

THE CORNSHELLER

Newsletter of the Montgomery County
Historical Society



Volume 36, Issue 11

Sandra J Stacey, Editor

November 2013

All programs meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Unless otherwise stated.

*** All regular meetings will be held at the Civic Center located in the Veterans' Plaza ***

November 14 Thursday 5:00 Executive Board Meeting
November 18 Drs. Richard Gildrie & Howard Winn
"History of Early Colleges situated on Campus of APSU"

December 9, Monday 5:00 Christmas Dinner & Program "Randy Stone, Soloist & Flutist with wife Kayla"

Christmas Dinner & Program



Christmas Dinner is Monday, December 9 with delightful seasonal entertainment by Kayla and Ray Stone, vocalists and trumpeter, thanks to the capable efforts of Bill and Carol Morris! A beautiful holiday atmosphere at Tanglewood will be the setting for a delicious dinner including appetizers at 5:00 and dinner at 5:30 to include salad, roast beef, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, drink and their signature peach cobbler! \$25.00 will get you the best seat in the house only if you mail your reservations to Linda Long, 1853 Madison Street, # 11, Clarksville, TN 37043 and beat the deadline of December 4th. Remember, Tom, Dick and Harry have been fired! Questions, 931-647-6259 or 931-249-2080.

Linda Long

* * *Reminder: Linda Long is the only authorized person to collect your money to reserve your place for the dinner. She also sets up the seating. Do not pay the president, the head of the program committee or any other person, or you will find you do not have a place at the table.

LOCATION

L&N Train Station 10th & Commerce Streets Clarksville, TN 37040 931.553.2486

MAILING ADDRESS ON BACK

Officers:

Historical:

Members at Large:

Cleo Hogan Marjorie Wade Jim Marshall

Immediate Past President: . . . Billyfrank Morrison

November Meeting

Doctors Howard Winn and Dick Gildrie will be speaking Monday, November 18 at 7:00 on the forerunners of APSU --- all schools of higher learning situated on the current campus of Austin Peay. Even Willie Blount (who had married a Montgomery County girl ... before he was elected Tennessee's governor) was a Trustee of the first school of this campus — called Rural Academy. The current campus was in the country then. Below APSU the day the bell tower was restored after the tornado of 1999.



COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT



The day was beautiful for the October outing at Montgomery Bell State Park. Since the park is state run, it was not affected by the government shut-down. Around 12 to 15 people attended the event. Below are some of the attendees:

Sandra J Stacey President





Rubye Patch



Elwin Patch

Carolyn & Harold Vann

LEAF-CHRONICLE
CLARKSVILLE, TENN, SATURDAY EVENING
JANUARY 3, 1903
LEACH & LEACH CARRIAGE AND BUGGY DEALERS



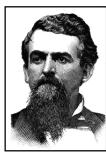
The Men Who Have Made Commerce a Live Business Street -They Come From a Good Country and Have Something to do With the Mule.

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It is a true saying that enterprising men, with energy and push, who go ahead steadily, are the people that fill up the waste places, establish businesses, and make a town grow. We have the example before us in the personnel of the fie whose name heads, this sketch — George I. and Al. M. Leach. The carriage and buggy dealers, on Commerce street. These gentlemen are brothers. They came here in 1897, strangers to the community. They are members of a numerous family, reared in Murfreesboro, a Tennessee town, whose greatest enterprise is that of producing Leaches for the betterment of the country, and as fast as the boys mature they are pushed out to make room for the younger set, and find a field for action, so that the family may not be crowded for space and monopolize the town. So we find a Leach house in Columbia, another in Pulaski, a strong firm in Murfreesboro and the two gentlemen located here,

The four houses all co-operate, and buy stock together, thus getting a good per cent off for their trade. Other members of the family are attending to the farms, raising mules, etc.

When the Leach Brothers came here they found two idle rooms on Commerce street between Third and Hiter, which nobody here could be induced to occupy, even rent free, because so far removed from the center of business. This is know as the Gorham building, which, despite bankrupting its builders, was a large asset of the Franklin bank, and finally fell on the hands of Mr. H. C. Merritt, because no one else would have it. These gentlemen paid Mr. Merritt his rent price for one room, 160 feet deep, and filled it with buggies, carriages, and other articles in that line.



Henry Clay Merritt
Picturesque Clarksville

Some people thought they could do no good down in that bottom - a busted location, but they had plenty of money to freeze out on, and went in.

However, people did not know anything about their get-up and energy - how they were raised on blue grass, and were given to mixing with people as well as understanding the carriage business, and how to buy so as to sell cheap, guaranteeing satisfaction.

It took them but little time to get acquainted with nearly everybody in the country who comes to Clarksville. Leach & Leach never forgot an acquaintance, and their personal popularity as men of integrity has continued to grow and spread, like the old woman's buttermilk. Now they have two of these large rooms filled with buggies, carriages, and all kinds of supplies, harness, rugs, whips, etc. A man can get any part or kind of carriage fitting wanted, in the rough or finished, and they are still stocking up for a wholesale business.

In addition to this they have lately added another house, now occupying four large rooms. This large part of the new building recently erected by Merritt and Warfield, one division being occupied by the Cooley mill. The new building is devoted to manufacturing and repairing, putting on rubber tires, etc., and is supplied with every fixture, device, and all materials needed in the business. A number of skilled mechanics are employed at the forge, in the wood department, and trimming, painting, and trimming, painting and varnishing are carried on in the upper room of the building.

Now Leach's is something like headquarters for the country people, and the town folks like to drop in on these genial gentlemen and exchange a few words, and if it is business, they are ready, prompt and reliable - their word is as good as a banknote.

It is also to be noted that the occupation of this house by enterprising men has drawn business that way. Commerce street is in line to soon become one of the busiest streets of the town, every vacant place building up and all houses occupied; simply the foresight and energy of these men who came here a few years ago and pitched their tent where no one else would dare venture with invested capital.

More than this, we are glad to know that both of these enterprising gentlemen have bought handsome homes, and become permanent citizens and strong factors in the community. We say this hoping that Murfreesboro will send more like them. It is a good town that can rear so many boys, all brothers, who stick to each other like leeches - one is one, and the others.

(Continued on page 3)

VOLUME 36, ISSUE I I NOVEMBER 2013

(Leach & Leach continued from page 2) Dealing in Mules

The Leach Brothers are also dealing extensively in mules, always keeping twenty or thirty on hand, and as fast as they go out a fresh car load is brought in. Al Leach attends to the mule trade. He is said to be one of the finest judges of mules in the country, having practiced football with the mule from his boyhood up, and he brings nothing but the best blue grass mules, raised in Rutherford and Maury



Counties. Al keeps the mules, and George keeps the bees to make honey. They can't keep the mules and bees together, because mules despise bees and kick off their tails kicking at the bees, and the bees have no affection whatsoever for a mule.

This reporter dropped in the other day, hunting news. The Leaches always have an item when Quint Atkinson comes along, and Quint stops in nearly every day to rest. But this time we found a carriage drummer on hand, trying to sell some stuff. Something was said about the mules, and the drummer pricked up his ears, mule like to inquire of Leach why he kept mules? Al told him, for the purpose of sending out buggies, that they threw in a mule with every buggy sold, if the purchaser wanted one.

"And that's the way you sell so many buggies is it?"

"Yes," replied Leach.

"But ain't it very expensive to feed and keep the mules?"

"No, said AI, "It doesn't cost anything. I have a great many trees that need trimming, and we just top out a few each day and let the mules feed on the tops."

"Well!" ejaculated the drummer, "why don't vou train the mules to climb the trees and bite off the limbs?"

"I will put them right in the business. "Well", I declare," rejoined Al, jumping to his feet excitedly. "I had never thought of that, and feel greatly obliged to you for the suggestion

"Now if people passing Al Leach's place see mules climbing in the tree tops they will know what it means and how to train and keep a mule with no cost.

From: Daily Leaf Chronicle

March 16,1918--Esquire Joe Trotter of District 20, a member of the Montgomery County Quarterly Court, is in the city today and proudly announced the arrival of a daughter at his home Thursday. The newcomer is #23 and has been christened, Lora Gladys. She is the twelfth daughter of the twenty-three children; fourteen are living, nine girls and five boys. Some years ago, Leach & Leach, carriage dealers of this city, offered a buggy to the father of the most children in the county. At that time, Squire Trotter had twenty-one to his credit, so he drove the buggy home. It is said that at that time the firm told him when the twenty-fifth child arrived they would give him an automobile. The Squire said this morning that he wouldn't be surprised if they didn't have to buy the car before many years.

George Isaac Leach was born 20 Oct. 1851 in Wilson County TN and died 21 Nov. 1939 in Clarksville, Montgomery County, TN. His home was on Greenwood Ave. and his occupation at the was listed as real estate. He was married to Ella McKnight. His parents were Tom E. and Lucy Winston Leach both of Wilson County TN. Enclosed is George's death certificate. George is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Murfreesboro, TN.

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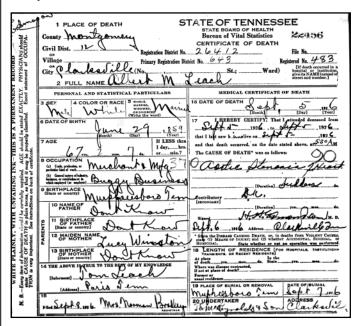
Ella McKnight, wife of George Isaac Leach was born 2 Oct. 1870 in Wilson County TN and died 31 July 1947 in Clarksville, Montgomery County TN. She was the daughter of A.B. and Sallie T. McKnight. Ella was buried in Ward's Cemetery in Murfreesboro, TN. enclosed is her death certificate.

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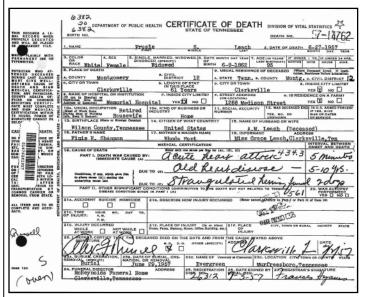
(Continued on page 4)

(Leach & Leach continued from page 3)

Albert (Al) Leach was born 29 Jun. 1859 in Murfreesboro, Rutherford County TN and died 5 Sept. 1926 in Clarksville, Montgomery County TN. Below is Albert's death certificate.



Albert married Frusie D. Shannon. Frusie was born 9 Jun. 1862 in Wilson County TN and died 27 Jun 1957 in Clarksville, Montgomery County TN. They had children: Lucy, Ruby, Edna, Thomas, Texie, Anna, Grace and Albert. Below is Frusie's death certificate.



According to her death certificate they lived on Madison Street. Even though the Leach brothers lived in Clarksville for years, when they died their bodies were returned to Murfreesboro for burial. According to Frusie's death certificate she lived in Clarksville for 61 years, but her body was also returned and buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Murfreesboro. George and Ella only had one child a daughter named Helen that died as an infant and is also buried in Evergreen cemetery.

Membership renewals are due by 31 Dec

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Publications:

Montgomery County TN Family History Book 2000
 Our price \$60.00 - Amazon.com \$144.98 on 10-19-2013

Montgomery County, TN Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

 Minute Book 1
 Dec 2, 1805-Mar 6, 1808
 \$25

 Minute Book 2
 1808-1810
 \$25

 Minute Book 3
 1810-1811
 \$25

• **L&N Memphis Line** By Dennis R. Mize \$32

• **Riverview Cemetery** By Irene Griffey \$10

Montgomery County, TN Gannaway Obituaries "Re-printed"

Vol. 1 1810-1869 \$25 Vol. II 1870-1883 \$25 Vol. III Jan. 1, 1884 - Dec. 31, 1893 \$25 Vol. IV Jan. 1, 1894 - Dec. 31, 1903 \$25

 Painted Wood Queen City Village Collection. Limited Edition # on Back, All Collectables are \$10.

L&N Train Station
Customs House Museum
Court House
Trahern Mansion
Harned Hall APSU
City Hall
Hudson Residence

• **Notecards.** \$6 a box:

Cards can be bought by single design box or mixed box of designs.

Museum Covered Bridge Court House Sevier Station









Ink Pens \$1.50

Train Whistles \$5.00

Engineer Cap \$5.00

The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, The Tennessee Historical Society & The Brentwood Genealogical Historic Commission

Present The 25th Annual Genealogical Seminar

"Struggling on the Homefront: Civil War Families"

If your ancestors were in the United States during the Civil War, they had stories to tell. The seminar will explore a wide variety of records about people on the home-front during the war: those with Union sympathies, those who supported the South, and those who just tried to keep out of the way. Whether you want to verify stories that were passed down, or find those that have become lost, the sessions in this series will lead you to fascinating historical records. Join us to learn how to find your ancestors among the records of private claims, pension records, taxes, newspaper articles, maps and letters home.

Morning Sessions Saturday, November 16, 2013 8:15 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. At the Brentwood Library, Brentwood, TN

<u>Chuck Sherrill- Good News about Old News. Civil War Newspaper Research in the Digital Age.</u>

Newspapers helped fire the imagination of Americans to get the Civil War started, and during the war reported extensively on events. In this session attendees will learn the value of newspaper research for home-front news, how to glean and evaluate genealogical information from news accounts and how to find and use new digital libraries of newspapers online.

<u>Darla Brock – The Taxman Came, then Changed his Mind: Direct Federal</u> Taxes and the Rebate Ledgers.

For years Tennessee records of the Civil War Direct Tax Assessment have provided genealogists with several types of useful information. Genealogists can now couple these records and those of the refund of the Civil War direct land tax that occurred in the 1890, with the possibility of supplying genealogical details lost with the destruction of Tennessee's 1890 Federal Census.

Afternoon Sessions

J. Mark Lowe- Help Me Please? Government Claims and Other Unusual Requests.

A request for recognition or payment for services rendered typically related to damages created by war or government intervention. Learn what exists and what might exist for your family.

<u>Jim Long-Footsteps of the Fourteenth, or Look Everywhere—Then Look</u> Everywhere Else: A Case Study.

Follow a Civil War regiment through its travels just as the families back home did, using newspapers, service records, maps, letters home and more. See how the records can fill gaps in your Civil War ancestor's story.

This year we are so fortunate to be able to feature some of our "own". All belong to one or more of our sponsoring organizations and are recognized authorities in genealogy circles.

Register Today!

Complete the enclosed form and mail it with your check or money order. Please make check payable to MTGS. Registrations received after deadline of November 8th will be returned and you must register as a "walk-in" on the day of the seminar. Space is limited, so please pay attention to the deadline and do not send your registration form to the PO Box as there will be a delay getting it to the Registrar.

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 8, 2013 (Please print)

Registrations received after deadline of November 8th will be returned and you must register as a "walk-in" on the day of the seminar.

	Name:				
	Street Address:				
	City/State/Zip: Phone:				
	E-Mail:				
	Member of MTCS?THS?				
	Registration fee includes a box lunch and handouts.				
I	\$40 members				
	\$45 non-members:				
	NOTE: \$60 walk-ins welcome if space is available (no lunch or handouts)				

Mail checks to:

Cinamon Collins, Registrar 586 Ploughmans Bend Drive Franklin, TN 37064 email: crf61069@aol.com

Phone: 615-887-1243

Directions to the Brentwood Library

From Nashville take I-65 south to Concord Road (exit 71). Turn left onto Concord Road. Travel 1/2 mile east to the light at Knox Valley Drive. Turn right onto Knox Valley. The Library is the first building on your right.

If you are traveling to the Library via Franklin Road, Concord Road runs east from Franklin Road and is located south of Old Hickory Blvd and north of Moore's Lane. Follow Concord to Knox Valley and turn right as indicated at the left.



Montgomery (County Historical Soci	ety						
P.O. Box 262								
Clarksville, TN	37041-0262							
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(Membership period is January to December) Please make checks payable to MCHS								
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New Member								