



# Coffee County Historical Society NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2016



<b>Board of Directors</b>		
Vice President.....Evans Baird	Recording Secretary.....Pat Berges	President.....Joanna Lewis
Treasurer.....Frances F. Simmons	Publications Editor.....Pat Berges	Corresp.Secretary.....Patty Roberts
Director.....Beverly Vetter	Director.....Max Northcutt	Immed. Past President.....Evans Baird
		Director.....Wayne Bryan

### *President's Message*



I am so proud of what we have accomplished so far at the Courthouse. Our new room that at present time is called the "Negative Room" has become a great asset to our future. Several people have spent hours arranging the approximately 8,000 Doak photo negatives in alphabetic order (not an easy task) to bring us closer to making pictures from those negatives. We've had a couple of people volunteer to come in when we finalize our files to print these photos. So, for those people who lived in Coffee County during the 40's and 50's, we are looking forward to helping you find memories. On another note, be sure and visit our more efficiently laid out Office. Lots and lots of file cabinets with family files and local history. Also our Library books have been properly arranged and we now have a written guide to help you find the book that will help

you with your genealogy and local history. We have purchased more chairs for our meeting room, so plan on coming to our next meeting. We welcome all visitors, so please stop by for a visit.

*- Joanna Lewis*

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**Coffee County Historical Society**  
**101 W. Fort Street, Box 2**  
**Manchester TN 37355**  
**931-728-0145**  
[cchs1969@att.net](mailto:cchs1969@att.net)  
 Webpage: [www.cchtnhs.org](http://www.cchtnhs.org)

**Office in the historic Courthouse**  
**Open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday**  
**9:00 to 1:00.**

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### Current Membership

Current Members	98
Life Members	41
Exchange (other historical societies with whom we exchange publications)	6
Complimentary	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	149

+ 122 people receive Newsletter Only



**Welcome  
New Members!**



Robert Doyle Trail  
P. O. Box 101  
Beech Grove, TN 37018

**Welcome new Life Member!**



## **NEW BOOKS IN OUR CCHS LIBRARY**

6-Volume Pictorial History of the 2nd World War, W. H. Wise & Co. (1944),  
*Many thanks for the donations! Beverly Vetter, Librarian*

Next Meeting of Coffee Co. Historical Society

### **ANNUAL PICNIC**

**Saturday, July 9, 4:00 p.m., Fred Deadman Park**

**Program: History Trivia Game  
(with prizes!)**

**CCHS will furnish meat and beverages.  
Please bring a covered dish and enjoy the fun!**

## **NEWS FROM STUDENT-TEACHER COLLABORATIVE**

**Congratulations to history lesson plan contest winners:**

**Elementary Schools**

**Rachel Williams, Deerfield Elementary, *"WWII / General Patton"***

**Secondary Schools**

**Megan Benton, Coffee Co. Raider Academy, *"Population & Demography, Primary Resource Analysis & Research Project"***

**Winners received balloons, a certificate and a chromebook for their classrooms.**

The next meeting of the **Moore County Historical and Genealogical Society will be held Sunday June 12, 2016 at 2.00 PM at the Masonic Hall in Lynchburg.** The program will be about Cemeteries, documentation and location.. The speaker will be Dr. Gerald Smith of Sewanee who teaches at the University of the South. Since 1998, Smith has been doing primary field research on the cemeteries of Middle Tennessee, visiting dozens of cemeteries each year, particularly those long abandoned and overgrown. In 1999 he and Columbia, Tennessee student Lonsdale Green co-authored a paper presented in London on the "Stone Burial Monuments of Middle Tennessee."

### **TULLAHOMA PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

The June meeting of the Historic Preservation Society of Tullahoma will feature a tour of Miss Cynthia's home in 1855. This translates to a tour of the Society's log cabin on the grounds of the 500 block of S. Jackson St.in Tullahoma conducted by docent Cindy Roe Young. Members and guests are invited to a covered dish supper there on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 5:30 pm. The Society will furnish drinks. We will eat on the grounds at the log cabin or inside the former Red Cross Building nearby in case of rain. Please come to this fun meeting and hear how life might have been like in the early days of the city.

### **Grundy Co. Historical Society needs Yearbooks**

The Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company Library at the Heritage Center in Tracy City needs Grundy County High School Yearbooks from the following years: 1932, 1933, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1974, 1984, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016. If you can supply us with one or more of these, please contact Janelle Taylor, [jcoats@cafes.net](mailto:jcoats@cafes.net), or contact us on Facebook.

## **Warren County Genealogical Association**

**Saturday, June 18, 2016**

**2 p.m. Members Meeting**



**Touring the Rock Martin House following the meeting – Join us!**

## Coffee County Historical Society, Inc.

### Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2016

<b>Report ending April 30 , 2016</b>	Reg. Savings Account	\$	2,140.60
	Checking Account	\$	1,476.46
	Fundraising for Courthouse	\$	6,288.97
		\$	<u>9,806.03</u>

### Transactions for January 2016

#### Regular Checking Account

<b>Income</b>	Office Copies	\$	5.00
	Book sales	\$	112.60
	Membership Dues Rec'd	\$	230.00
		\$	<u>347.60</u>

#### Expenses

Postage	\$	6.68
Telephone & Internet	\$	108.61
One-half Ancestry.com	\$	149.70
Cleaning expense (moving furniture)	\$	50.00
Dues (Sam's Club \$45, Mid. TN. Gen. Soc. \$25)	\$	70.00
	\$	<u>384.99</u>

**Fundraising for Courthouse Expense** (Carpet & installation in Negatives Room) \$ 690.77

<b>New Balances as of May 31 2016</b>	<b>Regular Savings Account</b>	\$	2,140.60
	<b>Checking Account</b>	\$	1,439.07
	<b>Fundraising Account</b>	\$	<u>5,498.20</u>
		\$	9,077.87

- *Frances F. Simmons*, Treasurer

*Words to Live by:*

**Television may insult your intelligence, but nothing rubs it in like a computer.**

## HELP

If you have free time on Wednesday, Friday or Saturday mornings between 9:00 and 1:00, we could use some help in the office alphabetizing the photo negatives so we can begin scanning them. No appointment needed – just drop in whenever you can. We thank you!

## From James L. Douthat, Mountain Press (reprinted with permission)

### Miss Manners

Robert Fulghum said it best when he wrote, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten." So much for the truth of life. Since there were no public kindergartens in the mid 1940's I guess I could be excused, but I still learned a few things about manners. A couple of weeks ago I spent three days at the Tennessee State Archives researching various materials. I was in their manuscript section where there are many rare, one-of-a-kind books. I was researching the W.P.A. collection of Tennessee County Court Records. These books were collected during the 1930s as part of the W.P.A. project to get people working to help recover from the depression. Men and women were sent into the court house to hand copy many of the older records of each county. These hand copied records were then typed onto onion skin paper which is semi-transparent and very thin. Sometimes multiple copies were made and the State Archives had the best copy hard bound and placed on the shelves for patrons to use. This all sounds so very wonderful, until some genealogists take advantage of the system.

In copy after copy, I found information written in the margins, entries marked out and notes written. Granted I know full well that some court records are incorrect. I have transcribed several thousands of these original records and note many variations in their records. Remember that clerks are human beings and subject to errors just like many genealogists. Who is to say how the name FARIS is to be spelled? In just one deed, I found it spelled "FARRIS, FARIS, and FARRISS." It is always important to look for various spellings when researching and realize that errors are made.

Making corrections to printed material is bad enough, but then there were those that had used a highlighter pen to underline and mark through various names. Do people not realize that the highlighter will over time destroy the ink of the original and the paper itself? I can understand those libraries where you are locked in the research room and you are allowed to take nothing into the room with you and they examine carefully any paper that you remove from the room. They are just protecting their materials that are usually not available elsewhere and if they can be purchased, they are very expensive. For example, if your family had a genealogy printed during the 1940's, copies will be difficult to find and very expensive. My grandmother's family had one published in 1942. A copy of the original was \$3.50 and if you can even find an original, you would have to pay at least hundreds of dollars.

If you find something that appears to be an error, then please make a copy of the page in question, make your corrections on the copy, and then give the copy to the librarian. Please do not write on the original or use a highlighter on the original. Let the experts handle any changes that need to be made.

Am I hot to trot over this issue? You bet I am. A few years ago, I opened my private library to the public since I have many originals and rare books. Over the years, I had many people request to come research in my library. After the third or fourth group visited, I found several books where a highlighter was used to mark the index and pages. I found one page completely covered in yellow. Unfortunately, I had to close my library to the public. Many of my books are out of print and not able to be replaced, so I could not take the chance of ruining the items.

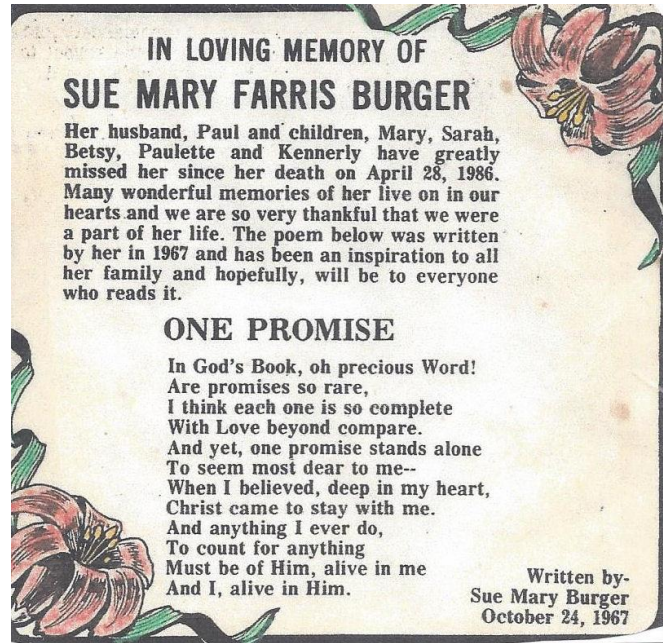
Keep in mind that libraries exist for our benefit and a few simple manners will go a long way in keeping the material available to others. Please don't think that the material is only relevant to you and no one else will mind if you mark a page or two. In many cases, you are handling materials that are hundreds of years old. They have stood the test of time, so don't shorten their life span. Let's maintain our resources for the many generations to follow!

## BURGER FAMILY ALBUM

These family photos were submitted by Betsy Burger Allen, daughter of Paul and Sue Burger. Thanks so much for sharing a bit of your family's history with us!



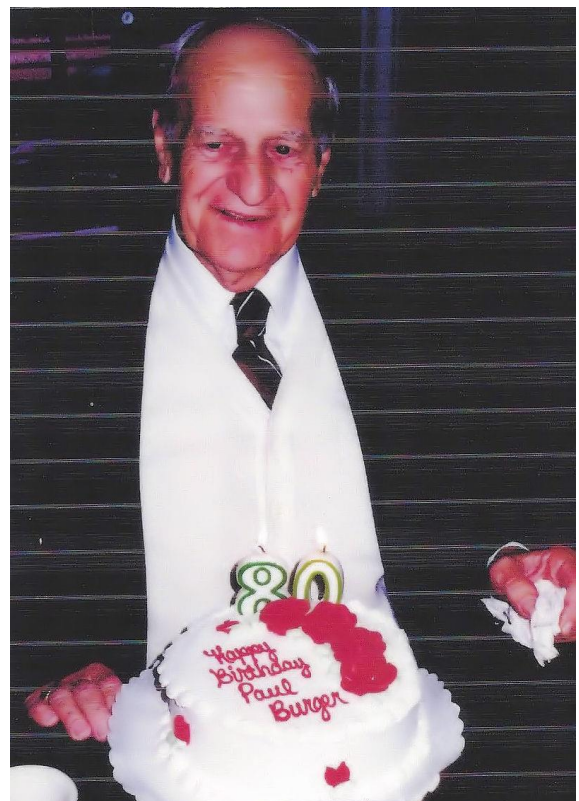
Lee & Betsy (Burger) Allen 50<sup>th</sup> Anniv.



Sue Burger Memorial



Paul, Sue & Betsy Burger



Paul Burger's 80th Birthday