



Derryberry Family Newsletter

Editor's Message

By Vonda Derryberry

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Message

This issue of the Newsletter is rather short compared to past issues. I suspect that many people are busy this summer with vacations, reunions, gardening, etc. I know that I've been very busy this summer.

I started a new job with the Federal Government on May 26th. I now work for the Internal Revenue Service. Yes, that's right....I'm a "Revenuer". But seriously, the division I work for is the Collections Division of Small Businesses / Self Employed. Our collection efforts are concentrated on those companies / self employed individuals who willfully fail to pay the required payroll taxes.

The work is very interesting and I'm

learning a lot. In today's economy I consider myself fortunate to have found a job. For those of you who don't know, I had been searching for a job since October 2008. I had applied for dozens of jobs both in the private and public sector and was starting to think that I wouldn't land a job at all. But, with lots of positive thinking and some well-intended prayers, this job opportunity came through.

This new job may cause the delay in publishing this Newsletter on a timely basis. However, I am committed to publishing this Newsletter, so please, please, please, keep your articles and photos coming! Your submissions are what keeps this Newsletter alive!



The "Betty Curry" Connection

Submitted by Audrey Hart on April 4, 2009

My husband is the niece of Susan Hart Derryberry Berry and when we received the most recent newsletter I was really surprised to see the Betty Curry connection. I have been weaving baskets for a number of years and several years ago while visiting my sister-in-law, Ava Crossno (also a niece of Susan Berry) and her daughter, Karen Williams, in Arkansas we took a drive and ended up in Violet Hill and I bought a Gibson white oak basket.

from Rockford, IL and had heard of a Betty Curry who taught white oak basket classes. He laughed and said that she was a relative and got most of her material from him.

We decided it truly was a small world (at the time I didn't know how small it really was!). A year or two later I had a chance to take a class from Betty and made one of her baskets. It's one of my favorites.

In talking with the man who had made the basket I explained that I was



“You Have My Great Great Grandfather’s Story!!!”

Information submitted by Samantha Heatherly and Andy Derryberry on April 20, 2009

Email from Samantha Heatherly to Andy Derryberry as follows:

Dear Andy,

This is too wild. My name is Lisa-Robin Samantha Powell Heatherly. I’m the daughter of Sarah Adeline Luther, granddaughter of Lula Viola Biles, great granddaughter of Mary Louisa Doyle, and great great granddaughter of Samuel J. (John? Jackson?) Doyle and Sarah Adeline (Adaline?) Shires. Sam Doyle is the one who bravely swam Duck River to get home to his wife and sick children. She hid him under her feather mattress and his body slave/best buddy in the food cellar.

The Union soldiers came looking for him, and left their swords on the very mattress he was hiding under. The Union Captain had his men only take what they needed, left the milk cow for milk for the children and left.

I remember my mother mentioning that I was related to the Derryberry family. Sam’s heritage was supposed to be “Holland Dutch”, but he was also supposed to be related to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Sarah’s family was “Black Irish” and she had blue eyes and hair so black it shone blue in the sun. He’d always tell the kids to watch out when their mother got her Irish up. My grandmother was sickly and raised by them instead of her own parents. Sam had studied to be a doctor, and after the war raised and bred Tennessee Walking horses. My grandmother had one as a child and was taught to ride and shoot at an exceptionally early age. I have a picture of her standing with her grandfather that I’d be happy to share...

Thanks for any info you can send back about our Derryberry relations. I am very curious now.

Yours very truly, -“Sam” Heatherly

Email from Andy Derryberry to Samantha Heatherly as follows:

Hi Sam,

It is always good to hear from "kinfolk". Derryberry families, especially those whose histories run through middle Tennessee are well researched. If you live close to Columbia TN, I'm sure there are copies of the Derryberry Families books in the Maury County Library. There are also copies in the Tennessee State Library in Nashville and the Marshall County Library in Lewisburg, TN. There aren't any copies left for sale, but hopefully you can find one in a library.

I've cc'd some good information sources. Bob, Gloria and Kaye are top notch researchers. Vonda publishes

the Derryberry Family Newsletter.

If you are on Facebook, there is a Derryberry's group:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=2212925552&ref=mf>

The NDFA website is:

<http://www.artvilla.com/NDFA>

Family history is sort of addictive, so look out!

All the best.—Andy

Editor’s Note: When I asked Samantha if she wanted her information submitted in the Newsletter, she said yes and also offered the following information:

I’ve been at a loss to find Mary Louisa Doyle beyond her birth date. She was supposed to be married to Rev. Charles Biles (assumed name—he had studied to be a Catholic priest and then came over here to be a fire and brimstone Baptist Preacher—there’s a lot more to his story as well...) and I can’t find a marital registry for them either. I’d love more about Sarah Adeline Shires (who my Mom was named for) as well...thanks!-
Samantha Heatherly



Legacy Of Roses

Information submitted by Linn McCormack on April 21, 2009

Email from Samantha Heatherly to Andy Derryberry as follows:

This is a poem that I wrote some years ago dedicated to my grandmother, Alice Evelyn Balch Derryberry. Mother's Day is coming up so I thought you might add it to the newsletter.—Linda Derryberry (Thurman's daughter, Bob's niece)

May, 1994

"Legacy of Roses" by Linn McCormack

Today, I walked among her roses, and she, with me, stooping to hold my infant hand. The colors are so beautiful. I reach for one that is the color of sunshine edged with coral. She picks it quickly, drawing the crimson of her own life's blood while breaking the thorns from the stem before giving the rose to me. We share the fragrance, so rich and sweet.

Today, I walked among her roses, and she, with me, talking of colors and the richness of the earth she has so lovingly and gently broken and prepared with her hands; hands coarse with nails not quite perfect from honest hard work. And I learn from her the secrets of her roses as we gather a myriad of colors - a bouquet of heaven for her table.

Today, I am a part of the warmth and wealth of her kitchen - the smell of bread and pies freshly baked - the feel of warm cornbread as it is crumbled for dressing. The pantry full of sparkling glass jars displaying the colors of her garden when I walked among her roses. And we talk of family and love and God - and my grandfather when they were young - and her roses.

Today the myriad of colors are against a background of white as she teaches me the textures of fabrics and of the roses we will bring to life with the satin of the threads upon the cloth so that my bed will be her garden - filled with color and love. And I will sleep in her garden and dream among her roses.

Today I walked among her roses, and she, with me. Her hair is silver now, and I am a woman, a bride-to-be. We talk of love and God - and men - and the lace that will be my wedding gown. The roses watch and listen.

Today, the room is filled with her roses and soft candlelight, and I, in the white, filmy mist of purity created by her hands. The fragrance of her garden and her love enfold me as I take this walk among her roses.

Today, I walked among her roses, and she, with me, cradling my first born son in her arms. We talk of love and life and God - and sons - and her roses.

Today, I brought her roses. She takes one in her hand and brings its beauty and fragrance to her face, closing her eyes and remembering her garden. And, today, I know that it matters not color the roses, for in my heart and mind their colors and fragrance are her love. And, I can, forever, walk among her roses, and sleep and dream in her garden.

Today, I do not walk among her roses. Today, the garden and the roses are mine - and the thorns and callused hands. Today the child in the garden belongs to the son - my son - the infant she cradled in her arms; and he and I walk and talk of love and life and God - among the roses. Today she does not take my hand as this child and I walk and talk, but her love is here in the colors and fragrance of the roses.

Today, I brought her roses, but she is sleeping - and the fragrance and colors of her roses fill her dreams, for the heaven that was her garden is forever hers - a garden where there are no thorns. Today, she rests and waits in another garden to one day, again, walk among the roses with me.



Grandpa Oscar Derreberry and Grandma and Grandpa Rich

Information submitted by Nancy Derreberry Renfroe on April 26, 2009



*Robby, Missy + Barbara 7/11/84
- grave of Barbara's grandpa
Oscar Derreberry - Coghill, TN.*

This is Grandpa Oscar Derreberry's grave in Coghill, TN. At the grave is Barbara Jean (Derreberry) McSpadden and two of her grandchildren.



Grandma Rich was a full blooded Indian. Their daughter Oma was the Mother of my Father Ernest H. Derreberry. Grandpa was a Preacher and was called Rev. Rich.

The Derryberry Family Reunion In New Market, TN

Article submitted by Nancy Derreberry Renfroe on July 20, 2009

What a day of fellowship we had. There was close to 40 people present. They ran the ad about the reunion four times in the Local Newspaper.

The reunion was hosted by the children of the late Goldie Derreberry, ex-wife of Ernest Howard (Jack) Derreberry.

Out of six children, only three remain. Barbara, Betty and myself. Betty is confined to a wheel chair after having all her toes but four removed. We were so happy to see her especially after having spent several hours in the Emergency Room the night before.

Each of Mom's six children were represented by the children and grandchildren attending the reunion.

The three large tables was adorned with delicious

food. Below is a picture that Donna, my Brother's daughter bought for the reunion.

Also below is a picture of Mom that Barbara brought to the reunion, that no one had seen. Copies were quickly made for others.

Each person had on a name tag with a number on it, which was used to give away door prizes.

It could have not gone any better then if it was planned. A member of each of Mom's children received a door prize, except for one, which when backs was turned the child drawing the numbers out, found his number and pulled it out, causing those around to laugh when we accused him of doing it.

A surprise visitor was Janet Richards, who is a dis-

The Derryberry Family Reunion In New Market, TN—Continued

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tant cousin, whom we had not met but enjoyed meeting her.

Janet brought copies of the invitation to attend the Derreberry reunion in North Carolina on August 2, 2009.

I do not think anyone left the reunion hungry with all that food on the tables. There was several dishes of jello salads that was not placed on the table due to my forgetting they were in the frig.

My son Freddie brought the largest container of chicken I had every seen and laughed and said he thought it was a Baptist Convention, which brought some rounds of protest from the Methodist members.

The one who should get the most praise for a successful reunion is Barbara's daughter Patsy Davis, who worked from dawn to dust creating a great day and also making sure that family members got extra plates of food to take home, down to cleaning up after everyone left.



Patsy's Grandson Anthony set up all the decorations and made the covered porch a nice looking setting, including hanging pictures of our ancestors. He also made sure that everyone had everything they needed.

Clay and Justine brought an abundance of vegetables from their garden for the reunion.

I thank God for a beautiful day, great fellowship and the chance to see some we may never see again.

I do not know how they did it but Clay and Justine took a group picture, which I will send after we get them. They said they had got everyone in the picture.



James Murphy Derryberry

Request submitted by V. W. Sheldon on May 12, 2009

V. W. Sheldon is requesting information on James Murphy Derryberry. The following information is known:

James Murphy DERRYBERRY b. 3 Oct 1912,
prob. Columbia, Maury Co., TN

m. Irene Holland JOHNSON

had at least 1 child w/ Irene: George Raymond
DERRYBERRY

div. Irene

m. Catharine Louise RAY 8 Sep 1976, Davidson
Co., TN

d. 2 Oct 1982, prob. Nashville

bur'd. 5 Oct 1982 Nashville National Cemetery, service in WW2.

Editors Note: *If any of the subscribers to this Newsletter can provide information, please contact me at Derryberry_newsletter@earthlink.net and I will forward the information on to V. W. Sheldon.*

Derryberrys of Marshall County

Information submitted by Joe Cathey on June 9, 2009

Here is my connection to the Derryberrys of Marshall County, Tennessee:

7 Barclay Martin DERRYBERRY b: 24 Feb 1842 in Marshall Co., TN d: 10 Oct 1923 buried in Derryberry Cemetery, Marshall Co., TN

BIOGRAPHY: He was a corporal in Company B, 11th Cavalry. He is also shown as a corporal in Company A, Holman's Battalion. His name has been variously spelled as Bartley and Barclay. He was affectionately known as "Uncle Bart". It is believed that his namesake was Barkley Martin, a Revolutionary War soldier who settled in Bedford County, Tennessee around 1807. Mary Alice Derryberry has a copy of their marriage license, which lists his name as Barkley. Aubrey Tippitt says he is buried in the A. J. Derryberry Cemetery in Marshall County, Tennessee. Mr. Tippitt says his name was spelled Barclay. His great granddaughter, Mary Wallace Stuart, says it was Barclay.

+ Sophronia Calistine COX b: 31 May 1847 d: 20 Nov 1925

8 **Mary Etta DERRYBERRY** b: 2 Jul 1866 d: 29 Oct 1925

+ **John Robert CATHEY** b: 18 Nov 1861 d: 28 May 1942

9 Minnie Viola CATHEY b: 4 Feb 1886 d: 24 Oct 1975

+ Allie Franklyne DAMRON b: 4 Dec 1883 d: 15 Dec 1937

10 Bernice Louise DAMRON b: 27 Aug 1904 d: Nov 1907

10 James Franklyne DAMRON b: 3 Aug 1906 d: 4 May 1952

+ UNKNOWN UNK0616 b: 1907 d: 1995
11 Living DAMRON

11 Living DAMRON

11 Living DAMRON

11 Living DAMRON

+ Living UNK8435

11 Living DAMRON

10 Bertie Mae DAMRON b: Abt 1909 d: Abt 1993

+ Charles S. TRAILER b: Abt 1909

9 Ophelia Elizabeth CATHEY b: 22 Feb 1887

+ Frank ANDERSON b: Abt 1883

+ Willie COVINGTON b: Abt 1883

9 Bertie Idella CATHEY b: 12 Aug 1889 d: 1969

+ John ROMAN b: Abt 1885

10 John ROMAN

+ Harry Robert SIMPSON b: Abt 1885

9 M. E CATHEY b: 12 Aug 1889

+ William Rosecrans DARNELL b: Aug 1883

10 Staley DARNELL b: 15 Aug 1910

+ Merle MCKENNON

9 Johnny Morgan CATHEY b: 15 Dec 1890

+ Frank JONES b: Abt 1886

10 Frank JONES b: Abt 1923

+ Unknown G STEWART b: Abt 1886

+ W. R. WILLIS b: Abt 1886

9 Robert Glen CATHEY b: 6 Oct 1895 d: Feb 1975

+ Mamie BURCHENE b: Abt 1899

9 **Elliott M. CATHEY, Sr.** b: 13 Sep 1898 d: 7 May 1949

+ Lacey Ophelia WEBB b: 16 May 1898 d: 20 Oct 1968

10 Robert Pershing CATHEY b: 17 Sep 1918 d: 1 Jun 1982

10 **Harold Lacey CATHEY** b: 14 Feb 1920 d: Feb 1973

+ Jeanne Lannom Cathey b: 8 Jan 1925

11 **Harold Joe Cathey, Sr.** b: 13 Jan 1948 in

Donelson, Davidson Co., TN m: 13 Mar

1971 at Donelson Heights United Meth-

odist Church by Reverend Charles Poole

+ Nancy Louise Pewitt b: 27 Jan 1948

12 Living

12 Living

12 Living

11 Living

11 Living

11 Glen Lannom Cathey b: July 23, 1956 d: August 17, 2008

10 Vinnie Estelle CATHEY b: 6 Aug 1922 d: 1 Sep 1922

10 Elliott M. CATHEY, Jr. b: 4 Sep 1923 d: 17 Dec 2001

+ Mildred Elwanda DICKEY b: 6 Sep 1925 d: 6 Feb 2002

11 Living CATHEY

+ Living JENNETTE

+ Living YOUNGBLOOD

11 Living CATHEY

+ Living CARTER

9 Thomas Clayton CATHEY b: 5 Aug 1908 d: 25 Jan 1949

+ Annie Bertha BAGGETT b: Abt 1895 d: 23 Feb 2002

Derryberrys of Marshall County—Continued

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Photo by Violet Studio, 15 Arcade, Nashville, TN. The Arcade first opened in 1903. Mary Etta Derryberry & John Robert (J.R.) Cathey



Figure 2. Derryberry Cemetery a few miles northwest of the Cathey Cemetery near the Williamson, Maury, Marshall County lines.



Returned Newsletters—Editor Requests Assistance



Note: This list was updated to reflect information I received from either the individuals themselves or from readers who confirmed correct email addresses. Please feel free to submit updated information to this Editor.

The **Derryberry** Family Newsletter is distributed via email to those recipients who have an email address and via U.S. Mail to those recipients who do not have access to a computer.

If any of the readers who receive this Newsletter

know these individuals, please have them contact the Editor to update their address information in order to receive future Newsletters.

The following list of names represent those individuals where the Newsletter was sent via **U.S. Mail** and were returned “Undeliverable”.

- None noted at this time.

NDFFA Reunion

Information submitted by Joe Cathey on June 9, 2009

The 2009 NDFFA Reunion was held in Chapel Hill, TN at the Henry H. Horton State Park on July 10-11. Everyone had a wonderful time enjoying the grounds and facilities. On Friday afternoon/evening there was a cookout and visiting. Saturday we did what we do best, lots of visiting, exchanging information and had a wonderful buffet lunch in the dining room on the grounds. Oh yes we did have a NDFFA meeting. Later more visiting and enjoying the grounds. Saturday evening ended with a cookout and more visiting, of course. Once again it was wonderful to get our Derryberry family together and welcome new family members.

The 2010 NDFFA Reunion will be held in Paris, TX July 9-10. Start marking your calendars and making plans.

NDFFA Officers for 2009-2011:

Arbelia Ann Thompson (President)
Gloria R. Derryberry (VP/Secretary)
Guy Z. Derryberry (Treasurer)

NDFFA dues are voluntary and the recommended amount for a family is \$ 20.00. If anyone wants to make a contribution, please mail a check to Guy Derryberry and mail it to 1991 Rock Springs Rd., Columbia, TN. 38401. Make the Check out to the NDFFA (National Derryberry Families Association).



Missing In Action Photos

- Do you have old photos where you can't identify the individuals in the photos? Submit them to the **Derryberry** Family Newsletter for printing along with your contact information.
- The photo will be published with a request to contact the owner of the photo and assist by providing the names of the individuals in the photo.
- If the individuals are identified in the photos, it is requested that the owner of the photo inform the **Derryberry** Family Newsletter so the information can be re-published for the benefit of the **Derryberry** genealogy researchers.

Article Submission and Guideline Requirements

- Submit all articles to **Derryberry** Newsletter Editor at derryberry_newsletter@earthlink.net
- Electronic submissions in Microsoft Word would be appreciated.
- If submitting lineage information, please submit your source of information so other genealogy researchers can verify the information.
- Individuals submitting information for publication in this Newsletter assume all responsibility for having permission to publish submitted information. This Newsletter will assume that the necessary permission has been obtained by the individuals submitting the information for publication.

Derryberry Family Newsletter

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Newsletter Costs

- The **Derryberry** Family Newsletter is free to the recipients who receive it via eMail.
- It will also be distributed free of cost to the recipients who receive it via U.S. Mail for the Year 2009 due to generous monetary donations received thus far to cover the cost of postage.
- After 2009, we will evaluate the cost of postage for U.S. Mail recipients. A request for donations may or not be made. Remember, the Newsletter Editor absorbs the cost of printing (paper and ink) for the Newsletter.