

Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc.

Preserving Alleghany's Heritage Since 1979



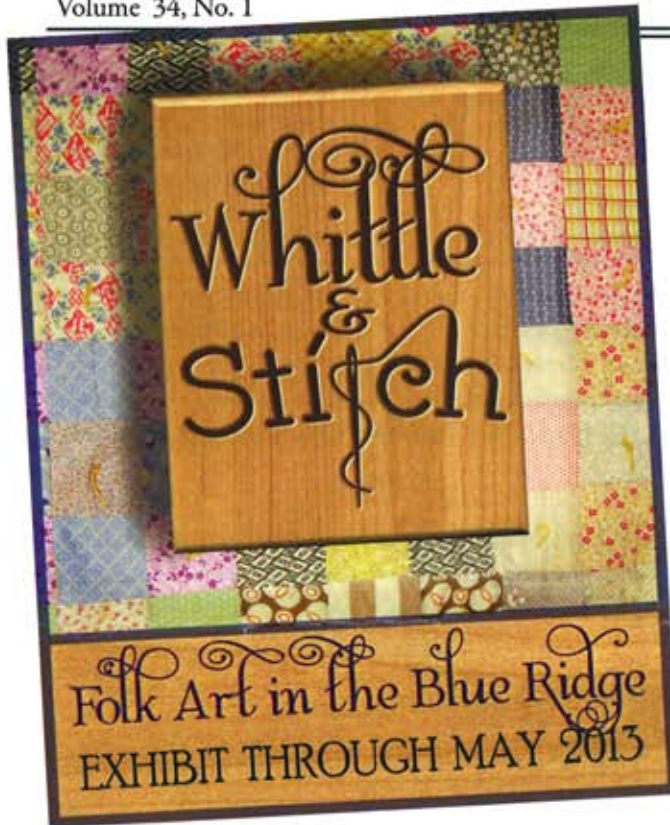
President Margaret Crouse
Vice-President J.M. Sturgill
Secretary Irene R. Wagner
Treasurer Lacy Roe



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Bulletin No. 109



Whittle & Stitch: New Folk Art Exhibit at the Museum

The first exhibit for 2103 is called *Whittle & Stitch: Folk Art in the Blue Ridge*.

The exhibit is sort of a departure from the norm as it includes contemporary items from local craftsmen as well as traditional handcrafts, including quilting, embroidery, woodworking and more.

There are already several items on display, but we always want to include everyone, so if you have something you think would be appropriate, please consider loaning it to the Society for display in the exhibit.

The exhibit opened in February and will last through May. Starting in 2013, exhibits will span 4 months. This will give the museum committee more time between showings and it will allow more time to enjoy their work. The museum is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 10am to 5pm, across from the courthouse. Stop by and see the display!



Quilters Guild Displays Blue Ridge Parkway 75th Anniversary Quilt

"With contributions from over 20 communities across the Parkway region, the 75th Anniversary Commemorative Quilt celebrates the richness and diversity found along the Blue Ridge Parkway. As each square portrays an individual community's expression or identity, it inherently compliments adjacent squares, all of which are bound together by threads of community. Greater awareness of these relationships is the quilt's message as we work side by side to protect and celebrate the myriad of natural and cultural resources of the region."

National Park Service

Thank you to the Alleghany Quilters Guild for bringing the quilt to Alleghany for our exhibit.

Take a Break

from the Interstate
NC - VA
Lakes to Florida
Highway

For more information go to
www.takeabreakfromtheinterstate.com

See Page 3 for information

From the President

Dear Members,

As the new president of the Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, I would like to say "Thank you" for the opportunity to serve you and our society. I look forward to learning a lot and to furthering our relationships with other organizations.

We would like to extend another "Thank You" to everyone who renewed your memberships and for the donations made to the society.

Last year, we had four different exhibits at our museum: "Fashions from the Past," "Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still," "These Hills are Alive with Music," and "Country Stores, the heart of our Communities." Again, we want to thank the many people who loaned their items to us for display.

We currently have on exhibit "Whittle & Stitch" in which we have displayed beautiful quilts, needle work, and various items made from wood. If you haven't been in the museum yet, we encourage you to come see how we are trying to preserve history and share it with others. Our days of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays except on days when the roads are slick due to ice or snow. Hopefully, there won't be many more of those days. Have a wonderful spring!

Margaret Crouse
AHGS President

Inquiries & Announcements

For more information please visit the Inquiries page at www.abgs.org.

I am trying to establish who my 2nd great grandfather's parents and siblings were. He and his sons/daughters all spent time in Alleghany/Ashe in 1777-18XX. He was John B. Williams (the B. didn't get used much)

Born Nov. 17-1777, died in April 1873. Some of his children were Baker Williams (my first great grandfather), Henry John Williams, Martin Williams, Basheba Williams-Jones and several more. Any help locating his parents and siblings would be most appreciated. *Joe Williams, 2321 Kanio, Lihue, HI 96766, Cell (214) 288-6008, Best Time to Call: 12n - 5p, dallaskaubuna@yahoo.com*

D.W. Miles of Sparta, NC, is looking for a photograph of the Shell Gas Station that was in Sparta, along the Lakes to Florida Highway. His phone number is 336-372-5646.

My great-great-grandfather resided in or near Sparta, N.C. I have searched for maps of this area without any success. The maps I have searched for are similar to township maps which show the location of the land owned by surname within the township.

I have discovered that there were no townships in North Carolina during the period of time that my great-great-grandfather resided there. I do have copies of land purchases by my great-grandfather from his father but these are useless because the landmarks used are no longer in existence.

I want to know the location of my great-great-grandfather's land in the period of 1850 to 1860. I also want to know the location of my great-grandfather's father-in-law's land in this same time period.

My great-great-grandfather: Zachariah Moxley; b. May 10, 1796 Ashe County, d. Mar 31, 1876 Alleghany County

Sincerely, David Moxley (*More information on this request is available on the Inquiries page at www.abgs.org.*)

David Moxley, 2086 Avenida Del Canada, Rowland Heights, CA 91748, 626-260-6115, Best Time to Call: 8a - 12n, dave5mox@dslextre.me.com

I am looking to share and hope someone has more information on Stephen Holloway, b.Feb. 4, 1728, Tilehurst, B, England. (*More information on this request is available on the Inquiries page at www.abgs.org.*) *Orella Holloway Chadwick, 7650 Fairview Road, Tillamook, OR 97141. Ph-503-842-6036, orella@quixnet.net*

I'm gathering information for a history on the Reeves House (at Chateau Laurinda.) Any information you have would be appreciated. *Robin Rector, zcakediva@gmail.com*

We are looking for information on the artist that created these old-timers. They are made of carved pine and cotton cloth. Any information, please contact: *Kathy Murphy, through: info@abgs.net*

In our February 24th meeting, the first since November, we voted for the 2013 Officers.

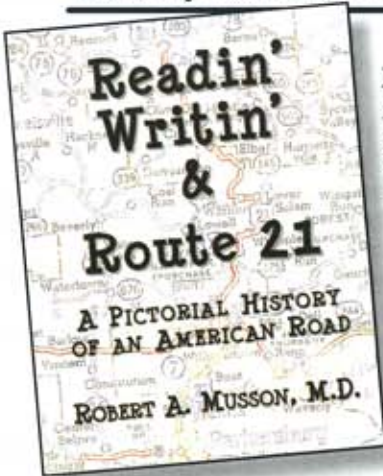
We didn't meet in December because of Christmas and the January meeting was canceled due to emergency hip surgery for outgoing president, Roy Hunt. Roy is doing much better now.

NCSH 2013 Officers are:

President . . . Margaret Crouse
Vice President J.M. Sturgill
Secretary Irene Wagner
Treasurer Lucy Roe
Board Member Wanda Cleary
Board Member Jeff Halsey
Chaplain Nancy Hall



History and Future Along US-21



While working on the *Take a Break from the Interstate* initiative, D.W. Miles discovered the book, *Readin' Writin' & Route 21: A Pictorial History of an American Road*, which he recently shared with us. The book, by Robert A. Musson, M.D., follows the U.S. Highway from Ohio to South Carolina, with photographs all along the way, throughout the years since it began in 1926.

The story- and the highway- begins in Public Square in Cleveland, Ohio, and ends, officially, on Hunting Island, South Carolina. (The road actually continues on to Fripp Island, South Carolina.)

The 132-page book shares information on the cities, towns, and townships along the highway. The route through Alleghany County is featured in a

3-page section, but the neighboring pages would, no doubt, be interesting to folks familiar with our area, as the road (and story) continues through Jonesville, North Carolina, and the section on Independence, Virginia, precedes our section. The book was published by Zepp Publications, and can be purchased online at: www.zeppublications.com.

The book reminds us that while we're living in our small mountain town, which can sometimes feel sort of isolated, we aren't really so far from others- they're just down the road.

Take a Break from the Interstate is a tourism initiative that Jonesville, Elkin, Roaring Gap, and Sparta, North Carolina, and Independence and Wytheville, Virginia, are developing jointly.

Society members know that US-21 used to form part of "The Lakes to Florida Highway," and that Twin Oaks Hotel was a popular stop, near the middle of many travelers' journeys. [Bill Irwin's history of his grandfather, Carl Irwin's Twin Oaks Hotel was featured in the June 2009 Newsletter.]

Our communities know we benefited in the past from the travelers who came through, and are working together to make US-21 a preferred route once again. Together we can build a stronger future, while looking back at our past.

Interstate I-77 and Highway 21 cross in Wytheville, Virginia, the home of the *Lakes to Florida Museum*, and again in Jonesville. You might not realize that the mileage is the same traveling I-77 or US-21, but local folks know the old way is much more scenic. The Kick-Off event for the initiative is a Cruise Thru on Saturday, April 13, 2013.

For more information please visit: www.takeabreakfromtheinterstate.com



The old US21-221 bridge over New River- part of the Lakes-to-Florida Highway.

Photo from Bobby Irwin

Lakes-To-Florida Highway Is Being Improved In Co.

Alleghany Stretch Last Unimproved Section. Work Being Done In Grayson And Wythe

Much to the gratification of residents of this section, in particular, grading was begun this week on the last unimproved stretch of the Lakes-to-Florida highway, United States route 21, a distance of 8.98 miles, between Sparta and Roaring Gap. Contracts for grading and surfacing the present highway between these two points were awarded recently, grading and structural contracts going to the Grannis Construction company, Fayetteville, and the surfacing contract to Albert Brothers, of Salem, Va. The proposed route shortens the distance between Sparta and Roaring Gap by about two miles, according to the survey. It will be of interest to those living on the present highway to learn that the old roadbed will not be torn up, except where the new highway traverses the old.

The Lakes-to-Florida highway, as the name implies, provides a direct route from the Great Lakes region to Florida. Work on the Virginia link between Independence and Wytheville, in Grayson and Wythe counties, is already under way and the elimination of this last unimproved stretch will insure tourists from the north a straight, surfaced highway all the way to Florida. When completed, this route is expected to become one of the main thoroughfares of the nation. Passing through Sparta, the Lakes-to-Florida highway intersects the Blue Ridge parkway at a point about eight miles out of Sparta, toward Roaring Gap.

It is expected that the road will be completed by the end of the coming summer.

Article from January 21, 1935 Alleghany Times Newspaper- North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Used by Permission Alleghany News

Civil War Era Correspondences

Put this stamp on the inside envelope
Camp Chace, Ohio
Oct. the 30th, 1864

Dear Wife & Children,

All of it through the kind mercies of God that I am blest this blest and holy Sabbath day to drop you a few lines, worst more, to let you know that I am well & hartly at this time, truly hoping these lines may find you all well & doing well.

I am still hear at Camp Chace, Ohio, & I don't know when we will be released from hear, but I hope we will be exchanged before long, and when we are I expect to come home as soon as possible.

We was captured on the 7th day of August. I came hear on the 12. I have sent you 3 letters before this. I want to hear from you all bad & I want to see you all still worse. I don't know what to say to you more than to content yourself the best you can. Take care of yourself and your children the best you can & try to keep your stock all together, if you can- have feed for them til I come home. I thought I would get to cum home in time to help you save sum hay, but I got disappointed. I hope you will get along with your family so they will not suffer til I get home. You must rite to me to let me know how you are getting along. When you rite, direct your letter to:

Judgvill Commishioner of Exchange
by Flag of Truce, Richmond, Va.

Then you must put those words on the outside envelope- then on the inside envelope, you must say:

To Alfred Tompkins
Camp Chace, Ohio

Then, I think, it will come. L[?] Davis is waiting on the sick at the hospittle. He was getting along very well, the last time I heard from him. I hope the Blessings of the all mighty God will be bestowed upon you all & that you will be blest in all your trubels [troubles] in this world & the world to cum. May we all be saved for Christ sake.

Sarah Tompkins

Alfred Tompkins

Camp Chace was a prison camp in operation from May of 1861 through 1865 and was approximately 4 miles west of downtown Columbus, Ohio.

Alfred was born in Ashe County in 1826 in the part which later would become Alleghany and was the son of Daniel and Nancy Tompkins. He married Sarah Crouse (1829-1918), daughter of David and Mary Crouse. Alfred Tompkins enlisted on May 12, 1863 as a Private in Burke County, North Carolina, in Company C of Captain Andrew N. McMillan's Company, McRae's NC Cavalry Battalion.

Alfred and Sarah had Columbus (Lum) Tompkins who married Alie Johnson and they had Cynthia Emeline Tompkins who married Arthur R. Murphy. They were parents of Jeanette Murphy Anders who supplied the letter included above.

Mrs. Anders is the subject of an upcoming Alleghany Memories episode.

Dumfries, Va. (25 miles south of Washington D.C.)
November 24, 1861

Dear Father and Mother:

I take my pen in hand to drop you a few lines to let you know that I am in modest health at present. I have not been, to say, well in a month, though I have not lain up much of the time.

Frank [brother] is mending slowly, I hope these few lines will find you all well. I can inform you that I received the clothing and blankets you sent with some chestnut etc. I was glad to see them though I was not particularly needing them now, but I expect to need them in a month or so, and Frank had lost one of his blankets since he came to the hospital. I think we value a plenty of blankets and clothing to clothe us twelve months or longer. [The writer was possibly killed before twelve months at Bull Run, otherwise known as the second Battle of Manassas or nearby] I paid Horton Reeves forty cents for bringing them.

I understand from a letter that I received today from Isom Waggoner [brother-in-law] that you haven't received any letter from me since Case left. I wrote one to you and Isom, together and it has not appeared. Also, I wrote one on the tenth of this inst. [19th century abbreviation meaning this or the current month] and backed it to Isom. I shall quit paying postage on any of my letters as they are a little uncertain of going.

I can inform you that your Club of Alleghany Grays [evidently volunteers] has arrived safe and sound. I hope they will do a heap of good before they go back again. I was sorry to hear that William Caudill was dead. I think it would have been best for him to have stayed longer. The doctor offered Frank [brother] a furlough but he said it was too far and would cost too much to go [home], and he concluded he would stay and see if he couldn't get well here. It cost a man twenty-five dollars at the least. [To go home to N.C. and return] I am waiting on the sick of our company and Frank, also.

I haven't any important news at present. Yesterday there was a dispatch from Oak Point. Said Yankees was landing and caused a considerable stir. The artillery company left here and returned back in the night and said there was of it, "The regiments had orders to be ready at a few moments warning to march." And further, the report was, that they had been fighting all morning. There was several cannon [shots] heard yesterday and today. I think it is on the water for we hear cannon nearly every day. [The Potomac is wide here.] Some think we will have a battle here at Winsport shortly. It is expected there will be an attack made here or at Manassas, or close about in a short time. [It was months later.] There is a large amount of troops close about here and there is a considerable amount of Yankees just the other side of the Potomac, right opposite of our battery, on their side. They have been throwing shells at us at Winsport, but can't do much at that. So I will say no more about the Yankees.

At the present time it is hard, though we have plenty to eat and everything is high. Boots is worth ten dollars a pair and such a shirt as you sent me is worth three or four dollars or at least they ask that. The real one, Whiskey, is selling at five dollars a gallon, milk one dollar, butter fifty cents, eggs fifty cents a dozen and a chicken \$1 per head, etc. Reeves [mentioned above] is selling his butter at fifty cents a pound and further, apples is selling at fifty cents a dozen and small at that. Some is talking of sending back some person and bring [back] butter for our own use, and if they do, I want you to send me some.

I will close, expecting to hear from you shortly. Meanwhile, I will gladly remain, your affectionate son until death,

Morgan Cheek

Direct your letters to Fredericksburg, Va.

Morgan Cheek, son of Henderson Cheek from Alleghany County, N.C. was 22 when he enlisted on May 27, 1861 as a Private in Company F, 22nd NC Infantry. He died November 10, 1862 in Richmond, VA.

His friend, William Caudill, was in the same Company, but died in Grayson County, Va. on November 3, 1861. Isom Waggoner (1827-1912) married Morgan's sister, Susan Jane Cheek, and lived next door to the Cheeks in 1860.

Allegheny Historical Museum Needs Your Support!

If you're thinking about charitable giving this year, consider the Allegheny Historical-Genealogical Society and the Allegheny Historical Museum. The Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax-deductible.

Our book sales and member dues cannot alone pay for the expenses and maintenance of our Museum and collections. Our long-term financial plans include grant campaigns, a museum gift shop, book sales and aggressive fund raising drives. We are working to move to a larger facility that will allow us room to operate a gift shop where we will sell locally-produced items that have a connection to area history. We also plan to have space for historical and genealogical research and resources.

AHGS truly needs your financial support. We urge you to follow the example of our ancestors who came together to build schools and churches that benefited the entire community. With your help, we can ensure that future generations have an accurate picture of life- the traditions, the values and the history of those who lived along the New River and in the Blue Ridge Mountain region.

As we grow, AHGS archival projects will serve the citizens of our county and will provide an incalculable resource for historians and genealogists. We ask that you consider a donation of your time, talent or financial resources to help preserve this rich and unique heritage.

Here are the new giving levels and benefits for donations to the Society.

	CORPORATE				STUDENT		INDIVIDUAL					
	Small Business	New River	Blue Ridge	Sponsor of Allegheny Memories	Student Member	Student Historian	Member	Historian	Patriot	Pioneer	Mountaineer	Mary Harless Society
Membership Card							X	X	X	X	X	
Student Card					X	X						
Newsletter	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Book Discount of 10%					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Christmas Discount										X	X	X
Certificate	X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X
List in Annual Report in Newsletter						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
List as Donor on Website (ahgs.org)	X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X
Logo on ahgs.org			X	X								
Link on ahgs.org	X	X	X	X								
Listed on Allegheny Memories				X								
Listed on Sponsor Board in the Museum		X	X						X	X	X	X
Mary Harless Society Card												X
Private Event at Museum			X								X	X
Special Recognition for Quarter										X	X	X
Donation Amount	\$100-499	\$500-2499	\$2500+	\$200 per episode	\$15	\$20	\$20	\$100-499	\$500-999	\$1000-4999	\$5000-84999	\$85000+

Please Note: Giving levels and benefits listed above are for annual amounts. Donors listed on the Museum Sponsor Board will be listed at their cumulative total. So, a donor who gives \$100 per year will be listed on the Sponsor Board at the Patriot level after 5 years and at the Pioneer Level after ten years of consistent giving. Unfortunately, Life Membership is not cumulative. To become a life member, one must pay \$100 at any one time.



Membership Form

Please enroll me as a member of the Allegheny Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc. in the classification below

- Individual**
- \$20 Member
 - \$100 - 499 Historian (*Life Member*)
 - \$500 - 999 Patriot
 - \$1000 - 4999 Pioneer
 - \$5000 - 84999 Mountaineer
 - \$85000+ Mary Harless Society

- Student**
- \$15 Student Member
 - \$20 Student Historian

- Corporate**
- \$100 - 499 Small Business
 - \$500 - 2499 New River
 - \$2500+ Blue Ridge
- Allegheny Memories Sponsor**
- \$200 per episode

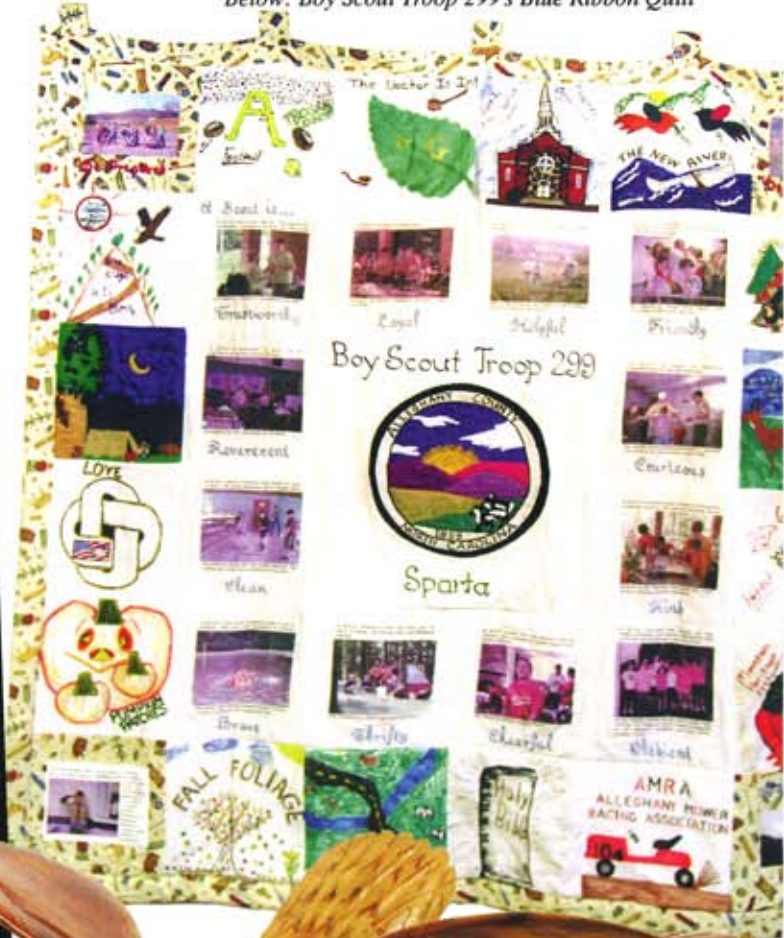
New Renewal

Enclosed is a check or money order for membership.

Please send membership card to:

Name- _____

Address- _____



Pen & Stand given to Carolyn Young for her birthday. The pen was turned wood from her childhood home by Millermark Pens in Boomer, NC. The base is from a brick of the home, the Lafayette Young house.



Hand crafted American Eagle on loan from Jim & Alice Keighton.



Circa 1900 on loan from Faye Reeves- Santas carved by Ford Sexton and stained by Rosemary Jones (both deceased)



Local craftsman, David Hedrick's, toy delivery truck, hauling what can only be a load of root beer.



What's ~~New?~~
Old

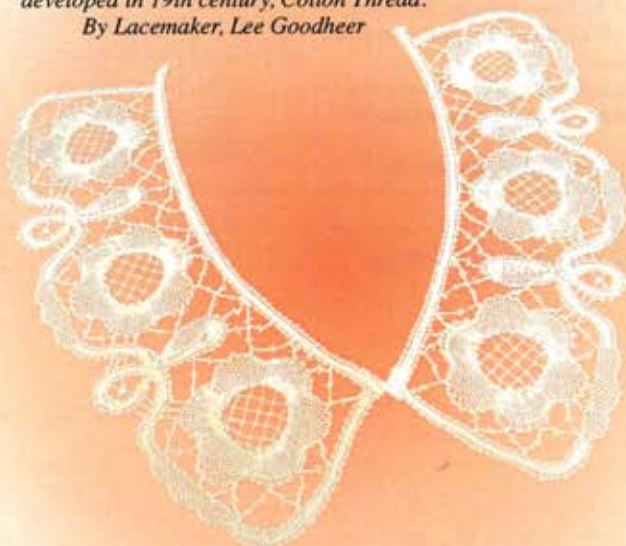


Above: Wooden, advertising "Folding Straight-Razor" from Kermit Pruitt

Rustic, split-wood structures at left are by John & Devin Ulery of Designs In Wood on loan from Wilma Foster.

Below are examples of John Brady's beautiful but practical craftsmanship.

Facing Page: "Torch on Cross" Traditional, French Style Cotton Thread (sewing weight)
Below: "Bruges Flower Collar" Belgian lace style developed in 19th century, Cotton Thread.
By Lacemaker, Lee Goodheer



Puff Quilt loaned by J. M. & Loraine Sturgill



Fanciful, stylized bird (complete with nest) and turtle by Carroll Crouse, made from burls of mountain laurel.



CONFEDERATE WAR
VETERAN IS DEAD,
FUNERAL TUESDAY

*William Whitehead Succumbs Sunday;
Was Old-Time Mason and Odd Fellow
Here 35 Years*

William W. Whitehead, Alamosa's only Confederate war veteran, and a resident of this city for the past 35 years, passed away here at 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning, in Lutheran hospital. He had been seriously ill only a short time.

Mr. Whitehead, who was 85 years old at the time of his death, was one of the oldest Masons and Odd Fellows in the San Luis valley. He was a charter member of the Horton, Kansas, lodge of Masons.

He had an adventurous career in the Civil war, enlisting in North Carolina in March of 1864, and being taken prisoner by the federal armies. He spent some time at Camp Vance, North Carolina, as a prisoner, and was finally discharged at Camp Douglas, Chicago, in 1865. He served under the Confederate general Klingman.

He is survived by his son, George Whitehead, operator of the Rustic cottages, where he resided; a sister, Mrs. Sarah Edwards, of Whitehead, North Carolina; a brother John, of Willow Springs, Missouri; a grandson Letcher Whitehead and two granddaughters, Mary and Cliffie, all of Alamosa, and another granddaughter, Mrs. J. E. Mead, of Pueblo, as well as two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, at the Masonic temple, with the Alamos lodge, A. F. and A. M., in charge. Interment will take place at the Alamosa cemetery, beside his wife, who passed away five years ago. The Rev. G. S. Upton will officiate.

The arrangements are in charge of the Bruner mortuary.



Mr. Whitehead's Obituary

William W. Whitehead

was born January 19, 1847 in Ashe County North Carolina & died July 12, 1932 in Colorado. Mr. Whitehead's parents were Daniel Whitehead & Sarah Crouse.

William married Cynthia Edwards. They had one child, George M. Whitehead, born October 19, 1867. Cynthia died September 24, 1877 when George was only 10.

William went to Horton, Kansas, after the Civil War. There was construction work there—railroads, buildings, etc. William married again to Frances Scott. They moved to Alamosa, Colorado, in 1897 and lived there 35 years. He is buried at Alamosa Cemetery. Information is from Bonnie Holman, great-granddaughter of William W. Whitehead.

*3791 South Eaton St.
Denver, CO 80235
Ph-303-988-5009*

Remembering Allegbany for Over Thirty Years