.1944 OXR, Al.
- 13. Annie L. Moon b.1919 OXR, m. Taylor, d. Sep 2001, South Lyon, Mi.
- 14. Will Hines Moon b. Jul 1921 in OXR, Al.
  - m. Betty J. Coates (1927-2003) Birmingham, Al.
    - a. Living Moon m. Hensley
    - b. Living Moon m. Carl Strunk
    - c. Living Moon m. Zezenski

Note: If your name or family has not been included where you think it should be, it is because I either did not know it went there, or I just ran out of time in researching and calling to find out descendants not already listed in other genealogies. Please feel free to let me know where names are missing, and I will try to keep track of changes needed in the Family Files at the library.

**(One of the 3 original trustees for Poplar Ridge School - 1858)**

**Canada Butler, Sr.** b. Tenn. 1821, came to Jackson Co. Al. in 1822. He was the oldest son of Samuel and Margaret (Layman) Butler's 13 children. He married Nancy Maples in Madison Co. Al. in 1842. Nancy b. Feb 1823, Tenn. dau. of Edward Noah and Jane (Moon) Maples, Sr. Canada d. 1862 Montgomery, Al., serving as a republican member of the legislature there, and is B@Montgomery, Al. Nancy d. June 1873, B@Bethel Cemetery. 7c.

A. **James Edward (Jim Ed) Butler** (1843-1913) at age 18, joined Co. C, 4<sup>th</sup> Ala. Cav. and served until Sep 1864. He was taken prisoner to Ohio until 1865. He farmed and taught at Poplar Ridge School for at least 3 months in 1866.<sup>10</sup> He m. Jan 1868 Nancy Jane Nickels, dau. of James and Martha Jane (Dilworth) Nickels. B@Bethel. 9c

1. James Canada Butler, (1870 – 1925) never married, B@Bethel
2. Charlotte Isabella Butler, b. 1873, m. 1908 William D. Claybrooke  
2c. Charlotte m. Adams, and Jane m. Hagood.
3. William Edward<sup>11</sup>, b. 1875, m. Jun 1909 Lillian Louise Mussetter  
7 Children, included:
  - a. Evelyn Louise<sup>12</sup> – m. Martin Neal Marsh
4. Lucy Emma Butler b.1878, m. 1901 Josiah McCracken Hereford, Gurley  
14 Hereford Children (see the Samuel Butler Chronicles)
5. Robert Lee Butler, b. 1880, m. Jun 1915 in Athens, to Almira Bottoms<sup>13</sup>  
8 children include:
  - d. Daniel Madison Butler, b. 1929, m. 1952 Louise Martin
    1. Rodney Gene
    2. Stephen Martin Butler – m.1978 Angie Roye Branum
      - a. Nathan Brin
      3. Jeffrey Lee Butler – m. 1979 Leitha Fran Warren
6. Albert Henry Butler, Sr.<sup>14</sup>, b. 1882, m.Oct 1918 Irene Rogers, 8 children  
(See **ALBERT HENRY BUTLER, SR.** page)
7. Charles Taylor Butler, b. 1884, m.Nov 1921 Hallie Belvia Owen, b. Tenn., he d. Feb 1973 and she d. Apr 1971, B@Bethel, 2c lived.
  - a. Charles Owen Butler – m. Marilyn Fromm b. Iowa
    1. John Robert – m. Barbara Platt
    2. Ann Elizabeth
    3. Beverly Catherine
  - b. John Ed Butler – m. Jul 1948 Ruby Cornelia Watson<sup>15</sup>
    1. Charles Watson – m. Donna Russey
      - a. John Samuel
      - b. Matthew Taylor

<sup>10</sup>J. E. Butler papers in possession of his grandson, John Ed Butler. (see following)

<sup>11</sup> See the note in the writeup for Henry Horton, one of his teachers.

<sup>12</sup> Louise painted a water color picture of Poplar Ridge . Her descendants gave the Poplar Ridge Homemakers permission to copy and sell them as a money maker for the school upkeep. (see the cover page)

<sup>13</sup> Almira Bottoms authored the "Samuel Butler Chronicles".

<sup>14</sup> Albert Henry Butler Sr. was "the 100<sup>th</sup> student at Poplar Ridge School – 1887.

<sup>15</sup> Cornelia Butler furnished the descendant names for Charles Taylor Butler.

2. Alice Cornelia – m. Bradley Eaton  
 a. Christina (Brad’s dau.)  
 b. James Butler Eaton
8. Laura Butler – never married  
 9. Nancy (Laura’s twin died within a month)
- B. William Samuel Butler b. 1845, d. 1858 (13 years old) B@Bethel
- C. Francis T. Butler, Esq.<sup>16</sup> b. 1847, m. Adeline H. Maples, d.1907, 7c.  
 1. Nancy Jane Butler, b. 1866 m. 1888 Thomas Randal Esslinger, 8 c.  
 Fred, Harry, Vera, Carrie, Samuel, Mary, Ida, and Mattie.  
 (born in the Berkley, Al. area, and then moved to Huntsville.)  
 2. Samuel Riley Butler<sup>17</sup><sup>18</sup>, b. 1868, m. 1893 Ida Smith n.c.  
 3. Mary Ann Butler, b. 1870, m. 1896 Albert Sidney Hodges. 8c  
 Orville, Lucile, Lina, Mary, Albert, Dorothy, Lawton, and Elgie  
 4. Elizabeth Adeline Butler m. 1901 Calvin Marcellus Rousseau  
 3c Geraldine, Calvin, and Tom.  
 5. Kate Butler m. Joe Collier nc.  
 6. Margaret Francis Butler m. 1896 John Bentley Woodall  
 4c. Inez, Horace Taylor, Estelle, Ruby  
 7. Effie Taylor Butler m. 1901 John Edward Broyles  
 5c. Frances Edward, Lina Evelyn, Joe Floyd, Ned, Samuel
- D. George Washington Butler, b. 1850, m. Jun 1869 Nancy Jane Taylor, 5c.  
 1. John Canada Butler b. 1871, m. Cornelia Annie Owen, 3 children  
 2. Jimmie Butler m. Apr 1901 J. A. Carpenter  
 3. Leona Butler m. Jun 1898 Robert F. Coles  
 4. Lilly Butler  
 5. Nell Butler
- E. Margaret J. Butler, b. 1853, m. Dec 1873 William B. Manning, 5c.  
 2m. Jan 1891 J. T. Manning  
 7c Canada, William, Alice, John, Wheeler, Tommy, and Maggie.
- F. Nancy Ann Butler, b. 1851, m. 1875 James T. Childers<sup>19</sup> B@Bethel.  
 2m. 1882 Franklin P. Ivy, 5c., she d. 1900, he d. 1896, both B@Bethel.  
 Their children all went to Poplar Ridge School.  
 1. Janice Maggie Ivy b.1882 m.1914 Dr. James Allen Carpenter,  
 2 inf. Died

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<sup>16</sup> In the Samuel Butler Chronicles, you can read that Taylor was only 14 when the Civil War broke out, and recruiting officers were going around to local schools. The story is told that, as the recruiters neared Poplar Ridge School, his girlfriend Adeline Maples, rushed him into the stick-and-mud fireplace in the log school, and stood before it, and spread her skirts to hide him. They took all the boys of his age and older, and never knew he was there.

<sup>17</sup> Interesting story of Samuel at Poplar Ridge School retold between teachers, J. T. Childers and Hardy Thurman in “Teachers through the Years” later in this book.

<sup>18</sup> Samuel R. Butler, taught school, and was Co. Supt. Schools, Madison, Co. Al. for 6 terms. Two schools in Huntsville named for him, Butler Training School, for teachers, and Butler High School.

<sup>19</sup> J. T. Childers taught at Poplar Ridge School from 1872-74. Doris (Carpenter) McGee has 2 ledgers he kept while teaching.

- a. Lawrence Franklin. b. 1918 m. Helen Robinson
  - 1. Frank Jr. m. Susan Frye, had 3c. , Athens, Tenn.
- b. David Earl b. 1920 m. Jan Cotton live in Richmond, Ky. 2 sons
  - 1. Milton and 2. Martin
- c. Margaret Obera, b. 1921 m. 1944 William David Butler (Butler Co.)
  - 1. Janice and 2. Cynthia
- 2. Annie Victoria Ivy, b. 1884, died young
- 3. William Lawrence Ivy, b. 1887 nm d. 1946 B@Bethel
- 4. Nancy AlVerna Ivy b. 1890 m. W. L. Eustace
  - a. William Ivy Eustace m. Jewel ? lives in Chatanooga, Tenn
    - 1. Richard Logan Eustace
  - b. Jean Eustace m. C. K. Wingo, 1 dau. , San Antonio, Texas
  - c. Madge Butler Eustace, m. Donald Woodruff, 2 c. in Cleveland, Ohio.
- 5. Sallie Zelma Ivy b. 1894 m. Harry D. Carpenter, 2c, she d. 1968, he d. 1980. Both B@Bethel
  - a. Doris Carpenter, b. 1828 m. 1977 John G. McGee
  - b. Iva Marcell b. 1933 m. 1961 Thomas O. Dean, he had 2 daughters.
    - 1. Debra Dean b. 1954 m. Billy Joe Lovell, 2m. Ted Estridge, he had 2 children
    - 2. Donna Dean b. 1955 m. Danny Waters,
      - 1. Thomas Russell
      - 2. Kelly m., has 1c. Wade
- G. John Canada Butler, b. 1855, m. Nancy J. Holland
  - 1. Viola Butler m. Aug 1904 Hubert H. Claybrook
  - 2. Luella Butler m. Sep 1914 Hugh A. Campbell
  - 3. Pearl Butler

Note: If your name or family has not been included where you think it should be, it is because I either did not know it went there, or I just ran out of time in researching and calling to find out descendants not already listed in other genealogies. Please feel free to let me know where names are missing, and I will try to keep track of changes needed in the Family Files at the library.

(Continue J.E. Butler's son)

6. Albert Henry Butler, Sr.<sup>20</sup>, b. 1882, m. Oct 1918 Irene Rogers

a. Albert Henry Butler, Jr. – m. Evelyn Z. Parsons<sup>21</sup>

1. Nancy Evelyn – m. Terry A. Ross

a. Albert Stuart

2. Carol June – m. Michael Francis Belancsik

a. Heather Michelle – m. David Wayne Graack

1. Hunter Landry

2. Cameron Cole

3. Ethan Matthew

b. Alexis Natashi m. ? Walker

1. Abigail Lynn Ward

c. Phillip Steven m. Michelle McCarthy

1. Michael Dylan

d. Ingrid Amanda m. Armour

e. Peter Alexander

3. Patricia Diane – m. Billy Wayne Lawler

a. Wesley Ryan – m. Anna Speegle

1. Elijah Garrett

b. Jared DeWayne

b. Thomas Edward Butler, Sr. – m. Imogene Mann

1. Tom Ed m. Nancy Hatcher

Jennifer Ellen m. Michael Jacob Vollmer

Thomas E III

2. Helen Jean m. Craig Steven LaMar

a. Stephen m. Melanie Christine Holder

3. Albert Garland m. Karen Elizabeth Crawford

a. Albert Garland Jr.

b. Lisa Jane m. Jason Sims

c. Nancy Elizabeth Butler m. Nov 1945 Rowland E. Cedarholm

d. John Garland Butler m. Sep 1948 Jo Ann Tabor

1. Laura Butler m. Thomas Joseph Conwell Jr.

a. Thomas Joseph Conwell III m. Crista Coppett

1. Julia Joanna Bit;er

b. Tabor Butler Conwell

2. Henri Jo Butler m. John Mark McDaniel

a. Henri Jo McDaniel m. Marcus Helstowski

1. John Danel Helstowski

2. Anna Grace Helstowski

b. John Benjamin McDaniel m. Jenny Gober

3. John Garland Butler, Jr.(Jaybird) m. Sandra Cooper

a. Joanna Butler

b. John G. Butler III

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<sup>20</sup> Albert Henry Butler Sr. was "the 100<sup>th</sup> student at Poplar Ridge School – 1887.

<sup>21</sup> Evelyn Butler furnished the descendants of Albert Henry Butler Jr.

- e. Dorothy Sue Butler – m. Jun 1946 James Hardy Bell
  - 1. James H. Bell Jr. m. Gina Mefford
    - a. Richard Bell m. Debra Wilson
      - 1. Richard Thomas Bell
  - 2. Robert Michael Bell – m. Candi Harbin
    - a. Kylee Delores Bell
    - b. Kristen Lee Bell
    - c. Kasey Sue Bell
  - 3. Sylvia Sue Bell m. John F. Heath, Jr.
    - a. Heather Heath m. Shawn Godeirn
      - 1. Shawna Grace Godeim
  - 4. Joe Douglas Bell m. Pam ?
    - a. Elizabeth Bell
    - b. Lindsay Irene Bell
    - c. Sarah Brooke Bell
    - d. Garrett Hardy Bell
  - 5. Cynthia Irene Bell m. Mark Partain
    - a. Dorothy Sue Partain
- f. Laura Jane Butler - m. Jul 1947 John Davis Mann
  - 1. John Davis Mann, Jr. – m. Dianne Cummings
    - a. John Davis Mann III (Trey) – m. Deana Lassiter
    - b. Bryan Todd Mann
    - c. Clay Cummings Mann
  - 2. Ruby Helen Mann m. William Whatley
    - a. Ashley Whatley
    - b. Lindsey Whatley
  - 3. Donald Edward Mann m. Regina Gipson
    - a. Marlee Mann
    - 2m. Gaylynn (?) Nurney
      - b. Ashley Nurney Mann
  - 4. Jane Butler Mann – m. Eric R. Dyer, Jr.
    - a. Chris and b. Anna Laura Dyer
  - 5. Barbara Allen Mann m. Greg Weyant
    - a. Abbey Renee Weyant
  - 6. Dorothy Irene Mann m. Bruno Procopio
- g. Martha Irene Butler m. Jul 1956 James E. Adams, Jr.
  - 1. James E. Adams III – m. Priscilla
    - a. Janmarie Elizabeth Adams
    - b. James E. Adams IV
  - 2. Janet Elizabeth Adams m. Larry J. Lescantz
    - a. SGT. Brian Russell Bonham Lescantz
    - b. Olan James Lescantz
- h. Lois Blackwell Butler – m. Jul 1957 Robert Laurance Cross
  - 1. Robert Laurance Cross Jr. – m. Terri ? 1c Jason
  - 2. Martha Lois Cross – m. Darrell Carver, 2c



## Teachers through the years at Poplar Ridge School

1860 – **Margaret Wann** is an Instructress living with Jno. and Malinda Harrison. The Madison Co. Marriage Records show a license for Mary M. Harrison and Emerson M. Wann on 31 Dec. 1853. There is a 3 year old boy Emerson Wann also listed with the family, but Emerson Sr. is not listed.



1866-7 **James E. Butler** Jim Ed served in the Civil War. He was Canada Butler's oldest son, and built @1885-86, the house where John Ed and Cornelia Butler live now (2008) in the Southeast corner of Cherry Tree and Poplar Ridge Roads. December 1867, Jim Ed married Nancy Jane Nichols,, daughter of James and Martha Jane (Dilworth) Nichols. Jim Ed and Nancy had 9 children and at least 41 grandchildren that I know of. His family is included in the Canada Butler Tree earlier in this book, and more extensively still in the Samuel Butler Chronicles. He was "duly appointed" Township Superintendent of Township 5 Range 2 in a letter dated November 1879, and as Treasurer, he had receipts that P.M. Robertson had received from J. E. Butler, the due payments of a teacher.<sup>22</sup>

1872-Feb. '75 – **James T. Childers** - J.T. married Nancy A. Butler, they had no children. Doris (Carpenter) McGee has two account and attendance books of his. I'm including a bit from one of the books: Pages 28 – 31 (listed students with hash marks (up to 5 in each of 4 weeks of Feb)

Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1874. Opened school with the following students; John Allen, Nannie E. Allen, R. E. Butler, Sarah E. Bryant, C. H. Bryant, Martha Bryant, J. M. Graham, George Graham, M. Johnson, M. Miller, J. T. Miller, Sallie Miller, W. D. Walker, T. G. Walker, Sarah E. Seamans, Sue F. Seamans, Sam Hall, Lucinda Preston, Mary Preston, Sarah A. Robards (line drawn through), Henry Roberts (line drawn through), D. B. Walker, S. G. Vandiver, Nathan Miller, Mary V. Patterson, Mandy Hickman, John A. Miller, T. A. Miller, James Patterson.

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<sup>22</sup> These papers are in the possession of John Ed Butler, grandson of Jim Ed. I have copied them in this book following the teacher listing.

(I don't see Sam Butler's name in any of Mr. Childers papers, but a story from "The Samuel Butler Chronicles" seems appropriate here. Samuel Riley Butler, b. 1868, to F.T. and Adeline (Maples) Butler was born at Poplar Ridge. "Sam's first education was in Poplar Ridge School. He had difficulty learning the multiplication table. His teacher promised him a switching if he didn't memorize it by a certain day. He didn't, and she kept **HER** promise. After which there was no more trouble with the tables.")

*Should there be a female teacher about here? Couldn't find one in the census on the odd years.*

1878 – **Hardy B. Thurman** – see newspaper article, he was a teacher in Madison County Schools, and died near New Hope, Mar. 8, 1879, of consumption. He was 27 years old.

1879 – Prof. **Henry "Edward" Hancock**, was the professor at Poplar Ridge School, when two children at play were struck by lightning on the playground. (Apr. 1879, see articles from "Huntsville Advocate" and "The Independent" found by Wm. Sibley. In the 1880 Madison Co., Beat 9 Census, Edward was living with a cousin, Will Hancock, and his aunt Juliet. Edward is listed as a school teacher, Will is a farmer, and Juliet is Will's mother. (*Perhaps Prof. Hancock took over when Mr. Thurman died.*)

1880 – **James Waller Overton**

James is a teacher living with David Whitaker in the 1880 Census. It is uncertain whether he taught at Poplar Ridge, or not. He was born in Castle Rock, Tn., on 8 Jul 1846. He was the son of James and Mahala Overton, but at the early death of his father, he lived with his grandfather, Dr. James Overton. They came to Alabama in 1880. A marriage license was registered for James W. Overton and E. O. Woody on 21 Jun 1880. While teaching, he wrote a Short Form Arithmetic Text which was either lost or stolen while it was in manuscript form, still it earned him the title of Professor. James and Elizabeth are both buried in the Hayden Cemetery (Off Poplar Ridge Road), Madison County, Alabama.<sup>23</sup>

1885 – **P. M. Robertson** received from James E. Butler, Treasurer of Poplar Ridge School, \$12.50, in February, \$50.00 as part payment on second quarter, and in May, \$70.00 bal. due on second quarter. I've copied these receipts following the teachers list. I cannot find P. M. Robertson in the census either before or after.

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<sup>23</sup> This information was furnished by Lou Ann (Whitaker) Poole. She does Elizabeth's reenactment at the Hayden Cemetery each year.



1888 – **Henry Hollis Horton, Jr.** taught 6 years before he passed the Bar, part of that was at Poplar Ridge. It is written in the Samuel Butler Chronicles that Mr. Horton was a “stern taskmaster, and had William Edward “Eddie” Butler and his cousin Sam Butler eating green acorns as punishment for talking. Henry was born in 1866 at Princeton, Al., to Henry H. Sr. and Ann Elizabeth (Moore) Horton, a Baptist minister, and married Ann Adeline Wilhoit, Nov. 1896. They had one child, John. Henry represented Franklin County in the Tennessee House of Representatives, and won the election for State Senate and became Speaker of the House. Upon the death of Austin Peay he stepped into the governorship. He was elected in his own right in 1928, and reelected in 1930. He resigned to his home near Chapel Hill, where he died. He was also a Franklin County School commissioner, and served as an Alderman in Winchester, Tennessee.<sup>24</sup>

1900 – *No teachers listed in the Poplar Ridge Census*

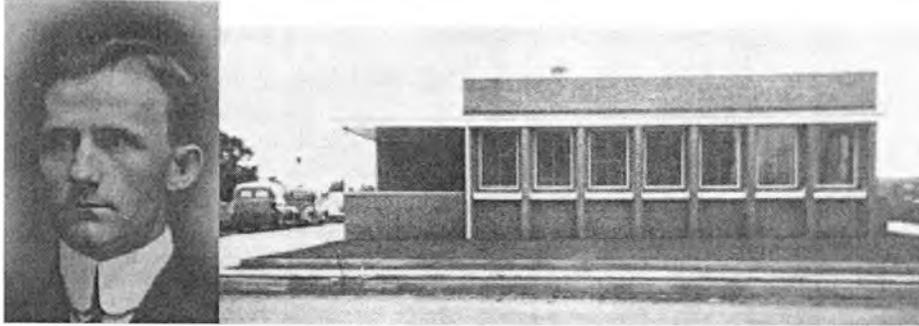
1910 – **James Upton** 36 year old Teacher in 1910 Poplar Ridge Census, living with his wife, Anna, daughter Minnie, 8years old, and son Virgil, 6 years old. Gardner Moon bought his place from him when he went to Huntsville. It was on Poplar Ridge Road where Martin Childers Road comes out.

1910 – 1912 - **Daisy Manning** – 22 year old rural school teacher in Larkinsville, Jackson Co. In an article later in this book, the Gurley Herald paper says she’s from Larkinsville, and that she closed the Spring session of 1912, and then reopened that summer for the fall. She graduated in 1908 from Florence State Normal College, taught several years in Jackson and Madison counties. Daisy married Robert H. Baker, April of 1910. They had 3 children: Mildred, married John R. Childers, Robert Houston, Jr., married Avis Ann Truitt, Daisy Louise married N. P. Morrison. She died in December of 1968 at the age of 80 in Owens Cross Roads, with 6 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. Daisy Manning Baker is buried at Moon Cemetery.

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<sup>24</sup> This information and picture was taken from a site on the internet: Nat’l Governor’s Association.

1917 – **Dr. Zeke Whitaker** – James Ezekiel Whitaker was born on 24, Sep 1889, in New Hope, Alabama. Following High School, he attended Berea College in Kentucky where he worked his way through by waiting tables. He received his teaching diploma in 1914, and taught school in Oklahoma a while, then he returned to Marshall County, Alabama, to teach.



His destiny, however was not in teaching but was to be a physician. He received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Tulane University in 1922, and in the same year married Cora Buford, his hometown girl. They had one child, who died at birth. There is more history about Dr. Zeke but I will try to keep it to a minimum here. He opened the Whitaker Clinic on Fifth Avenue (now Governors Drive) in 1949. It was later expanded and called Fifth Avenue Hospital, then some twenty years later, it was purchased by Huntsville Hospital. Two years after Cora died, in 1950, Dr. Zeke married Ann Shrader, a nurse at the hospital, who subsequently worked with him. He died on April 17, 1977, and is buried in Hayden Cemetery northeast of New Hope, off Poplar Ridge Road. The clinic he began is pictured above.<sup>25</sup>

1918 – **W. W. White** – I can find no records that show Mr. White as a teacher. This would be between census years, and he is not in the County either before or after. At the 1989 Homecoming celebration at Poplar Ridge, Lillian (Turner) Pullen, indicated on the sign in sheet, that she had “Dr. Whitaker, W. W. White, and Leatha Sibley”. So I have put him here.

1919 – **Leatha Sibley** - Dorothy Hodges had Leatha as a teacher. Leatha was the daughter of Mills Jenkins and Emma Virginia (Cobb) Sibley. Leatha was born in 1896 and in the 1920 Vienna Census, she is living with her parents and listed as a public school teacher. Leatha Ann married James Paul McKown in 1923, and they had 3 children. Jo Ann married Henry Lucas Horton, Virginia Louise married Jimmy Ray Brock, and Nancy Abie married Vincent Eugene Forman. Leatha died in 1958, in Sewanee, Tenn.

1920 – **Aubrey Benton Drake** is shown here with three of his brothers: L-R Louis, Allen, Sercy and Aubrey. (picture furnished by William Sibley of Big Cove, Al.)



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<sup>25</sup> These pictures and most of the information is taken from “Medicine Bags and Bumpy Roads”, by Jewell S. Goldsmith and Helen D. Fulton, Valley Publishing Company, in 1985. You can find it in the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library in New Hope, Alabama.

Aubrey was 23 years old, and boarding with George W. & Sarah M. Hodges, in the 1920 Census for Poplar Ridge. He was also listed with his parents, Frazier M. and Florence O. Drake, in the Colliers area, that same year. He was in Tarrant County, Texas, when his daughter Sarah Jean was born on 19 Oct. 1927. His wife was Pauline Elizabeth Whitehurst. He is listed in the 1930 Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas Census, with his wife, daughter, and his father and mother are living with them also. In the census, he is listed as a Commercial Traveler for a Creamery.

1920 - **Gracie Drake** - was 28 years old at home of her parents Otey & Mary Drake and is listed as a Public School Teacher in the 1920 Census of Poplar Ridge Area. According to her obituary in the Huntsville Times, she was born in 1893, never married, and died in 1983. She is buried in Maple Hill Cemetery near her parents.



1921 - **Peter Roscoe Ivy** - Roscoe's son Vernon, gave me this picture, he tells me his father graduated from New Hope High School, and from Jacksonville University. He came back to New Hope to teach, but there wasn't a position here, so he taught his 1<sup>st</sup> year in Cullman. He came back to New Hope the next year to teach at Poplar Ridge. He lived on Gurley Pike, and rode a mule over the mountain to school to teach. Roscoe taught some in Clouds Cove also, and his wife, Carrie Vastus (Whiteside), whom he met in college, taught in the county also. In 1927, he was the principal at Horizon School and then on to Lincoln school for a few years. This picture, hung in the hall of the Horizon School. When it closed, they gave the picture to Vernon. Thelma (Moon) (Harper) Smith<sup>26</sup> had Roscoe Ivy for a teacher in 1921. She remembered having a Mr. Upton some, so maybe he substituted for Mr. Ivey.



1924 - **Olga Howard** was Mary Bell Martin's teacher all 4 years, according to Bell's son, John Ed Frazier. Olga Leo Howard was born 23 Feb. 1907, the daughter of Elijah Davis and Minta Lee (Vann) Howard. When they first moved to Vienna they lived in the Hobbs Island area, and Elijah had a store at Clark's Landing. He later moved to New Hope and had the store on Main Street next to the Drug Store (two story stone building). He later bought across

<sup>26</sup> The author and Doris McGee and sometimes other "Homemakers" would stop in at "Thelma's Doll House" just outside of Ardmore, Al. Thelma was the daughter of Jesse Moon. Thelma's husband made a replica of the Poplar Ridge School, and brought it to show at the "Alabama Reunion" Homecoming.

the street and ran the Grocery and General Merchandise Store there. It was still being run by Joe and Louise Howard when the author moved to New Hope in 1983, and several years after that. Olga started school at Yellow Bank and graduated at New Hope, then went on to Florence State. Besides teaching at Poplar Ridge, she taught some at Hazel Green.

1928 – **Louise Merrill** - was from Tennessee, and boarded with George Woody. She taught Bud Moon, and Nellie Martin remembers that it was Louise that passed her to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

1930 – **Ida Whitaker** – taught Jean Hodges, and others who have mentioned her in their memories at the close of this book.

1933 – **Nell Chandler** - Nell's mother was a Hodges. Doris Carpenter McGee started school with Nell as her teacher. John Ed Butler started to Nell, but then was home schooled instead, since his brother Charles Owen was ill.



1934-37 – **Dorothy Hodges** Mellette (daughter of Walter H. and Florence (Baker) Hodges) Betty Jo Hodges had her sister for a teacher in 1936-37 and then Gertrude Dilworth in 1937-40).



1937-41 – **Gertrude Dilworth** was the last teacher before consolidation with New Hope. She was born in 1907 to Andrew J. and Louise (McKinney) Dilworth. She married Julius William Eisenwine in June of 1949. She died in 1986 and is buried at Hayden Cemetery.

**Other possible teachers:** What year? Bob Butler (Paint Rock Valley), ? Cope, Sidney Hodges, Billy Nichols (Charlotte's Bro), Arthur Robinson, W.W. White, Oscar Wiley.

William Sibley searched several old newspapers, and found the following:

In The Huntsville Advocate, April 2, 1879:

“Struck By Lightning”

“On Wednesday last, while it was thundering so heavily, several of Prof. H. E. Hancock’s pupils were struck by lightning. They were engaged in playing ball in the school yard about 12 o’clock when the lamentable accident occurred. Two of the boys – Andy Woodley’s<sup>27</sup> son aged about 12 years and William Hill’s son aged about 15 years will probably die. Although they were both alive last Friday morning. Master Hill’s<sup>28</sup> hat was split open, his clothes torn and burned off, and his shoes bursted open by the electric shock. The two boys fatally injured were standing about four feet apart and a son of Mr. Varin<sup>29</sup> was between them and holding to Mr. Hill’s son’s hand, but strange to say, he escaped comparatively uninjured.

Prof. Hancock’s school is located about 3 ½ miles East of New Hope, this county, and the scholars attending live in the immediate vicinity.”

From “The Independent”, Huntsville, Alabama, April 3, 1879

“Lightning”

A School House Struck – Two Children Seriously Injured

The School house of H. E. Hancock, near New Hope was struck by lightning Wednesday, March 25, creating great consternation and giving severe nervous shock to a number of children. Two of the pupils were badly injured. It is learned that James Click<sup>30</sup> will die. He was badly burned and one of his feet was torn to pieces by the fiery fluid. It was thought for a moment that everything had been suddenly converted at white heat<sup>31</sup> and the most confusion prevailed.”



32

<sup>27</sup> Could Andy Woodley have been Andy Woody?

<sup>28</sup> Mr. Hill’s son, in the 1880 Census, is James Hill, 15 year old.

<sup>29</sup> We feel this is most likely Mr. Vann.

<sup>30</sup> Mr. Sibley notes that James Click’s name did not appear in The Huntsville Advocate and the Woodley (Woody) and Hill names did not appear in The Independent’s article.

<sup>31</sup> the partial line evidently doesn’t belong here.

<sup>32</sup> This photo was in the collection of materials from the Dedication of the Historical Plaque. The bell tower no longer exists, but the last bell had been restored and encased by Rex Moon, son of Wilson and Aileen Moon, and is on display in the school building.

The item below came from the same issue of "The Independent" as the previous article (1879).

"Death of a School Teacher"

H. B. Thurman<sup>33</sup>, who has been employed as a teacher in the Public Schools of Madison County, died near New Hope, Mar. 8, 1879, of consumption, aged about 27 years.

From the "The Gurley Herald", Gurley, Alabama, March 14, 1912:

"Poplar Ridge News"

"Mr. Andy Woody<sup>34</sup> died and was laid to rest at the Haden (Hayden) Cemetery".

From "The Gurley Herald", Gurley, Alabama, March 14, 1912:

"News from Poplar Ridge"

"Our school is still progressing and the principal, Miss Daisy Manning, is complemented on the work she is doing."

From "The Gurley Herald", April 11, 1912:

"Poplar Ridge News"

"Our school will be out the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month. Everybody is invited to attend the closing ceremonies. We wish to complement Miss Manning<sup>35</sup> for the good work she has done and we are sorry to give her up."

From "The Gurley Herald", July 18, 1912:

"Poplar Ridge News"

"School opened at Poplar Ridge Monday. We are glad to have Miss Manning back with us again."

From "The Gurley Herald", July 25, 1912:

"Poplar Ridge News"

"Joe Whitaker has applied for a school at Poplar Ridge and says he only wants girl students. Wonder what he is going to teach."<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Could Mr. Thurman have been a teacher at Poplar Ridge?

<sup>34</sup> From the Hayden Cemetery book: Andy Woody, b. 04-08-1820 d. 03-07-1912. "He has gone to his rest after a useful life."

<sup>35</sup> One issue of The Gurley Herald indicates that Miss Manning was from Larkinsville.

<sup>36</sup> Mr. Sibley feels sure this article is not serious, but we couldn't resist putting it in the book.

Teresa Ballard of New Hope, found some articles in The Weekly Mercury, Huntsville, Alabama. She was going through February, March and April looking for something else, and copied these articles for me. Though some of them are headlined Cedar Point News, they include Poplar Ridge people and you can't hardly get anywhere without going through either place.

### Cedar Point News

The pretty weather is getting the farmers in the notion to harness "Old Beck" and get in the field.

The bad weather has hindered the work on the pike which is under construction in our community.

Messrs. J. B. Cooper, Offie Branum and Albert Branum went to Huntsville, Monday to buy horses.

Our school<sup>37</sup> is progressing fine under the leadership of Mr. Bottoms. Our basketball teams are working hard now. We are expecting some good games soon.

Mr. Bill Linley had a large limb to fall on him, while cutting cross ties on Keel Mountain last Saturday, which hurt him right badly but is able to be up again.

Mr. Sam Branum is ill at the home of his father, Mr. Offie Branum.

Miss Myrtle Butler is ill at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Butler.

Our teachers, Prof. Bottoms and Miss Mason, and our champion corn raiser, Mr. Marvin McNatt, attended the Tennessee Valley Teachers' Association in Huntsville last week.

Miss Lockie McNatt<sup>38</sup> is a welcome visitor in our community at present. Several entertainments have been given in her honor.

Health Day will be observed in our school next Friday. The state program will be carried out in full.

Messrs. C. T. and A. H. Butler made a business trip to Fayetteville, Saturday, returning Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Dowdy are the happy parents of a big boy.

Mr. J. E. Farmer and family spent the week-end in Jackson County.

Messrs. Tom Keel, R. L. Robinson, and C. W. Butler attended the Farmers' Diversification meeting at New Hope, Monday.

Mr. J. B. Cooper and family spent Sunday with Mr. C. W. Butler.

*(the article is signed) TECK*

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<sup>37</sup> Cedar Point School is believed to have been started in the early 1900.

<sup>38</sup> Lockey McNatt married Clifford E. Dorsett. The license is dated 9 Feb 1915 at the Madison County Records Center.

### New Hope

Mr. Editor:

As New Hope and surrounding neighborhood were all represented in Huntsville on the 5<sup>th</sup>, and so far as I know all were delighted with the magnificent floats and displays made by Huntsville and the different orders.

I am aware of the fact that we have a great number of people who are very nervous and easily excited when something unusual occurs.

So let me warn you to be on your guard as Mr. J. A. Byrd and George T. Moon, both farmers living on Route one out from New Hope, have fully decided in their own minds to get them a flying machine in the near future.

Let me admonish you to keep your eye on New Hope as she has almost gone through the automobile stage and is just ready to quit running and go to flying.

*(this article is not signed)*

### Cedar Point News

I guess the readers think that Cedar Point people are all dead or stuck up in the mud, but we are still kicking. But we have only one mud hole and that reaches from the head of Cedar Point to the pike.

The health of our neighborhood is very good.

We have had some nice cold weather.

There is plenty of good money in raising hogs. Why don't all you farmers raise more corn and hogs instead of cotton. Now you see what we have to pay for flour and we poor farmers can't eat many biscuits at the present price. So you see it will pay you to raise your own food stuff.

Why do not all you farmers get right down to the old way o living and see if we can't have a better time in Alabama. The man that has his meat and bread at home this year is the man who will live. But the man that has his smoke house in Huntsville or in New York are sure to suffer. I am a farmer and will live and die a farmer and I sure would like to see the farmers living at home. We can if we just leave cotton alone and raise corn and hogs. If we farmers will get right down to it and make our smoke houses at home.

I will ring off for this time, with best wishes to the editor and the readers of this dear old paper.

*(this article is signed) SNOOKUMS*

Poplar Ridge

Hello Mr. Editor:

I'll come again as it has been some time since I have written the news of Poplar Ridge. Farming is progressing slow here on account of the bad weather.

Mr. Ernest McPeters is getting along fine. He has all of his cotton land laid off, ready to plant.

We have one of the best Prayer Meetings at Walnut Grove in the country. Forty or fifty have been converted since Christmas. The services are conducted by the young men on Friday night and by the little boys on Saturday night.

Rev. Stroud preaches at Walnut Grove every first Sunday.

Mr. H. H. Smith made a business trip to Huntsville last week.

J. W. Byrd and family are visiting J. A. Byrd and family.

Sovereign J. H. Buford of New Hope Camp No. 460 has returned from Selma, where he was sent as a representative to the State Convention. He reports a very enjoyable trip.

Mrs. Chess Gamble<sup>39</sup> died Thursday night at 11 o'clock and was buried at the Haden Cemetery Friday morning at 10 o'clock. She is survived by a husband and three children.

We are getting along fine with our gardens, having planted everything that will stand cold weather.

Mr. H. H. Smith sold twenty two bales of cotton last week at eight cents.

Best wishes to The Mercury and it's readers.

*(this article is signed)* BROWN EYES

New Hope

Mr. C. N. Hornbuckle of New Hope, was on the jury for the week.

Mr. Billy Craft of Owens Cross Roads was here on the jury this week.

Messrs. James Carpenter and Archie Russell of Elon were in the city on business a few days ago.

Mr. Will Rivers brought a fine lot of corn to town last week.

We are sorry to report that measles is plentiful in our community and we have some severe cases. Fifty-five cases have been reported.

Miss Lena Whitaker is very ill of measles.

Mr. Dunk Buford is very ill. We wish them a speedy recovery.

The Brand Boys of New Hope have joined the Pig Club. The writer wishes them success.

Mr. Mansfield, of Huntsville, was a pleasant guest of Mr. C. N. Hornbuckle a few days ago.

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<sup>39</sup> | could not find this grave in Hayden Cemetery Book.

Mrs. Allen Turner has returned to her home in Decatur after a very pleasant visit to relatives in our village.

Mr. W. K. Doran of Poplar Ridge was in the city on business Monday.

Mr. George Hollis, who has been ill for sometime, is improving, to the delight of his many friends.

Mr. Dan Hodges has returned from a delightful visit to friends in Paint Rock.

Mr. Lance Ikard and Mr. Jett Woody were in the city on business last week.

*(signed) BIG BOY (dated April 14, 1915)*

### Poplar Ridge News

The farmers enjoyed the nice rain we had in this section. Crops are doing fine at present. I think there will be a big cotton crop made in Poplar Ridge neighborhood this year as the season continues.

The ball team of Grant, Ala., played the Cedar Point team at Butler's Mill last Saturday. Grant beat 30 to ?. Grant must have a good team.

Seab Maples gave an ice cream supper at Butler's Mill Saturday nite. All reported a good time.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Smith and their son Howard, made a flying trip to ? on Sunday in their new auto.

J. W. Byrd and family spent Friday with J. A. Byrd and family.

Little Ray Doran is still in a critical condition. We have hopes of his recovery.

?<sup>40</sup> D. Buford is still feeble.

? Smith, one of our neighbors had an accident last Saturday night, while returning home from an ice cream supper. He was shot in the ? by a young man by the name of Whitaker. He is getting along well at the present time.

Mr. and Mrs. Bentley were the guests of their son at Bear Creek last week.

J. W. Byrd made a business trip to the Big Cove last week.

*(signed) BROWN EYES*

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<sup>40</sup> the last part of the article was cut off on the left edge.

This article I found in [dimplesattic.net](http://dimplesattic.net). It is from a 1988 Huntsville Times Newspaper. I asked Louise if she could identify the people by their maiden names, and so the names are identified as nearly as possible below the article. Thanks, Louise!

**“50 Years Ago (1938)** - Mrs. A. A. (Fannie Lou Josephine) Hill entertained a number of friends with a quilting and buffet style lunch to approximately 31 guests, some of whom were Mesdames E. J. Woody, Earl Smith, Charles Hill, Henry Gooch, Hayden Drake, Garth Lewis, Jim Lewis, Will Solomon, Elbert Jones, Walter Dickey, Dan Drake, W. W. Tabor, Misses Margie Woody, Dimple Drake (Brockway), Gladys Drake (Calwell), Lillian Smith, Alice Rice, Nina Sue Drake (Burlson), and Nell Hill (Long). “

Mrs. E. J. Woody

Mrs. Charles Hill (Gladys Pauline Tabor) daughter of William Wiley & Mollie Glover Tabor

Mrs. Henry Gooch (Virginia Drake) daughter of Hayden & Drucie Woody Drake

Mrs. Hayden Drake (Drucie Woody) daughter of Andrew P. & Alice Vann Woody

Mrs. Garth Lewis

Mrs. Jim Lewis (Bonita Jewel Vann) married 3 times, his last wife was Charlotte Branum Drake they married in 1917 and she died in August of 1938. Charlotte Branum was married 3 times, she first married John Logan. “John LOGAN, a well-known farmer of the New Hope neighborhood, was shot and fatally wounded Sunday at New Hope by Jim HUNT and his son Jodie HUNT, after a quarrel over the possession of a plot of land. Logan died Sunday night from the effects of his wound and the Hunts are both in jail.” April 1911. Next she married William Wallace Wood Drake (my great-grandfather a widower) she out lived him then she married William Thomas Solomon. She never had children by any of her marriages but helped raise children of the last two husbands.”

Mrs. Elbert Jones daughter of Jesse Alonzo Odell & Geneva (Harless) Vann

Mrs. Will Solomon (Charlotte Branum) daughter of Andrew & Catherine Tabor Blakenship

Branum (I am not positive on this one, Mr. Will (William Thomas) Solomon was

Mrs. Walter Dickey (Nannie Hunkerpiller), daughter of John C. Hunkerpiller

Mrs. Dan Drake (Mattie Virginia “Jennie” Hill), daughter of John W. & Martha Francis Drake Hill. This is my grandmother she and my grandfather were first cousins. Martha Francis Drake Hill and William Wallace Wood Drake were brother and sister. William Wallace Wood Drake is the father of Dan Drake.

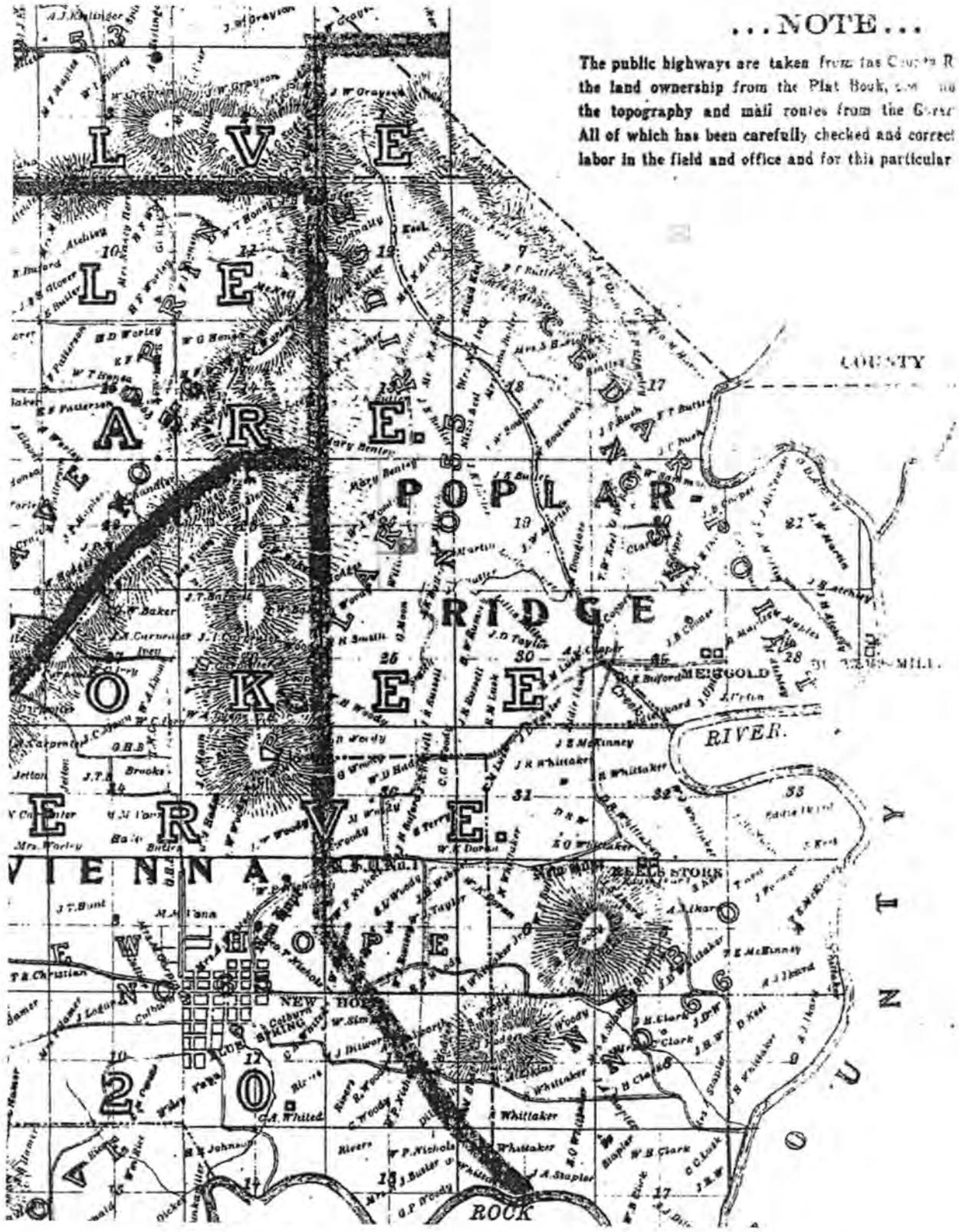
Mrs. W. W. Tabor (Mollie Glover)

Dimple Drake (Brockway) daughter of Dan C. & Mattie Virginia Hill Drake

Gladys Drake (Calwell) daughter of Edgar Hayden & Drucie Woody Drake

Nina Sue Drake (Burlson) daughter of Dan C. & Mattie Virginia Hill Drake

Nell Hill (Long) daughter of Atrit Atwell & Fannie Lou Josephine Harless Hill



This map of the Original Land Purchases can be found at [dimplesattic.net](http://dimplesattic.net), or [co.madison.al.us](http://co.madison.al.us).

There are several springs on Keel Mountain and surrounding areas, including Falling Springs, north and west of Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, and Bethel Springs, to the east of the church, and Chalybeate Spring, known for it's healing powers is on east of Keel Mountain Rd. It's here that William Keel entered and settled near the spring. He lived there long enough for the mountain to be given his name, but then moved closer to the top, and then to New Hope.



We don't know for sure what occasion this picture is, but we feel it is at Falling Springs on the mountain up behind Bethel Church. There's Bert Branum again, center front, with his hat on, so we know it had to be before 1918 when Bert died of the Spanish Flu on board ship on the way to the War. Over to the left, leaning on the tree is Clarence "Dinky" Moon. Taking note of the corsages and fancy duds, it could be a wedding party or perhaps the May Meeting at Bethel Church. May Meetings were the place to be! People would come from all over and stay with family or wherever they could find a place to lay. Maybe even the barn loft!. A three day session of singing, preaching, and praying! Oh yes, and FOOD! Still looks like a preacher up in the right corner, and a groom below him with the big batch of flowers on his lapel and is that a bride behind him with a big bouquet and a crown of flowers in her hair? Let me know if anyone has any ideas.

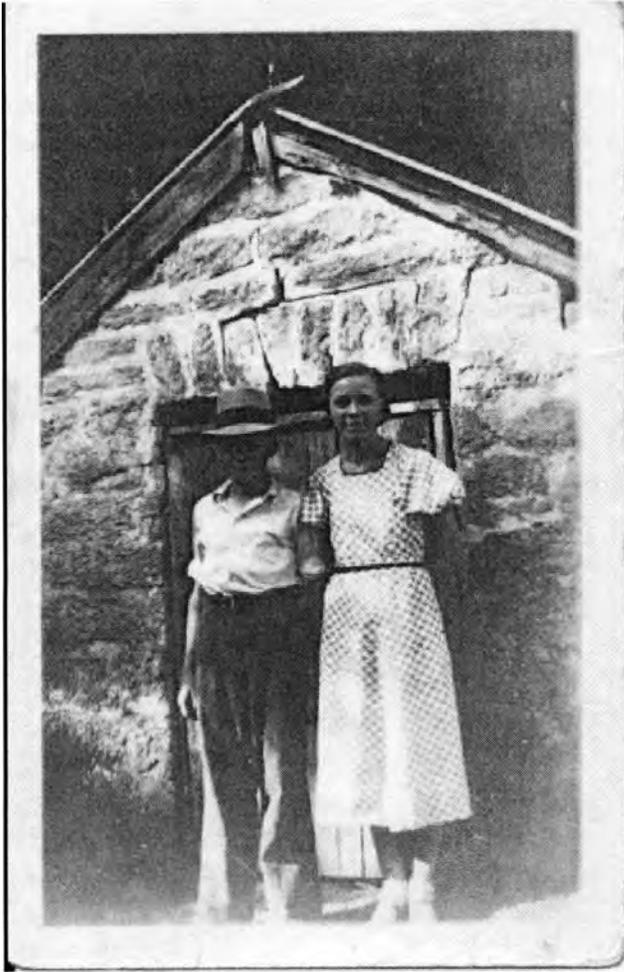


Making Molasses on the Brannum Farm. L-R: Grand (Mary Tine Cobb) holding Lillian up, Mary Ellen (Tag), DeMaris (Mezzie) and Offie Branum

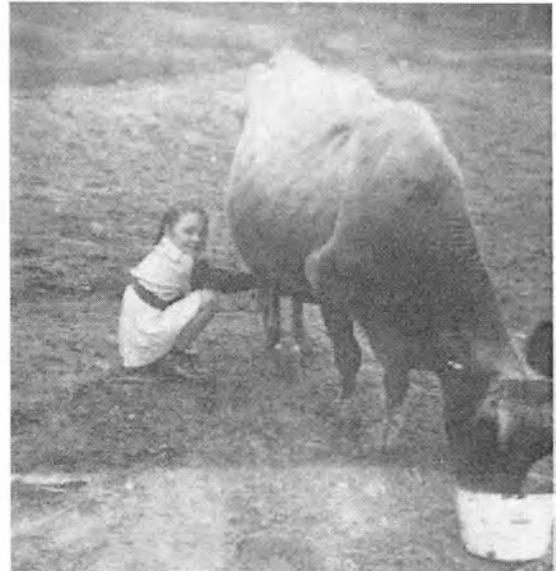


1 2 3 4 5

Another group of students outside at Poplar Ridge. #1, kneeling in front row, is Effie McPeters, #2, standing 6 from the left is Dave Moon, #3, is Albert Brannum, #4, 2<sup>nd</sup> row, 4<sup>th</sup> from the right is Clara Rebecca (Hodges) Hayden. Clara was born in 1894, and according to Betty Jo Hodges Johnson, she looks like about 3<sup>rd</sup> grade here, so maybe this picture would be about 1903. Then, on the right end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> row, #5 is Sallie Ivy. Sallie married Harry Carpenter and is the mother of Doris (Carpenter) McGee. Do you know any others?



Cousins  
Oren Keel and Lillian Branum  
Spring House behind Bethel  
Church



Lillian's daughter, Bertie, wasn't old enough to go to school at Poplar Ridge before it closed.



Still on the Mountain

I'm sure no one is going to say they recognize the fellas in this picture of a still up on Keel Mountain.



Offie and Mezzie Branum in front of their home.



This is the Branum house in 2000, on Cherry Tree Road, East of Keel Mtn. Rd.

This picture was given to me by Mrs. Wilson (Aileen) Moon. I'm using it as an example of how much fun it is to go to [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) and find where a family was and who is really related to whom. Typing in Henry Rumsey and Alabama, took me to the 1900 census only. Typing in Ida, his daughter, gave me all three below, and I can see that in 1880, Henry is listed as H. W. and in 1920, Elizabeth is living with Ida and her husband Gardner, and in the 1920 census, it tells that Elizabeth is divorced. If you go to [co.madison.al.us](http://co.madison.al.us) and find Brides 1900-1939, you can find the date when Ida Rumsey and Gardner Moon got their license to marry, 06 Dec. 1906! Then of course, you could look for an Elizabeth Dobbs who was born in 1849 to see who her parents might have been, because 1920 also shows where someone's parents are born and for Elizabeth, both parents are born in Georgia. You can also see that they are living next to Margaret G. McPeters, a widow, and three of her children, Myrtle, Biddie, and Roxie, on one side. The family before Gardner and Ida Moon is Ambrose Wilhelm, his wife, Victoria, daughter Sallie, and son Ambrose D., as well as his stepson, Harvey (or Henry C. Martin) and then you have to figure out that puzzle!!!

Now you can see a little bit of the fun I've had working on this book. Just a taste of what you can find, and you can imagine how much is still out there, that I haven't had time to locate.



Mrs. Henry (Elizabeth Dobbs) Rumsey

1880: Jackson Co, Ala

H. W. Rumsey 39  
 Lisabeth Rumsey 31  
 William Rumsey 10  
 Aida Rumsey 7  
 Ellar Rumsey 5  
 Victory Rumsey 2  
 Ida Rumsey 5M

1900: Poplar Ridge, Ala

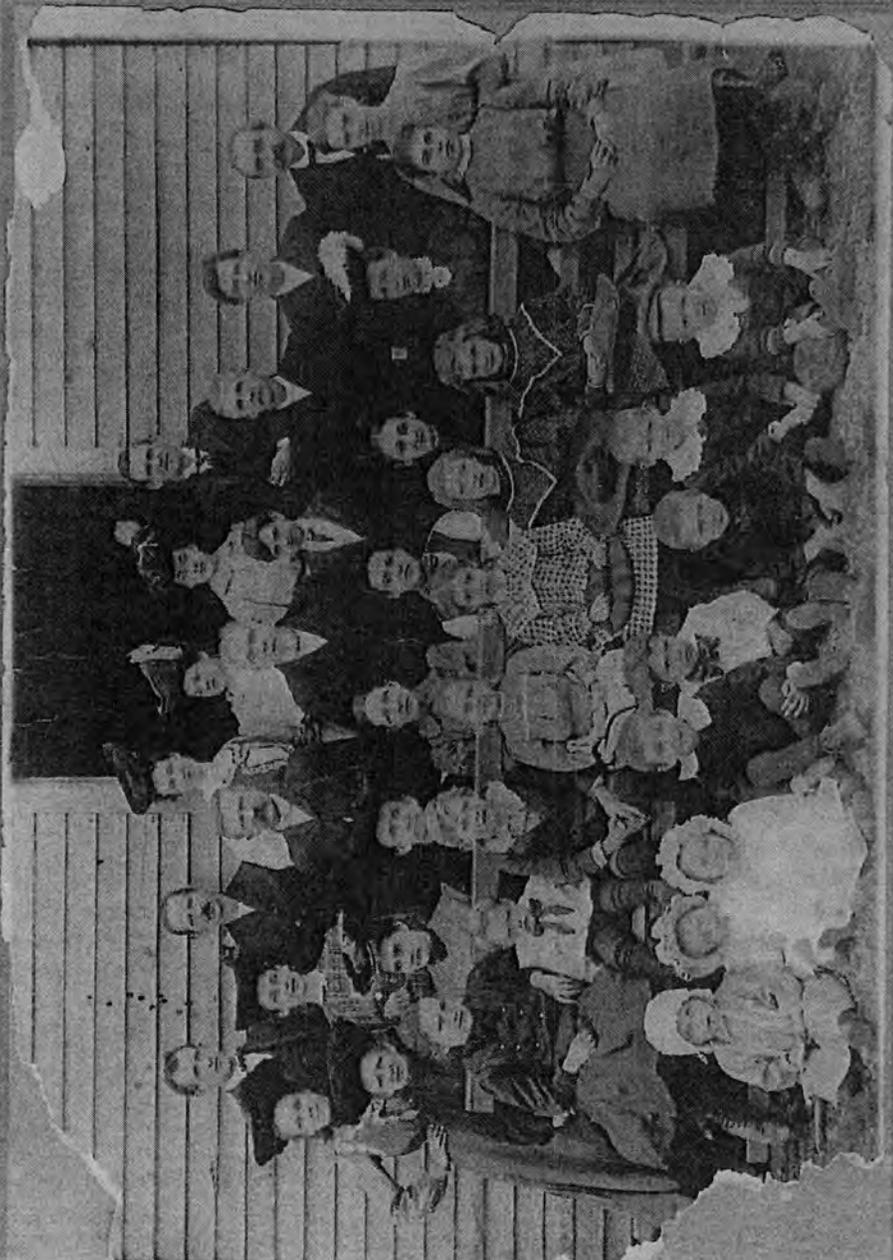
Birthplace: Georgia  
 Race: White  
 Henry Rumsey 59  
 Ella P Rumsey 51  
 Ida Rumsey 20  
 Lizzie Rumsey 18  
 Maggie Rumsey 11

1920: Poplar Ridge, Ala

Father's Birth Place: Ga.  
 Mother's Name: Elizabeth P  
 Mother's Birth Place: Ala  
 Gardner Moon 57  
 Ida W Moon 40  
 Gardner J R Moon 8  
 Marvin W Moon 1  
 Elizabeth P Rumsey 70

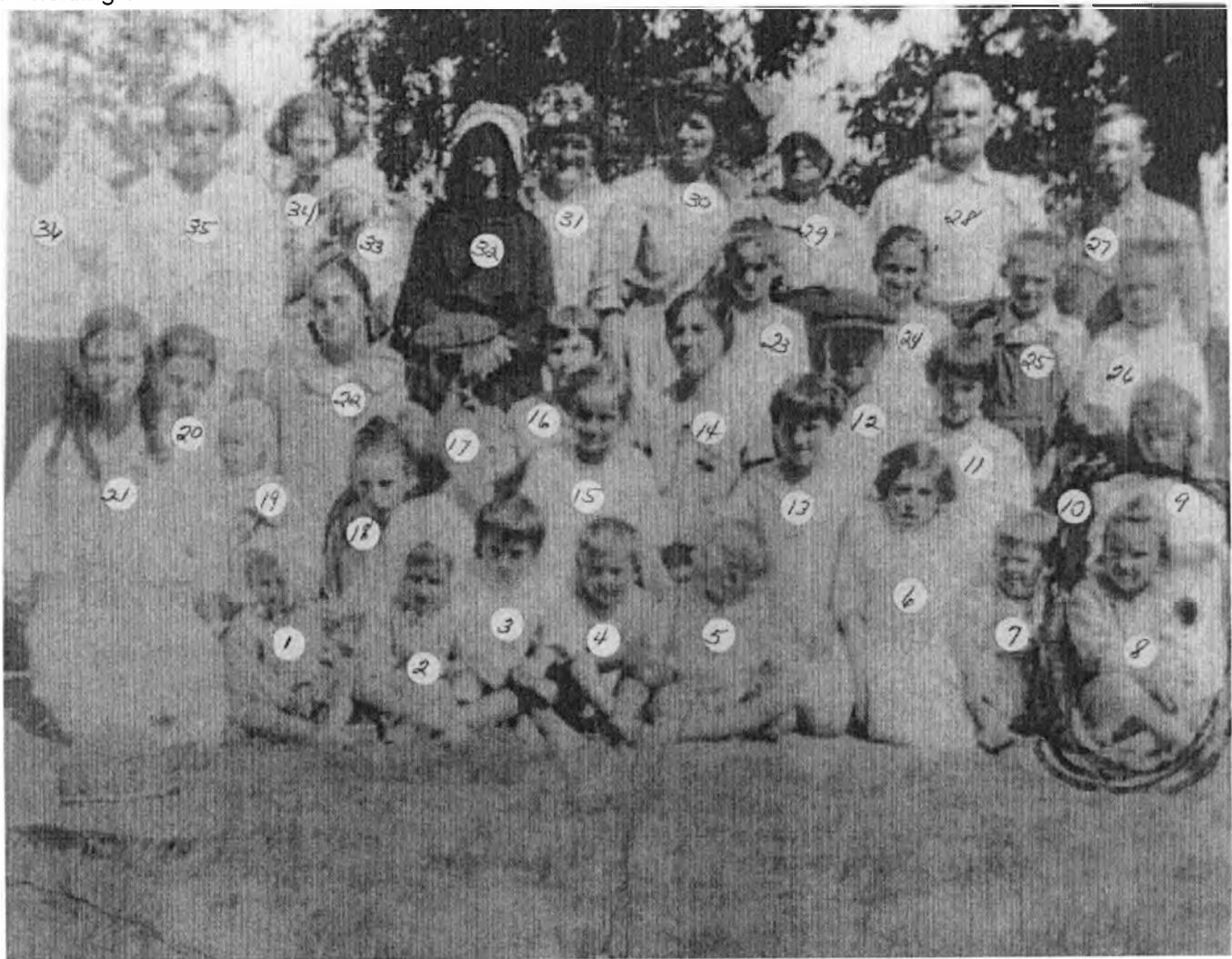
**Summer 1906**  
**New Hope Church of Christ**  
**Madison County, Alabama**

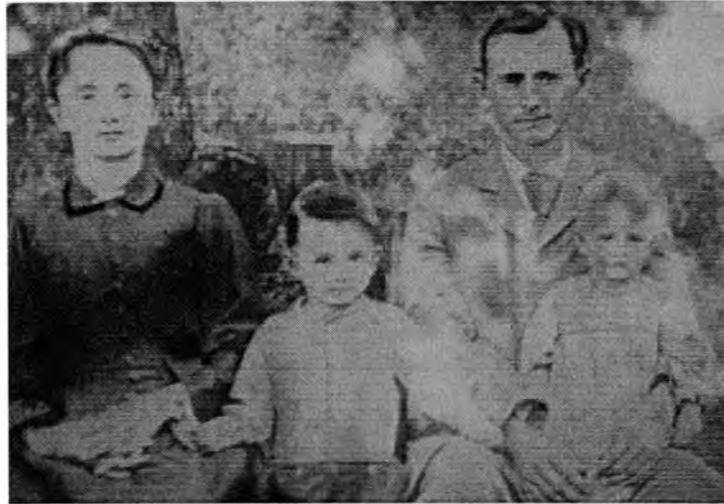
- Top Row (6) Left**  
 Ned Herrin  
 Mr. Riddle  
 Maggie Rumsey  
 Minnie Bell Davis (Segler)  
 Lizzie Rumsey  
 U.D. Ellett
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Row from Back (8)**  
 Mayne Kinnebrugh  
 Lillie Herrin (Ellett)  
 Walter Kinnebrugh  
 Henry Rumsey  
 Ira Rumsey  
 J. F. Ellett  
 Will Rumsey  
 Gardiner Moon (Bud)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Row from Back (8)**  
 Monnie Kinnebrugh  
 Mrs. Riddler  
 Bowman Dickey  
 Mrs. Henry Rumsey  
 Mrs. Will Rumsey (Macy Lula Clark)  
 Mrs. Emma Ellett  
 Mrs. Ida Rumsey Moon (wife of Bud Moon)  
 Dora Taylor (Cooper)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Row from Back (8)**  
 Callie Kinnebrugh  
 Lyle Young  
 William Henry Rumsey (Will Rumsey's son)  
 Sia Camper  
 Unknown girl  
 Sarah Ella Rumsey Taylor  
 Anna Taylor  
 Katie Vann
- 5<sup>th</sup> Row (8)**  
 Lillian Camper  
 Mildred Taylor  
 Mildred Herrin  
 Eldridge Herrin  
 Derward Young  
 Howard Herrin  
 Unknown  
 Unknown





The picture below was given to me by Nellie (Moon) Martin. She knows that she is #10 and #8 is Belle (Martin) Frazier. From looking at the pictures Moon History Book, written by Wyona Moon, I would imagine that #28 is John Franklin Mordahs (Merders). Wyona has a picture of "Uncle John F" holding one hand each of Charles Owen and John Ed. Butler.





George Taylor Moon<sup>41</sup> and Melissa (Murdahs) Moon with oldest sons, Clarence and Richard.

*This child Clarence is "Dinky", who grew up to be the school bus driver  
and general jack of all trades.*

*Two of his children, Nellie and "Bud" both have Memory Interviews later in this book.*



Until the spring of 2008, this house had not been visible for many years. No one had lived in it since the early 1980's, when Richard died, "Aunt Dude" Ethel Moon, left and moved in with her brother Shelby. I'll call it the George Taylor Moon place, though one of his sons, Richard or Shelby, really built it. It was exciting to see *this place* appear, since the 1930 Census begins for Poplar Ridge, with the George T. Moon family. George raised most of his family in a log structure up the hill behind this one. Actually, when this house was built, the road ran between this one and the log one, east toward the Bethel Spring. I was standing about halfway between the present Cherry Tree Road and the house as I took this picture. The land on both sides of Cherry Tree Road was being cleared ready for a sale. At the 2008 Land Auction, the 296 acres brought \$1.6 Million dollars from several bidders.

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<sup>41</sup> This picture was provided by Charley McPeters. George T. is Charley's Great Grandfather.



Andrew Jackson Moon, and Sarah (Maples) Moon  
Martha? and Mary?  
*(In the 1860 census, Mary is 10 and Martha is 7)*  
*(so this picture might be taken about 1855)*



Sarah (Maples) Moon<sup>42</sup>  
*(See the following page for the Census Information of these 3 Moon families)*

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<sup>42</sup> These Moon pictures were provided by Charley McPeters. Sarah (Maples) Moon is his Gr. Great Grandmother.

*Another example of how you can find relationships and ages to go with pictures.*

1850 District 35, Madison, Alabama

Jmdine j Moon 24 (*Andrew J*)

Sarah Moon 17

1860: S. E. Div., Madison, Ala

Post Office: New Hope

A J Moon 34

**Sarah Moon 27**

Mary Moon 10

Martha Moon 7

Jas Moon 5

David Moon 3

Elisabeth Moon 1

Mary J Maples 24

Emanlla Maples 4

1870: Twp 6 R2 Dist 50, Madison, Ala .

Post Office: Gurleysville

Jackson Moon 44

**Sarah Moon 37**

Mary Moon 19

Martha Moon 17

James Moon 15

David Moon 13

Elizabeth Moon 11

Gardner Moon 9

Sarah Moon 6

William Moon 4

Susan Moon 2

**George Moon 1/12**

1880: Madison, Alabama

Father's birthplace: Tennessee

Mother's birthplace: Tennessee

**Sarah Moon 47** widowed b.Ala

James Moon 25

Liza Moon 21

Gardner Moon 19

Sarah Moon 17

William Moon 14

Charity Moon 12

**George Moon 10**

Walter Woody 4

1900: Poplar Ridge, Madison, Ala

George T Moon 30

M E Moon 27

Clarence Moon 8

E *Richard* Moon 6

**Effie Moon 3** (*Charley McPeters' Gma*)

E W Moon

1910: Poplar Ridge, Madison, Ala

George T Marn 39

Malissa E Marn 38

Clarence Marn 19

Richard Marn 17

Ella T Marn 14

David W Marn 11

London S Marn 8

Sallie Marn 5

Ethel V Marn 2

1920: Poplar Ridge, Madison, Ala

Walter J Woody 42

Zada P Woody 30

**Sarah Moon 87** widowed aunt

1920: Poplar Ridge, Madison, Ala

**George T Moon 49**

McLissie E Moon 47

Richard E Moon 24

David W Moon 20

Shelby S Moon 16

Sally A Moon 14

Ethel A (*Dude*) Moon 12

1930: Poplar Ridge, Madison, Ala

**George T Moon 59**

George Moon 36

Sallie Moon 25

Ethel Moon 22



In the picture l – r: Willie Cooper, Jim Williams, Coy Glass, Wanda Ruth (Adams) Gipson, one of the poll officials, and Mr. James Butler, the inspector.

This Newspaper clipping was provided by Mae Willa (Williams) Honea. Poplar Ridge School served as a polling place for many years.

Doris McGee remembers she was already teaching school when her dad took her to Huntsville, to register to vote.

Lou Ann (Whitaker) Poole, remembers when she was junior in High School at New Hope, they took a bus load of them to Huntsville to register to vote, and she and Robert Woody were the only 2 in the class who would vote at the Poplar Ridge Precinct.

One attempt was made to relocate the polling place to Whitaker's store on New Hope Road. Due to lack of facilities at the school, but it wasn't received well, and went back to the school, and then by 2002, it moved to Bethel Primitive Baptist Church on Cherry Tree Road.

Pauline (Jones) Kerbo stopped in at the library and when she heard what I was working on, she said she remembered having her first co-cola at some gathering at Poplar Ridge School. Her whole family was there, and it may have been a reunion or something. She guessed it was about 1926.

**Former Students  
At  
Poplar Ridge School  
Share their Memories**



**Frances “Nellie” (Moon) Martin** remembers:

Her father, Clarence, and all her brothers and sisters went to Poplar Ridge. Like her little brother Tom “Bud”, she remembers the 1 ½ mile walk from home to school. In fact, her mother wouldn’t let her start until she was 7 years old because of the long walk. She remembers when they first put red gravel on the road, and that the mail carrier, Seab Keel, rode a horse to deliver the mail.

They never had much for breakfast, but the Martin brothers, Charles, Claude and Henry (whom she later married) would bring a big bucket of molasses and biscuits and maybe even a sausage and the kids would all gather around and share it for lunch.

Nellie attended Poplar Ridge until she went to New Hope for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She can remember one of her teachers, Gracie Drake bought a new car and the kids would help her cover it each day with a big blanket to keep the sun off it. Louise Merrell was the teacher that passed Nellie to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She thinks she had at least one male teacher sometime, but can’t remember who it was.

A typical day at Poplar Ridge would begin with reading the Bible, prayer, the pledge, and the students would line up and sing out of a little yellow songbook. There was a large, framed picture of George Washington, the first President of the United States on the wall. Nellie’s father made the frame. One teacher taught all 4 grades when Nellie attended. They used ink and paper, and everyone kept busy while the teacher was helping others.

They would play games like whip cracker, hide and seek, or play ball (their ball was a rock wound up in unraveled sock yarn). She remembers never being found when she hid under the stage once. While she was there, they would get their water from Uncle Will Maples well, because the school well had gone bad.

Nellie remembers that Sam R. Butler, the superintendent at the time, would come around to each school, once a month, and check to see how things were going. The students all looked forward to him coming.

One exciting time, a student had poked a hole in the wall, and another student lit a match and threw it in and started a fire. The kids and teacher all started grabbing papers and everything to save outside, before the fire got put out.

Nellie got married when she was in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and started raising their family. Nellie and Henry Martin raised all their children in the house where Uncle Will had lived.

Three of her brothers attended Andrew Jackson College in Nashville, and they all found and married their wives there. *Bud joined the navy, and found his wife that way!*

**Betty Jo (Hodges) Johnson said** she didn't think she remembered anything that wasn't in her speech for the Historical Marker Dedication in 2003. So ...here it is.

On September 30, 1858, a deed was recorded in Madison County Court house that shows a parcel of land was purchased from Senah and Margaret Smith for the sum of one dollar. The first trustees were Dickson Cobb, James H. Poor and Canada Butler. Soon after securing the property the school was built just before the Civil War. It was a one-room log building with a large open fireplace for heating. The seats were split logs with peg legs and no backs.

A few years after the war, a frame building was added and at this time there were two teachers. The buildings were connected by a covered walk.

During this time, Poplar Ridge was considered to be the best school east of Huntsville Mountain. Teachers boarded with families in the community. Pupils came from surrounding communities to stay with friends and relatives during the week, so that they might have the advantage of a better education.

In those days the children carried their books in a homemade sack hung across their shoulder. There was always a Blue Back Speller in their book sacks. Their lunch was in a tin pail. School hours were from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. At one time there were 99 pupils enrolled here, and the principal was so anxious to have 100 pupils that he arranged to pick up Albert Butler, Sr., though underage. Albert, Sr. became a leading merchant in New Hope, who also had extensive farming and other business interests.

As with all buildings, changes were made. In later years, when some of us came to school, we can remember a black pot-bellied stove standing in the center of the room, to furnish our heat. I can still see it red hot on cold mornings when too much coal was put in. No one became very excited; we just turned from side to side and appreciated the heat. At that time we had a few low tables and small chairs and desks for seating. We also had blackboards. We sometimes brought our lunch wrapped in newspapers and made drinking cups from notebook paper for water pumped from the well.

Some of the teachers were quite outstanding and inspired their students to higher education. In those days the salary never exceeded \$25 per month.

For many years the teachers' salary was paid by subscriptions by those in the community that were interested in education. The State provided funds for only two or three months and there were times that school ran no more than seven months. The main supporters of the school during that time were F. T. Butler, J. E. Butler John Russell and Frank Ivy.

Inside there is a list of teachers that over the years taught here. Some received bachelors degrees from Winchester Normal, others attended auburn, the University of Alabama, Athens College and Florence State College, which at that time was only a State Teachers college.

The last 4 teachers were Miss Ida Whitaker, Miss Nell Chandler, Mrs. Dorothy (Hodges) Mellette and Miss Gertrude Dilworth. As most of you know, Dorothy Mellette was my oldest sister. She taught me, in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade. We had a family nickname for her so when school started, she told me to call her "sister" or "Ms. Mellette" instead of the nickname. Those names were too much for me, when I needed to get her attention, I would either go to her and touch her arm or pull her skirt. When I was in second grade, Miss Dilworth came and remained until the school closed in 1941.

At least 3 generations of local families received their early education here. James E. Butler one of the first teachers. Mr. Henry Horton taught here, and was elected Governor of Tennessee. Mr. Sam Butler served many years as County Superintendent of Education. Butler High School in Huntsville was named for him. Former Judge W. E. Butler received his early education here.

Over the years, this school served as a community meeting place for functions such as Political Meetings, Singings, a Voting Place and meeting place for the Home Demonstration Club.

We today express our appreciation to all that over the years have maintained the grounds and building, and to all who over the past months have spent many hours arranging for this building to be a Historic Site, raising money for the Marker, and preparing for this day of dedication.

*(Betty Jo gave me the pictures that appear in John Ed Butler's memories, following.)*

**John Ed Butler** lived as a child in the same house he lives in with his wife, Cornelia, today. They moved back into the "big" house when their son Charles Watson was married and moved into the "little" house.

John Ed Butler started to first grade with Nell Chandler, but soon his brother Charles Owen became ill, and their mother, Hallie, kept them home and schooled them there. Then John Ed started at Poplar Ridge again when he was 6 years old and in second grade. His teacher from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade was Dorothy Hodges Millette. He had trouble with stuttering when he started, but eventually got over it..until..he started to New Hope in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and started stuttering again.

He remembers Ms. Hodges had told them all not to play in the ditch across the road, but when she came out, they were all over there in the ditch, except Doris Carpenter (*McGee*) and Estell Baford, so Doris and Estell got to stay outside and the rest had to go in.

It was sometime while John Ed was in school, that they removed the roofing shingles, and the bell tower, and replaced it with aluminum roofing. *(He was born in 1927, so that would make this picture later than 1931, maybe '33 or '34.)*



Poplar Ridge School, approximately 1930-31

John Ed and his friends Oneal Moon and D.M. McPeters usually carried their lunches to school, and would walk home together. Occasionally they would take the old mountain road back toward Jesse Moon's house and on around to David Moons again on Poplar Ridge Road. That was the long way home (even though his mother had told him to get right home after school). Sometimes Oneal's older brother, George Thomas (Bud) Moon would go after them and steal their uneaten lunches. Oneal told John Ed the way to break him of it would be by making a banana, mayonnaise sandwich, only put pepper on it, so John Ed did just that, and it worked.

Doris' daddy usually came for her in the car, so in bad weather, the boys often rode with them.

Sometimes when his mother had somewhere to be in the day, he would stay at Moon's house. He and Oneal had made a seesaw on the barnyard gate. When his mother drove up to take him home, John Ed hopped right off, and Oneal splashed down in the puddle on his side of the gate.

Oneal's dad Clarence "Dinky" Moon was the bus driver for New Hope, and did maintenance work for both schools as well as putting in the crops. Many other good times with Dinky included blueberry picking jaunts and fishing trips.

John Ed remembers the principal, when he was at Poplar Ridge, was Mr. Brown, and he would slip into the room while the teacher had her back turned to the board, and she would be surprised when she found him quietly listening to her class.

John Ed and Cornelia both remember many Political rallies, ice cream socials, and Halloween parties at the school, which was the social center for the community.



This picture was taken in the 1980's sometime.

**Doris (Carpenter) McGee** started school at Poplar Ridge when she was 6 years old in 1933. Her first teacher was Nell Chandler. Nell wasn't married, and stayed with her cousin's family, the Walter Hodges. Doris usually walked to school or sometimes her dad (Harry Carpenter) would take her in the wagon. Her memories of the school, include the cloak room across the front of the building. Doris didn't want to take her cap off, but Miss Nell made her. There was a shed over the well in the back yard of the school, and the girl's outhouse behind that.

She remembers that the boys would make houses out of sage grass during recess or lunch. Another game played was trying to jump over bars and then keep raising them. Doris tried too high once, and tore her silk dress, for which she got whipped by her Mamma when she got home. (The plum trees were well pruned on their place!) (Doris had stripes on her legs when she started teaching herself, because of things she had done to her sister, Marcell.

The second year at Poplar Ridge, Doris had Dorothy Hodges (Walter's daughter) as her teacher. Doris received an award for the highest grades at the year end program. John Ed Butler's mother (Hallie) had offered the reward.

Tom "Bud" Moon loved to aggravate Doris. Once he pushed her into "dry creek" and tore her knees up pretty bad. Another time she remembers he took her pack of balloons that her daddy had given her.

She remembers there was a girl from Huntsville staying with Moons and one stayed up on Keel Mountain, another stayed in a tenant house below the school.

Others going to school, but in other classes, included Imogene Baker, Lorene, Gardener and J. C. McPeters. Bud's brother and sister, Alton and Lenzie, also Ruby Martin.

Doris tells about the Watts family from Rumsey Hollow, back up the road just south of the school. They were an acrobatic family, and would sometimes perform on the stage at the school.

Other memories of Doris are woven within and without this book, as we read and reread.

### **M. L. Wilhelm remembers:**

He was visiting at a neighbors house when Ida Whitaker, the school teacher at Poplar Ridge, stopped to visit also and asked him why he was not in school. He said he wasn't 6 yet, and she said he should be going, and she would pick him up the next morning.

Miss Ida drove a B model coupe, and did indeed pick him the next day, as well as Jamie Russell, who lived (close by).

M.L. remembers Ida had a long switch and would hit you over the shoulder and down the back, thus maintaining order in her classroom. He remembers he sat in a double desk with a big boy (Bill Ayers), who would wait until Miss Ida's attention was on other things, and would scoot over and push M.L. off on the floor. Miss Ida would discipline M.L. with the switch and words, and it would continue to happen until finally she caught Bill in the act.

Miss Ida Whitaker lived in New Hope where the Charlie Butler house is behind the New Hope United Methodist Church, on Old Gurley Pike.

When asked about teachers he knew, M.L. said he only went to Poplar Ridge that one year, and went to New Hope as soon as he turned 6. However, living in the neighborhood, he believes that Dorothy Hodges Mellette, who was raised west of the school, down Hodges Road, probably preceded Miss Ida, and Louise Merrell before her. Louise boarded with the George Woody family. Olga Howard was probably next just before Gertrude Dilworth, who was teaching there when they consolidated the schools.

*(The 1920 Census for Poplar Ridge does show Louise Merrell boarding with George Woody, and his daughter Minnie (Woody) Tabor is 7 years old.)*

M. L. presently owns the land behind the school. It was given to him by his great grandfather, Horatio Smith.

M. L. is the son of Alonzo Wilhelm, who is the son of Ambros. M. L. has a son Micky, and daughter Deborah who married Kent Bliss, they live in Texas (2007)

**George Thomas “Bud” Moon** remembers:

Bud started Poplar Ridge School when he was about 7 and walked about 1 ½ miles on a gravel road, from the southernmost tenant house on the Charlie T. Butler farm. He and his family worked for Charlie. Bud remembers he earned 50 cents a day, but it all went to his family.

Bud attended his first 4 years at Poplar Ridge. He only remembers having two teachers. Miss Louise Merrell used to play with the kids during free time. One day, they were playing tag among the hickory trees, and she tripped and fell flat on her back and her dress flew up, and all were quite embarrassed and didn't know what to do.

Miss Ida Whitaker was his favorite. He remembers she would take him sometimes to spend the night at the Whitaker home, and since her Ford had only one seat, and it was filled with lots of books, Bud had to ride in the trunk.

It was Bud's job to build the fire in the pot belly stove in the middle of the classroom. He wasn't really fond of school, and his most regular punishment was to draw a circle on the blackboard, and stand with his nose in the circle. Kids would sometimes eat lunch, sitting under the stage area at the front of the classroom. They would pump their water from the well in the yard. He doesn't really remember taking any certain lunch, maybe they were too poor to send one. He remembers that his family used to melt sugar and use it for syrup on biscuits for breakfast. One morning he was late coming down for breakfast, and the others were gone, and he spread what he thought was sugar syrup on his biscuit, however, it was the Caster Oil that his father took every day!

Bud remembers Ice Cream Socials on the school grounds. Some would play fiddles or guitars, and he remembers his Uncle Fred Baker would buck dance.

Bud's father raised chickens, and they would gather under the house near the fireplace, and occasionally, they would lift a floor board, and grab one to fry up for a supper treat!

Bud never had a birth certificate, but right before his mother, Frances Jane “Jennie” died, she took him to the court house and got one for him. He quit school after the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and went into the Navy. When the recruiter came to the house, he asked how old George Thomas was. His dad, Clarence, asked how old he had to be. The recruiter said 18. and his dad said “that's how old he is”! So...1921 is the year of his birth!, and November 2 is the day. He says he earned \$22.50 a month when he joined the Navy. Bud has many Navy experiences to share, he's been written up in the paper, and his buddy Thomas Mullin has even written a book about him, but most significant is probably that he went through basic training with Platoon 139, who all died on the USS Arizona, but his best friend Chuck Colburn, who enlisted from New Hope at the same time as Bud, talked him into saying he could box, and they ended up going over to the USS Tuscaloosa for a boxing match. Bud has a copy of the minute by minute record of the invasion of Normandy.

When Bud retired, he and his uncle Fred Baker built a house for Bud and his wife, Annie, across the road from his sister Nellie Martin on Poplar Ridge Road. They lived there until 1985 when they moved into Huntsville, where they still live.

The house below is one of the Charles T. Butler tenant houses on the east side of Poplar Ridge Road. This is the house that George Thomas “Bud” Moon lived in when he left for the war. Bud’s dad and mom raised 6 children here.



**Rate / Rank**  
ICC

**Service Branch**  
USN

**Service Dates**  
10/1940 - 10/1960

**Born**  
11/2/1921  
NEW HOPE, AL



This is Thomas Moon – New York, 1944

## Poplar Ridge Homemakers History

“Maintaining the Poplar Ridge School” has been an ongoing project for the Poplar Ridge Homemakers since the School was closed at the time of consolidation with New Hope in 1941.

There are no records to be found that give the exact dates for the organization of the Poplar Ridge Homemakers. It began as “Poplar Ridge Home Demonstration Club” which was a part of Alabama and Madison County’s Agricultural Extension.

In a scrapbook dedicated to Mrs. C. T. Butler, there is a picture taken in 1950 of the club. In the picture are 3 charter members, Mrs. C. T. (Hallie Owen) Butler, Miss Laura Butler, and Mrs. Sallie (Ivy) Carpenter. There are other pictures in the scrapbook that are older than 1950, and daughters and sons of these charter members remember that the club met at the school building when school had been dismissed, and the children played outside, and, of course, trouble sometimes brewed! This would mean that the club had begun before the Schools were consolidated.

The name of the organization has changed several times through the years, but the purpose has remained the same.

- To strengthen, develop, coordinate and extend adult education in home economics.
- To Provide an opportunity for homemakers to pool their judgment and experience for progressive improvement of the home and community life.

The present group of Homemakers withdrew from the Madison County Extension when the County and State Extension programs began pulling us more and more out of the home and into State Funded activities that required more and more reports and requirements.

The Poplar Ridge Homemakers still meet at 10:00 A.M. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in the homes of the members, with occasional excursions. The club still works at seeing to the upkeep of the now Historicalized School Building, and are indeed pleased to sponsor the Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Priscilla J. Scott, Secretary



This picture of the Poplar Ridge Home Demonstration Club includes the following people somewhat in order, but some names are not known with which face: Mrs. C. T. (Hallie) Butler, Miss Laura Butler, and Mrs. Sallie Carpenter are all three Charter Members. Mrs. P. R. Ivy, Mrs. Onone Cook, the County Agent, Mae Butler, Aileen Moon, Lorene (Woody) Hodges, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Effie Sauls, Mrs. L. T. Lyons, Mrs. Lorene Adair, Ozzie Ikard, Mary Jane Mattick, Joyce and Ann Mattick, Marie and Brenda Maples.



This picture is in front of the Harry Carpenter home.  
Back Row: Mary Jane Mattick, Maude Baker, Exie Perkins, Cornelia Butler, Ollie Mae Perkins, Sallie Carpenter, Mrs. Lizzie Lyons, Grace Woody, Laura Butler, and Nellie Martin.  
Seated: Mrs. Onone Cook, Home Demonstration County Agent, Lorene Hodges, Aileen Moon, Mary Moon, Judy Moon, and Maude's daughter, Barbara Baker.

I couldn't get this newspaper article to scan legibly, so I typed it in.  
We're guessing it is the July meeting of 1961.

### **Poplar Ridge Slates Event**

HD Club to Sponsor Community Day

A homecoming for all pupils who attended the old Poplar Ridge School and for any others in the community interested will be held Aug. 5 from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Poplar Ridge Home Demonstration Club will sponsor the gathering, and refreshments will be served.

The school building now serves as a community center and as the precinct's voting place.

Plans for the homecoming were made at the last meeting of the club with Mrs. P. R. Ivey, Mrs. James Butler was co-hostess.

Named to assist in homecoming plans were four committees: hostesses, Mrs. Harry Carpenter, Miss Laura Butler and Mrs. J. G. McGee; drinks, Mrs. J. E. Butler, Mrs. Harvey Butler, Mrs. Wilson Moon, and Mrs. Charles Moon; cookies, Mrs. P. R. Ivey, Miss Laura Butler and Mrs. Harry Carpenter; publicity and attendance, Mrs. Charles E. Maples, Miss Laura Butler, Mrs. Charlie Butler.

At the club meeting, a tribute was paid to the late Sebe Keel,<sup>43</sup> minister of the community and mail carrier for the area for 47 years. Plans were made to dispense with the August meeting. Club members will attend the county wide Home Demonstration Club picnic instead.

Because curiosity gets the best of me, I've checked with others on the names I don't know, and included the given and maiden name of these women at the meeting.

Mrs. P. R. (Carrie) Ivey  
Mrs. James (Mae) Butler  
Mrs. Harry (Sallie Ivey) Carpenter  
Miss Laura Butler (John Ed's aunt)  
Mrs. J. G. (Mary Esslinger) McGee  
Mrs. J. E. (Cornelia Watson) Butler  
Mrs. Harvey (Lorene Perkins) Butler  
Mrs. Wilson (Aileen) Moon  
Mrs. Charles (Barbara Wright) Moon  
Mrs. Charles E. (Marie Perkins) Maples  
Mrs. Charlie (Hallie) Butler

<sup>43</sup> Lou Ann Poole found for me, that **Sebe Keel died June 16, 1961**. So it was most likely the July meeting of 1961.

A Home Demonstration Meeting at Mrs. Joe Brockway's home.



Jo (Martin) Frazier, Dorothy (Stapler) Brockway, and daughter Lori, JoDella (Craft) Powers, Mae Holt, Dora Sue (Wright) Brockway. Knowing Lori's birth date, makes this sometime in 1969.



Same couch, different women:  
Mary Moon, Betty Keel, Cornelia Butler, ? ? , Lorene Butler, Ailinie Moon, Exie Perkins  
The girl in orange is Jonna Frazier.



I guess everyone wanted to get a turn on the couch!  
Lorene Hodges. Hallie Butler, Mary McGee, ? ?, Laura Butler



**Mrs. Freeman  
Models**

Mrs. Bobby Freeman of New Hope was among the ladies modeling home-sewn fashions at the annual Extension Homemakers Club fashion show Monday night, April 5, at the Court House. There were over 50 models participating in the County wide review. Jewell was among 10 models that was invited to appear on WAAY - TV's Coffee Break, Thursday morning, April 8.

Last September she entered a white double knit coadress in the Northeast Alabama State Fair and won first place in the ladies dress division.

Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Herschel Moors were selected to represent the Poplar Ridge Homemakers Club in the fashion show. Due to the death of Mrs. Moore's father she was unable to participate.

1970

*Another article I couldn't scan:*

The Poplar Ridge Homemakers Club met at the home of Mrs. John Ed Butler, Thursday morning, December 17, for their annual Christmas program. Our state president, Cornelia Butler, gave a short report on her recent trip to Las Vegas to the National Homemakers Convention.

Eula Mae Ledbetter gave the devotion, and a program of Christmas songs and games was led by Ann Martin.

The officers for the coming year were installed by Jo Frazier in a meaningful candlelight program. They are as follows:  
 President, Dorothy Brockway  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Eula Mae Ledbetter  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Lorene Butler  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Sue Brockway  
 Secretary, Jewel Martin  
 Treasurer, Ann Martin  
 Song Leader, Mary McGee  
 Publicity Chairman, Judy Moore  
 Cards, Mary Moon  
 Devotions, Jo Frazier  
 Phone, Exie Perkins.

The club members had fun exchanging gifts and discovering who their secret pals had been for the year. Eight boxes were filled with Christmas goodies for shut-ins in the community.

The January meeting will be in the home of Mary Moon.



### Homemakers Clubs Meet Here

About 700 representatives of extension homemaker clubs from throughout the state are in Huntsville attending the annual meeting of the Alabama Extension Homemakers Council at the Sheraton Motor Inn today. Mrs. John Ed Butler, right, Rt. 1, New Hope, is president of the council. With her are Mrs.

Mary E. Coleman, assistant director for women's work of Auburn University Extension Service, and Dr. Fred R. Robertson, vice president for extension of Auburn. Mrs. J. L. Moreman of Albertville, not pictured, was elected first vice president last night. The organization includes 24,600 members in 1,140 homemaker clubs. (Times Photo)

(1971)

### Poplar Ridge Clubhouse Project Set

Mrs. Ann Martin gave the demonstration on arranging furniture in the home during the meeting of the Poplar Ridge Homemakers Club in the home of Mrs. Clayton Hodges.

Plans were discussed for raising funds to repair the clubhouse, which is a one-room school house and one of the oldest in Madison County. It was decided to contact every person who votes there (in the 13th precinct) and ask all interested to make donations. These may be made to Mrs. John Ed Butler. Contributions are asked from others who live outside the community and are interested.

Club members donated articles for Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa.

The Poplar Ridge Homemakers Club met last Friday at the home of Mrs. Betty Keel.

Mrs. Cornelia Butler and Mrs. Mildred Stewart gave a demonstration on "Parties and Teas." In the business session of the meeting it was decided to keep the same officers for another year. There were twenty-one members and one guest present.

The October meeting will be the annual Bake Sale at Jewel Freeman's home.

1971

From a paper clipping in the Homemaker's Scrapbook, is the following:

"The Poplar Ridge Community is planning a reunion for all residents and former residents in conjunction with "Alabama Reunion". The event is scheduled for Saturday at 3 pm at the Poplar Ridge School."

**(June 10, 1989)**

The picture below is of the "Former Students" who attended the June celebration. We were neglectful in identifying the picture at the time, but will take a stab at it now:



Standing l-r: Betty Jo (Hodges)Johnson, Doris (Carpenter) McGee, ? 3 ?, Charles P. "Billy" Butler, Anna Lu (McPeters) Keel, ? 6 ?, ? 7 ?, ? 8 ?, Martha Bell (Woody) Kennamer, ? 10 ?, James H. Butler, Clayton Hodges, John Ed Butler, James "Buddy" Hilliard, Thomas (Bud) Moon, M. L. Wilhelm, Charles Moon, Robert Earl Martin, William Moon.

Seated l-r: Louise (Butler) Marsh, Mrs. Fred (Roxie) Maples, Dorothy (Hodges) Millette, Margaret Marsh, Mattie Whitaker, Belle (Martin) Frazier, Nellie (Moon) Martin, and John Henry Martin.

**Homecoming - June 10, 1989** People who attended were asked to sign in and list the names of their teachers, if they attended Poplar Ridge School. The register is as follows:

Name	Teacher
Adolph and Thelma (Moon) Smith	1921 Roscoe Ivy and Mr. Upton
Lena (Moon) Glover	Mr. Whitaker
Nellie (Moon) Martin	Mrs. C. T. Butler
Henry Martin	
Syble Whitaker	
Elma Smith	
Martha Belle (Woody) Kennamer	Mrs. Ida Whitaker
Clayton Hodges	
Henderson Woody	Louise Merrill
Ruth Moon	
James H. and Mae Butler	
Kaylynne Butler (granddaughter)	
Annie Lou Keel	
Jessie Mae McCain	
Raymond and Belle (Martin) Frazier	
Ruby (Martin) Northam	Mellette
Leota Hodges	
Hester Snow	
John G. and Doris (Carpenter) McGee	Dorothy Mellette
Margie (Woody) Page	
Clinton and Val Woody	
Hattie Maples	
Maud Baker	
Thelma Freeman	
Marvin Page	
James and Ruth Record	
Bob and Betty Jo (Hodges) Johnson	
Margie Woody	
William and Ruby Moon	Dorothy Hodges
Thomas and Ann Moon	Ida Whitaker
Leonard, Eddie & Steadman McPeters	
Mattie Whitaker	
Simon Whitaker	
Nancy Maples	
Roxie Maples	
Harvey and Lorene Butler	
Harold and Barbara Clark	
Tressye Maples	
Jamie Russell Maples	
Lillian (Turner) Pullen	Dr. Whitaker, W.W.White, Leatha Sibley
Katherine Baker and Hugh	
Imogene (Baker) Moore	Miss Howard 1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> grades

(Homecoming Registration cont.)

Ruby Wilhelm

Dorothy (Hodges) Mellette

Charles & Barbara Moon

Priscilla Scott

Billy and Mary Sue Butler

Gardner and Mary Moon

Robert E. and Inez Martin

Charles C. Butler

Charlotte, Daniel & Christopher Mann

Jerry Craig

M. L. Wilhelm

Louise Butler Marsh

Sam Butler

Jason Bearden

Beulah Lyon

Sally Lyon Garrard

Buford & Edna Warren

John Ed and Cornelia Butler

Lonnie and Peggy (Woody) Bowling

Mrs. H. C. (Woody) Blevins

Marie Wells

Aileen Moon

Barry Blevins

Buddy and Dorothy (Woody) Kelly

Patsy and Dick Hunter

Buddy and Shelby Hilliard

D. M. McPeters

Jerry N. Moon

Linda Keel

Eugene, Ollie Mae and Steve Perkins.

Dr. Whitaker, White, Sibley and Aubrey Drake  
1110 Poplar Ridge Rd., New Hope, Al.

108 Brookwood, Athens, Al.

W. D. White

Whitaker

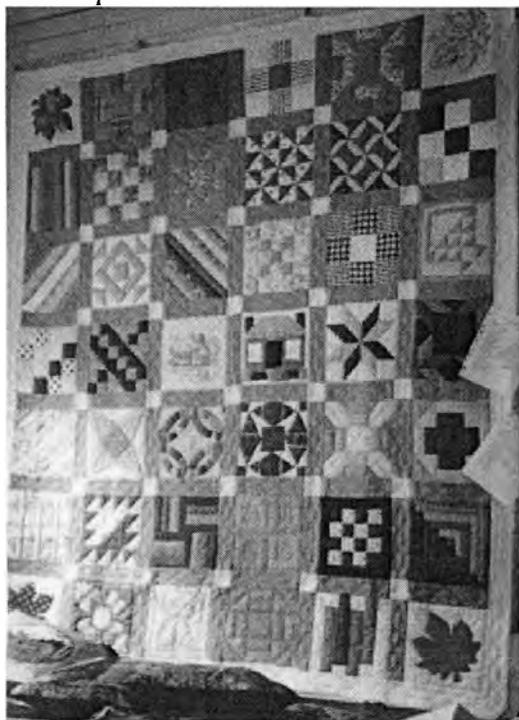
**2003**

Through much hard work and research by John Ed and Cornelia Butler, Doris McGee, and Charles Watson Butler, plans were approved to place an historical marker at the site of the Poplar Ridge School. There was research of dates and architecture and meetings with the Madison County Historical Society, and Mr. Luttrell, and Jones and Herrin, to describe the style and then we had to come up with the money to pay for it!

The Poplar Ridge Homemakers began making plans to earn the money, and plan a dedication for it. We first sent letters of solicitation to former students, friends, and members of the community. We also decided to solicit quilt squares members and friends and neighbors who would be willing to provide one, and create a Sampler Quilt.

The members had made a "Broken Dishes" quilt to raffle off several years prior, so we thought we could attempt another one. We also planned a Yard Sale and Bake Sale at the school house.

Quilt squares were donated by: Evelyn Aday, Dorothy Brockway, Cornelia Butler, Arlene Duncan, Jo Frazier, Thelma Freeman, Judy Gillespie, Betty Johnson, Eula Mae Ledbetter, Nancy Maples, Doris McGee, Aileen Moon, Ollie Mae Perkins, Priscilla Scott, Ellen Smith, Linda Solmon, Imogene Whitaker, Syble Whitaker, Shirley Williams, and Allene Woody. Priscilla Scott and Linda Solmon put the squares together, and we put it up in the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library in downtown New Hope, and members and friends came and quilted whenever they could. We sold tickets and drew the Raffle Ticket at the yard sale. I'm including a picture of the quilt here:



It was won by one of our own members, Mrs. Yvonne Rivard!!



Above: We started Sweeping: Imogene Whitaker, Cornelia Butler, and Arline Duncan.



Syble (Self) Whitaker and Doris (Carpenter) McGee dusting and whisking.

We produced a Program.

#### Credits

This Historical Marker was made possible by the generosity of friends and alumni of Poplar Ridge School.

Special thanks to the family of Louise Butler Marsh for giving us permission to reproduce and sell copies of her Ink Drawing of the school.

Thanks to District #3 Commissioner Jerry Craig and his crew for upkeep of the school and grounds, and erecting the marker.

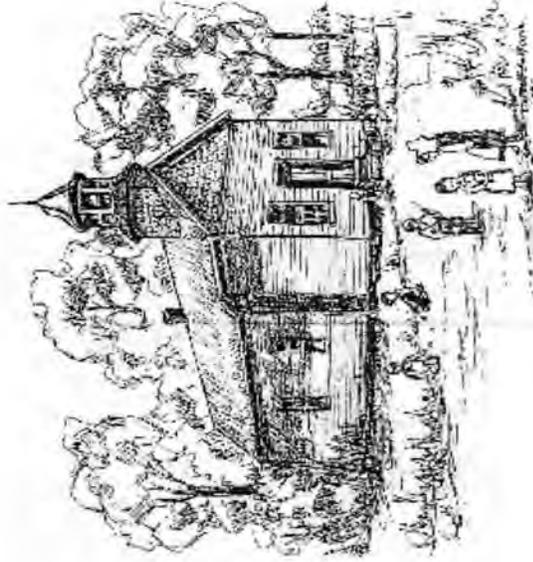
Thank to Bertie Preston for the framed pictures inside.

The Poplar Ridge Homemakers want to thank all who helped us accomplish our goal.

# *Poplar Ridge School*

1858 – 1941

Historical Marker Dedication



October 25, 2003  
1:30 P. M.



We put on the show!

Welcome	Mr. John Ed Butler
Invocation	Rev. Michael Carpenter
Music	Janet Cross
History	Betty Jo Johnson
Marker Unveiling	Doris McGee
Marker Presentation	Priscilla Scott
Music	Bob Johnson
Closing Remarks	
Benediction	

Sixty Seven people came from all corners, and a good time was had by all!



Former students of Poplar Ridge School at the 2003 Historical Marker Dedication:  
Thomas “Bud” Moon, Betty Jo (Hodges) Johnson, Doris (Carpenter)McGee, Minnie(Woody)Tabor,  
John Ed Butler, M. L. Wilhelm, Martha Bell(Woody) Kennemer, Nellie (Moon) Martin.



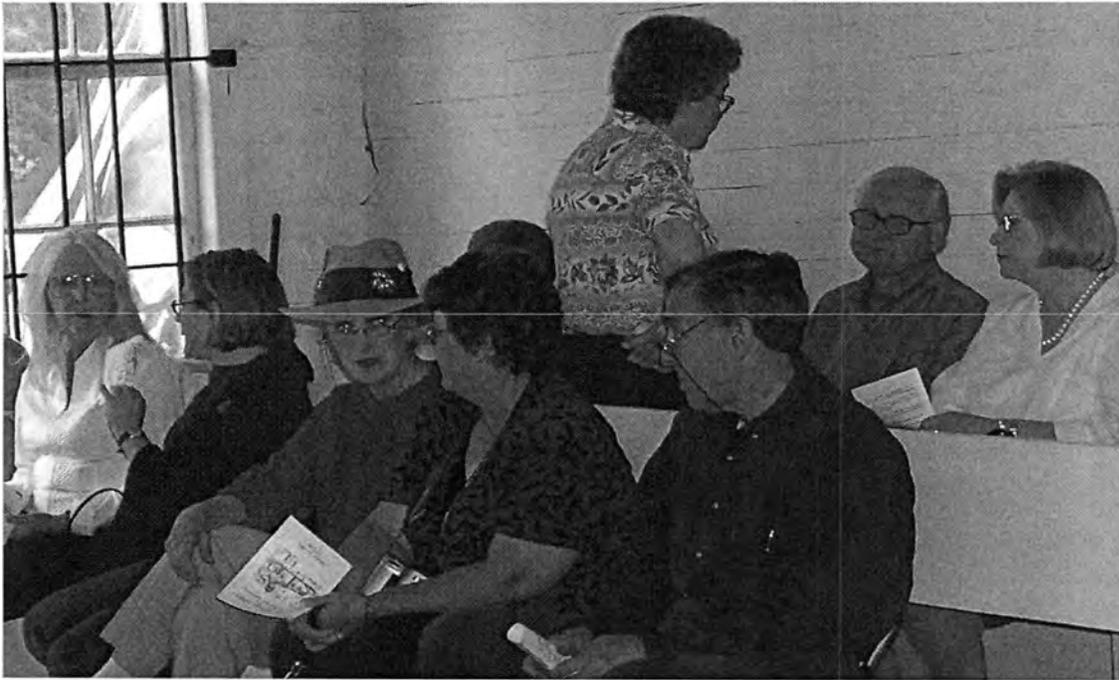
More students: Martha Bell (Woody) Kennemer, Charles Moon (behind), Nellie (Moon) Martin, Dorothy  
(Woody) Kelly, Charles P. “Billy” Butler, Marcell (Carpenter) Dean, Robert Earl Martin.



After several stolen bells, the last bell has been restored and encased by Rex Moon, and was displayed in front of the stage area inside the school, just in time for the Historical Marker Dedication in 2003.



Young James Butler Eaton is ready for the bell to ring and start class. He might even be sitting in the same seat that his Grandpa John Ed Butler sat.



The crowd awaits: l to r: ?, ?, Ava (Warren) Cameron, Mary Lou Glass, Charley McPeters,..standing is Marcell Dean, talking with Gregg and Marie Hodges.



Don't look at those cookies! We still have to hear the speeches!  
Cornelia Butler, Arline Duncan, Shirley Williams, Imogene Whitaker, Nellie Martin, Ann Moon, Aileen Moon.



John Ed Butler welcomes and makes introductions to start the 2003 celebration!



Ralph and Janet (Martin) Cross share their music.



Betty Jo (Hodges) Johnson tells the History of Poplar Ridge School



Priscilla Scott and Doris (Carpenter) McGee unveil the Historical Marker



Betty Jo's husband, Bob Johnson, treated us to some dulcimer music.

**Historical Marker Dedication Attendance – October 25, 2003**

<u>Name in Attendance</u>	<u>67 total</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Julia Jane Marsh		
Lillian Louise Butler		
Ruth (Butler) Doak		
John and Priscilla Scott		
Nellie (Moon) Martin		
Imogene Whitaker		
Syble (Self) Whitaker		
Arline (Craft) Duncan		

Ava (Warren) Cambron	
Charley W. McPeters	
Martha Belle (Woody) Kennemer	
Linda Kay	
John Ed and Cornelia Butler	
Rex and Sherry Moon	
Aileen Moon	
Eugene and Ollie Mae (Baker) Perkins	
M. L. Wilhelm	Miss Ida Whitaker
John W. and Dorothy (Woody) Kelly	
Mary Lou Glass	
Thomas (Bud) and Annie Moon	Ida Whitaker and Louise Merrill
Mark and LouAnn (Whitaker) Poole	
Bob and Betty Jo (Hodges) Johnson	Dorothy Millette and Miss Dillworth
Gregg and Marie Hodges	
Raymond E. Hodges	
Homer Ray and Beagie Stewart	
Robert Earl and Inez Martin	Dilworth
Mary Webster	
Minnie Tabor	
Jason L Webster	
Lisa (Glover) Hicks	
Diane (Cambron) Glover	
Ralph, Janet (Martin), and Alyssa Cross	
Charles W. and Donna Butler	
Margie Woody	
Nancy Hicks	
Nancy Maples	
Billy and Mary Sue Butler	
Rev. & Mrs. Michael Carpenter	
Bertie Preston	
Michael and Annie (Moon) Keel	
Olivia and Gracen Keel	
Bernice Dilworth	
Mary Jones Mitchell	
James Butler Eaton	
Alice (Butler) Eaton	
Hardie R. Keel	
Shirley Williams	
Charles C. Moon	Dilworth
Doris C. McGee	Dorothy Hodges Mellette
Marcell C. Dean	Dilworth



The 2008 Spring Excursion by Poplar Ridge Homemakers was to Burritt Museum on Monte Sano.

From l to r:

Ava Cambron, Jimmie Ruth Richard, Cathy Hamilton, Shirley Williams, Imogene Whitaker, Ollie Mae Perkins, Cornelia Butler, Arline Duncan, Priscilla Scott and Syble Whitaker.



Lou Ann Poole (one of our members) is cooking for us in the Chandler House, which was taken to Burritt from Old Gurley Pike, New Hope, Al., just north of Honea Lane. Sausage and Fried Apples smothered in butter and brown sugar! Mmmmmm!

Resources - such as they are:

1930 United States Federal Census  
 1920 United States Federal Census  
 1910 United States Federal Census  
 1900 United States Federal Census  
 1880 United States Federal Census  
 1870 United States Federal Census  
 1860 United States Federal Census  
 1850 United States Federal Census

Websites: Findagrave.com ; glorecords.com; ancestry.com; heritagequest.com; dimplesattic.net;

“Medicine Bags and Bumpy Roads”, by Jewell S. Goldsmith, and Helen D. Fulton, Pub. By Valley Publishing Co. 1985

“The Heritage of Madison County, Alabama”, Pub. by Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., 1998.

“The Samuel Butler Chronicle, A Genealogy of North Alabama Butlers”, by Almira B. Butler, 1980.

“Keel – Whitaker, Keel and Related Families, Part I”, by Hilda Aldridge Barnette, Ola Aldridge Johnson, and Percy Brooks Keel, Jr. and “Whitaker Wanderings”, Part II, by Harold Glenn Whitaker, 3rd Printing, Gregath Co, 1994. Both are in the same book at the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library of New Hope.

“Welcome to Big Cove”, by William Sibley, Pub. By William Sibley, 2003.

“On the Occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Alabama”, a Valley Leaves special edition. December 1969.

Family Tree Books, by Louise Brockway Thedford that she published herself and donated to the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library of New Hope.

The “Pioneer Families” DVD, donated by Louise Brockway Thedford, to the library, with the hopes that people would peruse it, and make corrections and additions to make their own family tree.

“A Maples Leaf” Revision Number One, Compiled by Mary Ford Southworth and Joann Thomas Elkin. Susan (Maples) Christian, was willing to trust me with her copy for the duration of the research.

“Probate Genealogy of Williamson County, Tenn.” 1<sup>st</sup> Ed., Johnson, Albert L. (I found it at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library in the Heritage Room.

Madison County Records Center, located on the third floor in the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library. Rhonda Larkin has help to locate the original deed, as well as Probate Records that helped in pulling the James Harvey Poor family together. Their website at: [co.madison.al.us/mcrc/](http://co.madison.al.us/mcrc/) is extremely easy to use for Madison County Marriages, possible Probate Records, and many other unique findings. I wish every county had a site this great!

Here again, I have probably neglected to mention many of the places I found information.

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