



The CCHS Newsletter

Carroll County Historical Society

P. O. Box 1308

Carrollton, GA 30112

FEBRUARY 2015

Ken Denny to Speak at February Meeting

Ken Denney, Editor of *West Georgia Living* magazine published by the *Times-Georgian* newspaper, will speak Tuesday night. He will share his extensive knowledge of local history from the Native American period through the Civil War era.

Ken writes a weekly feature for the *Times-Georgian's Southern Spice* section. He is a former newspaper reporter and editor in Augusta and metro Atlanta. He is also an amateur historian with a special interest on Sherman's Atlanta campaign. His studies of life in Atlanta during the war have been used by the Atlanta History Center and cited in several recent works of historical research.

The next issue of the magazine, scheduled to appear March 1, will deal exclusively with local history - everything from the Native Americans who once lived in west Georgia, to the Civil War, and the impact of Sewell Manufacturing Company.

Tuesday, February 17th, at 6:30 PM
Stallings Community Center Lions Parks Room

Time to Renew Membership

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2015, please see the enclosed Application Form or visit the CCHS Web-site at <http://www.carrollcountyhistory.org>

Gwyn Chesnut to Serve Another Term on the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council

Gwyn Chesnut, former Carroll County Historical Society President, has been reappointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to serve another two year term on the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC). The Council has twelve members, appointed by the Governor, representing citizens, educators, local governments, historical repositories, and professional organizations. GHRAC works to ensure that Georgians of all ages are aware of the significant historical records located statewide, to enhance the preservation and care of those treasures, and to improve the access that Georgians have to their records.

Gwyn has a demonstrated dedication to the preservation of our local, state, national history. We appreciate her tireless efforts in this vital work.

Thanks and congratulations, Gwyn!

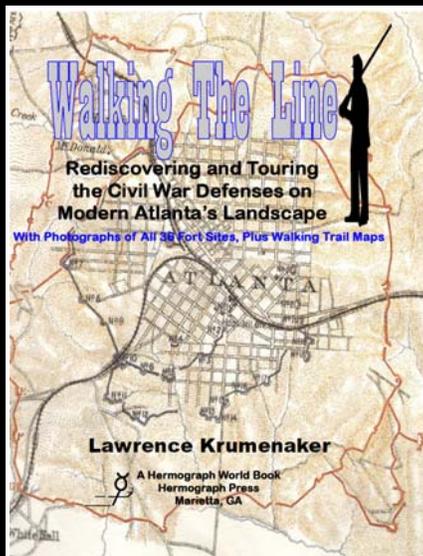
Carroll County Genealogical Society's Spring Workshop March 28

The Carroll County Genealogical Society's Spring Workshop will be presented by J. Mark Lowe, a professional certified genealogist, author and lecturer who specializes in original records and manuscripts from the South. He will lecture on "*Land Barons or Dirt Farmers: Finding Land Transactions*," followed by a hands-on "*Beginning Land Platting Workshop*" where you will learn how to trace ancestors through property records. It will be held on **Saturday, March 28 from 9:00 am to noon at the Carroll County Veterans Building, 1790 Stripling Chapel Rd.** \$10 for Genealogical Society members and \$20 for non-members. Contact Dr. Carolyn Scherm at ccgsa76@gmail.com to register.

West Georgia Textile Heritage Trail Annual Conference

The annual conference will be held on Thursday and Friday March 19 and 20, 2015, at Crown Gardens and Archives in Dalton, GA. The theme this year is using the arts to tell our textile stories. The conference will include sessions on fundraising, historic preservation, and developing heritage tourism products led by industry professionals. It will provide excellent opportunities for networking with experts and the other communities along the trail.

For more information, call the Center for Public History at 678-839-6141.



McDaniel-Curtis 165 SCV Camp Program

Author Dr. Larry Krumenaker has published a new book on rediscovering the 36 Confederate cannon emplacements and forts on the modern Atlanta landscape, "*Walking the Line*". He will be the guest speaker at the McDaniel-Curtis 165 SCV Camp meeting on Monday, Feb. 16, 2015 at 7pm in the SCV Room in the Carroll Co. Veterans Building, 1790 Stripling Chapel Rd. Carrollton. You are invited to attend and buy a copy of this most interesting book .

Hope to see you there.
Sam Pyle, Commander
McDaniel-Curtis 165 SCV



A Sketch of the Life of James Martin Hamrick 1902 Carrollton, Georgia

-Continued from January 2015 CCHS Newsletter-

Chapter V

In 1858 I built me a little log house and started out in life. Father gave me a good horse, bridle, and saddle; and we fixed up for housekeeping the best way we could, only having one bedstead. I cut down a sapling and got one post (or leg) and bored holes in it and the wall and soon had another bed fixed up and curtains put round it (as we had curtains in those days). With two common chairs and a bench, our domicile was complete, I made 4 bales of cotton and plenty corn that year and never hired any help, making about the same the next year---all on rented land. By this time and living close, I had saved up a little money, and in 1860 I bought 50 acres of land, and we moved to it. I went to clearing and worked hard and was contented; but how often in life are we disappointed. On the 26th of February, death claimed my companion and left me sad with one child that in course of life became the wife of Col. A.J. Camp of Dallas. That year I boarded with my sister, Mrs. H. A. Smith. She and her husband were very kind to me. I made a fine crop that year and sold my land early in 1861. I rented a farm and commenced to look out for another companion and was successful in meeting a nice lady, Miss Mary Brasher, near Carrollton. We soon became engaged and was to marry in May, but War Between the States caused a postponement. I sold my crop and volunteered in Capt. A.T. Burk's Co., 7th Georgia Regiment, and went to Virginia as a recruit and met the command at Winchester on the 18th day of July. The next day we struck tents and went on a forced march to Manassas Battle. That night we got to Shenandoah River and halted there. I got the best rest and sleep for a short time on a rock fence that I ever had. We then undressed and waded the river. With thousands of others the next day, Friday, we got to Piedmont River and did some cooking and went bathing in the river. That night we got on a freight car, went to Manassas and camped. Next morning, Sunday the 21st, the command was drawn in line for battle.

Chapter VI

On Sunday morning, July 21, 1861, the Seventh and Eighth Georgia Regiments, with cavalry and artillery, formed in line and doubled quick for about 6 miles and met the enemy on the battlefield near Bull Run, where our loss was heavy---many bit the dust that memorable day. We routed the enemy and captured many of them with their artillery and ran them into Washington City. Many noted men and women were out from the city in fine carriages to see the fun, but they went back double quick. After the battle, we got in shape the best way we could and camped 6 miles out from Washington at Manassas. From there we went to Fairfax Station. In October we went back to Centreville and remained there the remainder of the year.

I see someone writing in the Journal about some farmer bringing in some barrels of apples with a keg of brandy in the middle and selling them for \$50. I bought one of them and sold it in my tent before the officer arrived for about \$300 (as I hardly ever darnk in those days). In January, 1862, we built winter quarters at Rocky Run. We put up bunks in our houses and had a good time though sometimes we would go out on picket duty in rain and sleet, and our clothes would freeze on us (as we had no fires on that duty). While there, my father, came to see me, and when I met him, my heart was so hard I could not cry. On the 8th of March (my birthday) the whole army fell back for Richmond, We stopped at Culpepper Courthouse a few days, then marched to Orange Junction and camped until the 10th of April; then we were put on freight cars and rushed to Richmond. We got there in the night nearly perished and marched up Main Street about 3 miles and at every house we passed were barrels of water and ladies and children with buckets and waiters full of ham, chicken, bread, pies, and many other good things. Many are living today who will vouch for this. After staying there a few days, we took the boat and went to Yorktown landing there the 16th. Our brigade was formed in line of battle dam No. 1. The South Carolinians stacked their guns and were making breast works when the enemy crawled through the swamp and killed many of them before they could get their guns. We were ordered to charge and found the woods blue with them. I got one shot at them as they ran, leaving the ground covered with their killed and wounded. We lost a few men. A cannon ball struck our color bearer, named Fishback, in the breast cutting him in twain. On the 18th, an armistice and flag of truce were raised, and they came over and got their dead and buried them. They had been there for 2 days and were black in the face. That night while on picket, I received a gunshot in my hand, and to keep from bleeding to death, I got my suspender off with my left hand, and with it and my teeth I corded my arm until Capt. Jack Smith pulled me out of the mud and water.

Chapter VII

Next day after I was wounded I went up James River on a boat and was carried to the Globe Hospital and remained there until June. I took the gangrene in my hand and was at the point of death. When one was expected to die, they carried in the L of the hospital (or wing as they called it). When I came to myself, I found that I had been in there one week and had been laid out on the cooling board and pronounced dead; and when I had begun to mend, I went to the bookkeeper to get my baggage to go to Petersburg. I found that my name had been recorded on the book of the dead. When I got to Petersburg, I was sent to a private house with 3 others and began to mend fast; and right here let me say that the ladies of the city were very kind to us in furnishing something good to eat. Father sent Dr. Jack Brown for me in July, and I will long remember him for his kindness. On reaching home I was completely worn out, weighing about 80 pounds. To commence life anew, that fall I went to school; and the next spring, 1863, I taught school and went to see the lady that I was engaged to and told her, as I was a cripple for life, it was with regret I would release her of our engagement, but she said she was willing to go through life with me. And so we were married the third Sunday in May by Rev. Nathan Smith. That fall we moved to Villa Rica, and I and Dr. Brown opened up a grocery store and made money. In the month of May, 1864, my heart and home was saddened by the death of my wife. In July I met with a nice lady, Miss F.A. Isler, and in a quiet way I proposed, was accepted, and we were married the 8th of September by T.M. Hamilton, J.P. and moved near Sand Hill, where I farmed in 1865 and 1866. By ploughing with a strap around my broken hand and Father seeing that I would not be able to support my family, bought the place at Sand Hill, and he and I went into the mercantile business and made money fast for two years, when I bought his interest and made a success. In 1875 politics or some kind of tick got into my head, and I was elected tax collector for two terms, over two as good men as was in the county.

Chapter VIII

After serving as tax collector for two terms, I began to think that I was getting very popular and ran again against a good man, a one-armed soldier, Dan Creel, and he laid me in the shade by 40 votes. After he served two years, 1881--1882, we had what was called a scrub race (10 men running for the office). I was successful and came out winner by 190 votes. After serving two years, we had another scrub race. I again went in the ring and thought that I could see my way clear; but oh, often we are mistaken. My friend W.D. Jones defeated me by 75 votes. Since then, I have been in several races and ran very well but got left on the home stretch. In 1896 I got in sight of the promised land, but my friends for their support and hope they will let me have the office one more time in life; then I will retire from politics and help my friends.

During the time at Sand Hill that I was holding office, my wife attended the store and looked after my collections and bought many bales of cotton and made money for me. By this time I had bought and paid for about 700 acres of land. By this time, the Southern Railroad was constructed; and in 1883 I sold out and moved to Villa Rica, a prosperous place, and bought a farm, also a business house in which I sold dry goods and made money. And in that town---though not boastingly---I raised a large family of good children, 8 boys and 3 girls, 10 of whom are living, though only 1 with me now; and though I am getting old, I still hope to live to see them make the best of citizens.

In 1885, after getting a good start, I commenced buying cotton and lost money. In 1890 I decided that cotton would go to a high point; so I made arrangements with Maddox & Rucker to get money, bought and held 1,000 bales, and lost \$10,000 on it and was then flat broke and had to sell my surplus property and enter the loan association in which I remained 6 years when I had to give up or sell my farm to pay out and have been hard run up to now to meet my obligations when due, and many friends have advanced me money for such purposes for which may God bless them.

-Continued Next Month-

*Reprinted with permission of Lanier Adams Ivester, Hamrick Descendent
from an original 1902 printing.*

Artifacts from the CCHS Archives

These photographs are from the Smith Studio Collection.

Over time, there were 4 photographers located upstairs in the old "Beall Bldg." (Gallery Row Coffee Shop) on Carrollton Adamson. William C. "Bill" Smith bought out the Boynton Studios in March of 1946 and later moved to his current location. The daughter Susan Smith Ramsey, a photographer herself, is still in business across the street from the Dairy Queen in Carrollton on West Center St. and South Park St.

Please help us identify these photos items from our collection and send your answers to our Archives chairman Gwyn Chesnut at Chesnut185@aol.com or call 770-834-3081.



February is Black History Month

This photo shows Head Branch Librarian LeRoy Childs and a group of ladies from Carrollton's black community on board the bookmobile. Leroy Childs came to Carrollton from Valdosta State University to manage the King Street Branch Library and eventually was named head of the West Georgia Regional Library. Edith Foster founder of Carroll-Heard Regional Library was instrumental in bringing books to the masses and giving everyone an opportunity to learn. She was named to the Georgia Women of Achievement Hall of Fame at www.georgiawomen.org.



Remember when gas was cheap?

This Gulf Service Station was located at the corner of Alabama Street and US27. Do you know the owner or who these men are? Did you buy your gas or tires from this Gas Station?



What Size Shoe Do You Wear?

This unknown shoe store is celebrating its Grand Opening. Do you know the name of the shoe store, the owner, or any of the people in this photo? Did you buy shoes for \$ 2.88?

Request for Family Stories

CCHS wants your Carroll County Family stories for the Newsletters and for the Museum files. If you have collected genealogy information or have family stories that have been handed down, please contact the Society and let us help you document them.

Every member has information to share that would be of interest to other members. If you don't act soon to save those stories, they may be lost forever.

Please act now to preserve your part of Carroll County history!

Visit the CCHS Web-Site at <http://www.carrollcountyhistory.org>

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1308
Carrollton, GA 30112 USA

Phone: (678) 664-0662
Fax: (770) 241-1233

This Side of the River Book Signing

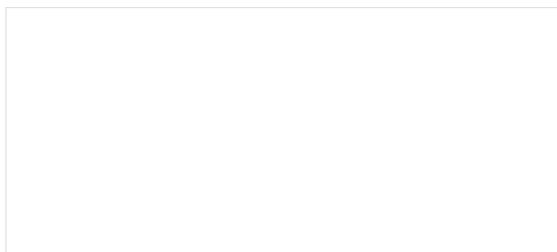
Civil War author Jeff Stayton will be signing his new novel on March 13, 2015, at Horton's Books & Gifts from 11:00am - 2:00pm. Jeff is an award-winning short story author and professor of 20th Century American Literature at the University of Mississippi. A former stand-up comedian, his warm, humorous presence makes him a natural storyteller.

This Side of the River tells the story of a group of young, angry Confederate widows who band together at the end of the Civil War, take up arms, and march north to Ohio to burn down the home of General William Tecumseh Sherman. It draws from the rich literary roots of William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* and Charles Baxter's *The Feast of Love* as it interweaves themes of gender, revenge, and redemption. It is a masterfully-written powerhouse debut from a bold new Southern voice, releasing in February 2015, the 150th year anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

CCHS BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2015

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
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Carroll County Historical Society
P. O. Box 1308
Carrollton, GA 30112



*CARROLL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2015*

Individual Membership
Family Membership

\$20 per year
\$30 per year

Date: _____, 2015

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ *Cell Phone:* _____

** E-mail Address:* _____

** E-mail addresses are important for receiving bulletins and announcements sent out concerning the Society activities between newsletters.*

Membership \$ _____ *In Memory of* _____

*** Donation* \$ _____

Total Paid \$ _____

*** Donations to the Society will be used to fund preservation projects in Carroll County. All donations are Tax Deductible.*

Members receive our CCHS Newsletter.

*Mail to: Carroll County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1308
Carrollton, Ga. 30112*

Historical Society Contacts

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <i>President:</i> | <i>Jack Crews</i> | <i>770- 834-7906</i> |
| <i>Vice President:</i> | <i>Scott Eldred</i> | <i>770- 295-9789 or dsel65@gmail.com</i> |