



Orange County Historical Society

Record

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In Memoriam

Angus McDonald Green, 1924 – 2012

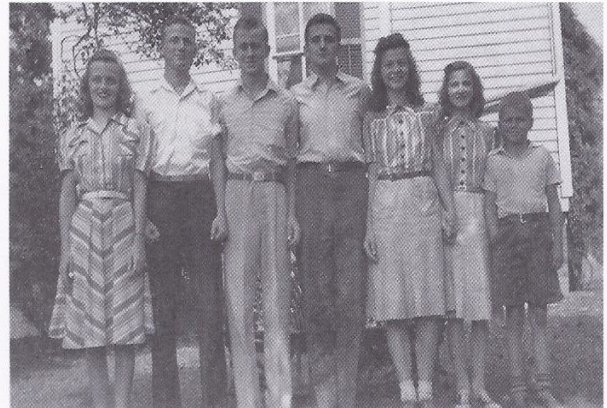
Angus Green, a founder and the first president of our Society, was more than captivated by local history, it was a part of his being. The family patriarch, William Green, had served under William of Orange, the one who later became William III of England. William Green's son, Robert, came to America and in 1735 patented 400 acres of Orange County land in what would become the Brandy area of Culpeper County. Robert's mother was of clan McDuff, and he married Eleanor Dunn, another Scot. Robert and Eleanor raised seven boys whose flaming red hair and beards earned them the title, "The Red Greens of Culpeper County."

Fast forward to 1940, and we find ourselves looking at a photograph of another family of seven Green children living in Culpeper County. This time, though, it's four boys and three girls, there's hair in several colors, and their parents had come to Culpeper County from North Carolina. The father, James W. Green, a newspaperman with strong Culpeper connections, had bought the *Orange Review* in 1912 at auction for \$500. That paper became a family enterprise in the truest sense of the term. At one point, six of those seven siblings were working at the *Review*, with Angus serving as editor and publisher. Only Angus, brother Duff, and sister Lillian were still with the paper when it was sold in 1982.

Angus' usual work week consumed 70 to 90 hours and reflected his keen interest in the people and history of this region. And his interest was more than casual. When the decision was made in 1966 to incorporate the year-old Orange County Historical Society, Angus was one of its three incorporators. He then became one of the four original board members and the Society's first president. In 1975, he joined in the successful effort to raise the \$80,000 needed to purchase and convert the Research Center property into one of the best repositories of local history in Virginia. As late as 1979, he was still active in our Society, serving as treasurer.

Health issues persuaded Angus to retire from the newspaper business, but not from his love of history. He lived in Culpeper County all his adult life, and it became the primary beneficiary of his interest and efforts. He served as an officer in the Culpeper County Historical Society and was instrumental in the effort to establish the Museum of Culpeper History, effectively repeating the significant roles he had earlier played in Orange County. Culpeper County, therefore, understands as deeply as Orange just how good a friend and passionate devotee of local history we have lost.

Frank S. Walker, Jr.



Angus Green and his siblings in Culpeper on July 4, 1940: Nancy, Jim, Andrew, Angus, Harriet, Lillian, and Duff.

The death of a distinguished member of the community is always both a sad event and a moment when people pause to contemplate the achievements that individual made and that we should try to make ourselves. The death of Angus Green is one of those moments. In addition to all his accomplishments reported by the *Orange County Review* are the many that will never be recorded. Many involved changing the lives of local teenagers, one at a time.

When I was in high school in the 1960s I had a part time job at the *Orange Review*. There he taught me work values and how to write: "Don't use the article *the* if it is not needed, it just takes up space." He told me many times how proud he was of his high school employees—six went on either to earn PhDs or advanced professional degrees, including me. Fifty years later, sitting in my mother's kitchen on Main Street, he again mentioned accomplishments of his "printer's devils," as rookie newspaper workers were known. As I sat there in my smug mid-50s, he reminded me that "Old age is not for sissies."

Citizens of Orange cannot fully appreciate what he did for them, because he so often worked behind the scenes, following traditions of his father and brothers, including Duff, equally a distinguished member of the community, who continues his family's practice of service and love affair with local history with his weekly column "It happened, but not recently."

Dr. Jim (James) W. Cortada

Orange County Schools: Do You Remember?

Barbara Vines Little



The first documented school in Orange County was described in a deposition made by Jonathan Cowherd on 18 March 1803 in which he stated, "this deponent went to school about sixty seven years ago near to the land now held by the above named Paul Verdier at which time the said land was held by one Crosstwait." No other information has been discovered about the school or its students.

In an effort to preserve the history of other schools in Orange County, the Historical Society has started a project to collect information on the various schools and their participants. If you have pictures or information on early schools, their students, teachers, or events we would appreciate your sharing. We will be glad to scan photos and provide you with a digital copy if you will bring them to the Historical Society. We would like to thank Patrick Sullivan for a photo and newspaper clipping that provides the first in what we hope is an on-going series of articles on Orange County schools.

Built about 1912, according to the notation on the reverse of the photo, the Mine Run school was torn down in 1992 and replaced by the Mine Run Fire Department building. An undated newspaper clipping, "Mine Run School: Closed Since 1942," provides additional details:

The building contained five classrooms and an auditorium with seven grades and four years of high school. In the early thirties, pupils in the last two years of high school were transferred to Unionville, with the other two taken there several years later. Mrs. Lindsay Woolfolk was principal and teacher of the upper grades from 1939-42 and Mrs. Alfred Biscoe taught the lower grades during that time. In October, 1942, because of greatly decreased enrollment, the school was closed permanently.

Orange History Day

Carol Hunter

As part of the Virginia Studies curriculum, fourth graders are invited to complete a research project on a topic of their choice. Once the research has been completed, students create posters to share their work with others. The posters are judged for accuracy and clarity of presentation. After competing at the school level, 55 students from Orange Elementary, Gordon Barbour Elementary, Lightfoot Elementary and Locust Grove Elementary schools had their posters on display at the Orange County Historical Society from May 7 through May 18 or at the Taylor Education and Administration Complex from May 22 through May 30.

Orange County History Day developed through the collaboration of the Orange County Historical Society, the Art Center of Orange, and the Academic Gifted team. The purpose was to urge students in Orange County elementary schools to get involved in learning history that took place in their own backyards while supporting the Standards of Learning curriculum. History Day encourages students to walk through local history by completing a research project in which they study various historical topics such as the Gordonsville Exchange Hotel, the Silk Mill, the Civil War in Orange, Fort Germanna, Zachary Taylor, James and Dolley Madison, among many other possibilities.

Receptions were held at the Orange County Historical Society on May 7 and at the Taylor Administration and Education Complex on May 23 to recognize the Virginia/Orange County History Day poster contest blue ribbon winners. The receptions provided an opportunity for families to see student work and for each student to be recognized with a certificate of achievement.

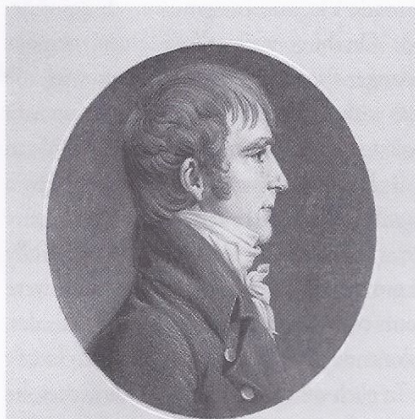


Lightfoot Elementary School student, Jake Bernard, with his poster about Dolley Madison.

Carol Hunter

As Good a Wartime Governor as Virginia Ever Had

Stuart L. Butler.



James Barbour, engraving of a portrait by St. Memin. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

JAMES BARBOUR WAS as good a wartime governor as Virginia ever had. He was a man of principled integrity, high moral character, conscientious almost to a fault in applying the law, and an indefatigable defender of the Commonwealth during wartime. For the next few minutes, I would like to explain and defend these statements to your satisfaction.

James Barbour came from a remarkable Orange County family that took service to state and country very seriously. His father, Thomas, served in the Virginia House of Burgesses 1769–1776 and in the first four Revolutionary War Conventions and was a justice of the peace for fifty-seven years. James' brother, Philip Pendleton Barbour (1783–1841) served in the Virginia House of Delegates, was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, president of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829, and was a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. A half dozen members of James's extended family included those who served in the Virginia state government, the U.S. Congress, and held high rank in the Confederate army.

The Barbour family was a close neighbor to the Madison and Taylor families, a connection that would enable Barbour family members to more easily enter into public service. James Barbour was born on June 10, 1775, in Orange County. He did not receive a college or formal education due to family financial problems, but obtained a classical education from a local academy, James Waddell's in Gordonsville. He took avidly to a law career at the age of eighteen. He quickly built a very successful law practice in Orange County and entered politics when he was elected to the House of Delegates in 1798. He continued to represent Orange County in the House through 1811. From 1809 to 1811, he served as Speaker of the House of Delegates. He narrowly lost the governor's election to William Smith in 1811, but was elected later to that office when Smith died in the tragic theater fire in Richmond in December 1811.

The duties of the office of governor in Virginia at the time of the War of 1812 were narrowly defined by the 1776 constitution with few subsequent changes. Reacting to what they perceived as colonial governors' abuses of power, the Virginia patriots reduced the office's prerogatives. Such changes included election by the General Assembly for only one year at a time and the lack of a governor's veto over the Assembly's legislation. Also added was a Privy Council, or Executive Council, to act as a watchdog or check on the governor. This body consisted of eight General Assembly members whose membership rotated every three years. Decisions by the governor would not be valid without the Council's approval. The governor was not a member of the Council and could not vote on his own recommendations. Despite these limitations on the office of Governor, James Barbour became a strong chief executive just when such a leader was needed.

As governor, James Barbour was the commander-in-chief of the militia. With the advice of Council and the county courts' approval, he appointed all militia officers with the ex-

ception of generals, who had to be nominated and approved by the General Assembly. Throughout the war years, Governor Barbour proved to be a vigilant and tireless supporter of the Madison administration's reasons for going to war against Great Britain. He was a fervent Jeffersonian and state's rights adherent, although his views would change in the coming years. He struck Virginians as intelligent, extremely conscientious, and possessing an oratorical style that some would call Ciceronian, as flamboyant and flowery as any speaker at the time. Barbour's inspiring prose was a perfect fit for those who needed a chief executive to sound the clarion call and to explain and justify what responsibilities, deprivations, and hardships that many Virginians felt lay ahead.

In March of 1812, he quickly saw that war with Great Britain was more likely to occur than not and addressed the General Assembly on the defense of the Commonwealth. "The enemy which we shall probably have to encounter, does not usually wait for the blow, but is accustomed to strike first; prudence seems to require that we should be prepared for any Course of Events." He quickly outlined a plan for a defense of eastern Virginia. He described the precarious situation of the lack of arms and ordnance among the counties that would be the most likely targets of any British assault and recommended remedies to rectify the condition. He issued a written circular to all the militia brigades instructing them that they should be animated by the spirit and action of their Revolutionary War forefathers whose sacrifices had given them a nation. "We must Act...Do more...rouse a military ardour. Invite your Regiment to volunteer musters. If practical, attend them yourself. Impress upon their minds that we know not the day or the hour when they will be called upon to act."

And act he did. From April 21 until mid-May 1812, the governor conducted a fact-finding inspection of Tidewater

See Barbour on page 4.

Barbour (*continued*)

Virginia from Richmond to Norfolk, noting the strong and weak points of the area and conferring with militia officers of the Hampton Roads area. He informed the Secretary of War of his findings and described Virginia's defensive posture. Shortly after his inspection trip, Governor Barbour requested from the War Department more Federal regiments to defend Virginia. When such requests went unheeded, the governor sent his own representatives to Washington to make the case for more aid. In the meantime, Governor Barbour sent five hundred militia to Norfolk in the summer of 1812 as a show of some force for the Norfolk area.

In September 1812 he responded to the War Department's request for up to fifteen hundred Virginia militia to help Gen. William Henry Harrison expel the British and its Indian allies from Michigan which they had taken in August 1812. The request came as a complete surprise to Barbour, busy with plans for the defense of eastern Virginia. He quickly reordered his priorities and organized a tent-making and canteen manufactory at the state capitol to supply the needs of the new brigade of militia. He appointed Brig. Gen. Joel Leftwich to command a brigade of militia from the western parts of Virginia (now West Virginia) and issued orders for its organization. Utilizing his characteristic rhetorical skills, he issued orders to the brigade members to: "Rise my beloved countrymen, obey the sacred summons and rally around the unfurled banner of your country . . . and with the glory of our ancestors bearing from the fields of Saratoga, Eutaw, and York, a sacred light illuminating your path—advance and meet the perfidious foe, strike him hard . . . wipe off the stain upon the character of our country."

Because the General Assembly felt that the federal government had not responded to Virginia's defense needs, the General Assembly—with the governor's strong backing—created a distinct Virginia army, exclusive of the militia and not answerable to the U.S. Army. The army, however, was never fielded. Through the help of James Monroe, then Secretary of State, the federal government promised Virginia two new U.S. Army regiments which would make the new Virginia army superfluous. Because the law remained on the books, Governor Barbour felt that he had little choice but to carry out its provisions. So conscientious was Barbour in this opinion to uphold the law, he felt that he had but one option to avoid calling it into operation, and that was to call a special session of the General Assembly to repeal the law. This he did in May 1813, and the legislature repealed the law.

When the British squadrons made their first appearance in Hampton Roads on February 4, 1813, Governor Barbour called an emergency meeting of his Council on February 6 and immediately ordered elements of the Virginia militia to Norfolk. He not only ordered the militia to act, but he, himself, arrived in Norfolk on March 10 to take command and oversee the organization of some 2000 militia and appoint its commanders before leaving. When Gen. James Singleton of the

16th Brigade offered the town of Winchester as a safe refuge should the British invade Virginia, the governor disdainfully declined and replied: "On the contrary, should the metropolis (Richmond) be in danger a second time I invite you with the 16th Brigade to unite with me on its defense for I am sure you will say with me that it would be infinitely more desirable to be buried in its ruins than save a life rendered infamous by a pusillanimous retreat." When his office received too many requests from counties to create volunteer units, he regretfully denied them on the grounds that the counties' regiments were restricted by law to only two volunteer companies each. Besides, the state did not have enough arms and equipment to satisfy all of the requests. To each officer volunteering, however, he wrote to them extolling their patriotism and spirit for service.

A sure sign of a successful leader lies in the selection of outstanding individuals to execute one's orders. In this regard, James Barbour was not lacking. Barbour called out for active service those militia officers whom he felt would be the most successful in pursuing victory, regardless of politics or seniority. An example of Barbour's selection regardless of party or militia seniority is his selection of Robert B. Taylor as commanding general of the Norfolk area. Taylor was a talented militia officer who was a Federalist and who opposed the war. When Taylor was given the job over Col. John Cropper, the latter resigned in protest, but Barbour would not be deterred. He likewise called into service other Federalists like James Breckinridge and Charles Porterfield to command brigades during the war, also to much grumbling from the ranks.

When the federal government refused to reimburse Virginia for militia disbursements, Barbour dispatched Federalists Charles Fenton Mercer and John Campbell to inquire into the War Department's rejection of Virginia's claims for the Ohio expedition and other military payments. In his view, they were the best men for the job. Secretary of War Armstrong did not budge, but suggested that Virginia approach Congress on changing the law to allow for such payments. Governor Barbour continued to pursue Virginia's claims against the U.S. government whenever he saw the opportunity to do so. When the General Assembly composed a strongly worded criticism of the U.S. government's refusal to settle the claims, Governor Barbour stepped in and sent the resolution to Virginia's delegation with the order that the resolution not be distributed to the U.S. Congress as a whole, but have the Virginia delegation work out amongst themselves the method of achieving it quietly. He likewise softened the Assembly's strongly worded resolution criticizing the War Department's refusal to reinforce Fort Powhatan on the James and managed to obtain the President's promise to send more engineer officers to reevaluate the defense of that fort. President Madison followed through with his promise.

See Barbour on page 5.

Barbour (*continued*)

Throughout the war, Governor Barbour kept the General Assembly routinely informed of the governor's plans for Virginia's defense and requests for funds to pay the militia and acquire much needed arms and ordnance. The relationship between the Governor Barbour and the General Assembly could not have been more harmonious. Barbour also supported with alacrity demands for additional militia drafts made upon the Commonwealth by the commanding generals of the Fifth Military District (the Norfolk area). His relationship was especially close with General Taylor, but he also maintained a cordial relationship with Taylor's successor, Gen. Moses Porter, until the end of the war. Barbour's whole hearted support in responding to additional calls for militia was vital for Virginia's defense. Barbour was tireless in responding to his militia's commanders in the field, especially in the summer of 1814 when the British launched heavy incursions on the Northern Neck and Eastern Shore. When Colonel Parker of the Westmoreland County militia apologized for his inability to repel the superior numbers of the enemy at Nomini Creek, the governor soothed Parker's feelings by reassuring him that he, nevertheless, felt "great satisfaction in apprehending the zeal, activity, and prudence you manifested in the late invasion of Westmoreland."

After the invasion of Washington but before the Baltimore campaigns, Governor Barbour immediately called in his Council to devise plans to defend the Commonwealth should the enemy's increased forces be used against Norfolk and Richmond. In a proclamation on August 26, 1814, he roused Virginia's citizenry to rally and come forth to save the state from invasion. He warned his fellow countrymen of the enemy's "intention to lay waste, with fire and sword every part of the country which may fall under is power."

Five new brigades of militia gathered near Richmond to form a new defense of the Commonwealth. Barbour, as he did in March 1813, took to the field himself and maintained his presence among his troops until they were finally organized. After Baltimore's valiant defense, the British withdrew to their ships. Governor Barbour and then acting Secretary of War Monroe engaged in close consultation on Virginia's defense needs as well as what part Virginia could play in the future defense of Washington and Baltimore should the British return. When Monroe asked Barbour for more regiments to defend the national capital area, Barbour quickly responded by reassigning two brigades then marching to Norfolk. They would remain in Maryland until December 1814.

James Barbour was elected governor a third time in 1814. There was little opposition in each of his elections. On October 10, 1814, Governor Barbour addressed the General Assembly for the last time. While he confessed that while he had not accomplished all that he had hoped to as governor, he told the Assembly, that nevertheless,

As far as intention was concerned, [I] have been invariably directed to the best interest of my country. I

shall carry with me into retirement an indelible impression of the favors I have experienced and unceasingly pray that a good Providence may perpetually have in His holy keeping those to whom the destinies of my country may be confided, and that the legislature of Virginia may continue to be the sleepless guardian of the liberty and honor of their country.

But Virginia was not through with James Barbour. He was overwhelmingly elected by the Virginia legislature as U.S. Senator in 1815 to fill out the vacancy left by Robert Brent, who died in December 1814. He would serve from 1815 to 1825. John Quincy Adams appointed Barbour as his Secretary of War from 1825 to 1828 and as Minister to Great Britain from 1828 to 1829. James Barbour died on June 7, 1842, and is buried within a few hundred yards of us. But it is, perhaps, the James Barbour as wartime governor that his fellow Virginians remembered him best by. He was, indeed, by all accounts, as good a wartime governor that Virginia ever had.



Stuart L. Butler, a member of the Advisory Council of the Virginia War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, presented this talk at our July picnic meeting. He kindly gave us permission to share it with the rest of our membership through our newsletter.

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African-American Baseball In Orange County

Walter Ware

Baseball, America's favorite past-time, is for Black America too. Before the major leagues accepted African American players in the all-white leagues, the Black baseball players established their own all-Black league. It was set up very much like the majors, with a National and American league system. Teams competed on the east coast from New York to Florida and west to Kansas City, Missouri. They traveled almost all of the time, rarely being in the same city for more than a day and sometimes playing three games in a day because a portion of the gate receipts would keep them traveling from game to game. Many times they slept on the bus because of the laws, especially in the South, that prevented them from staying in hotels.

Pitchers would pitch both ends of a double header. Winter was too cold in the U.S., so they went south to Cuba, South and Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. The first team was called the Cuban Giants mainly because they could play against the white teams in America. Although they were all Black Americans, they pretended to speak Spanish while in the field and it seemed to work for them. This kind of traveling was called barnstorming.

My story begins with our local Black teams in Orange and surrounding counties. The Orange Tigers established themselves in the early forties playing teams from Madison, Barboursville, Stafford, and Culpeper. Culpeper was their biggest rival. The skipper for the Culpeper Dragons was Charlie Lane and for the Orange Tigers it was Louis "Flip" Robinson, a projectionist working at the Pitts-Madison walk-in and drive-in theaters. When they met, you could count on a four to five hour game. They would start arguing about any and everything before the game started and every other play after.

The players for the Tigers worked locally at Kentucky Flooring, Rapidan Milling Company, Orange-Madison Cooperative, Preddy's Funeral Home, Orange Creamery, and on the farms in the county. Home field was the old colored horse show grounds on Route 612, two miles out of town on the Ware-Ellis property. The diamond was very rough and the right field sloped down into a ravine. I can remember my dad, Billy Ware, playing right field when a fly was hit his way, but he couldn't see it coming over the horizon. He was accused of losing the game. Dad got mad and quit the team.

Very soon after that Porterfield Park became available and the Tigers would play all of their home games there. It was considered one of the best ball parks in the state. The roster of players in the Tigers teams included John Robinson Sr., Brandy Derricks, Zeke Walker Sr., Flip Robinson, Sonny Blakey, Clarence Snead, Gus Ellis, Ike Howard, Alfonso Hill, Bootney Alexander, James Washington, Gerald Starke, and many more.

As youngsters we would pick up teams and play in the City Service gas station field at the corner of Byrd and Church streets and on the grounds of the Orange Livestock Market on Mill

Street on Sunday evenings after church. Joe Thurston, a local barber, saw us play and persuaded us to get a team together and play teams around the county. Morton Terrill's team and Mrs. Brown's team at Flat Run come to mind. Playing games in corn fields, cow pastures and anywhere else there was a clearing, Joe managed for a year. The following year, Henry Alexander, proprietor of Mary's lunch eatery on Church Street, organized us as a baseball team named the Orange Youngsters. James Scott, son of Horace Scott, a local cabbie working for D.C. Mathews Taxi, gave us the name. After two seasons Henry left and went to the city and became a mixologist, to use today's term.

James Washington, a local taxi owner/operator and pool room proprietor, took over the controls and skipper and reorganized the team as the Orange Nats. James financed the team, and we paid him back with receipts from the gate and the concession stand. We petitioned the local merchants to purchase our uniforms and in exchange, we would advertise their business on the back of our uniforms. Duff Green, the sports editor for the *Orange Review*, would come to the park, take pictures of the team, and publish the box scores in the paper. He was always there for us and interested in how we were doing. We used a field on Route 629 near the Orange County Lake, owned by Skeeter Johnson, and later Prospect Heights to play our home games. Soon after, Porterfield became available and we were able to play all home games there. Our teenage group was very good and fared well against any opponent. I remember going to Ashland to play a semi-pro or college team, I don't know which. We took the field for warm-ups and after a little while, the opposing manager said, "Alright, we are getting ready to start now and get the kids off the field and put your team on there." James replied, "This is my team." The manager found out later we were the real deal. We thrashed them pretty good.

Another thing that I remember as a player was that a team from D.C., the Washington Monarchs, came to play us often and we would schedule a Saturday night and Sunday double-header. We would win all three games. We went to D.C. to return a favor. At this particular game, they were up by eight or nine runs by the third inning, and they started laughing, joking, and said we got this one. Lord and behold, we came back and won that one. They never played us anymore. I also remember the saddest day at the park. D.C. Mathews, taxi owner and a big fan of the Nats, came to the game on a hot July Sunday and sat on the hill right behind home plate on his stool. He keeled over from a heat stroke or a heart attack. The rescue squad or Preddy's Ambulance Service came and transported him to the hospital where he later passed away.

The Nats' roster consisted of names like Isaiah "Zeke" Walker, Mettrr Murrill, Charles Humes, Walter Rucker, Roger Jackson, James Monroe, William Carter, Gilbert Robinson,

See Baseba;; on page 7.

Baseball (*continued*)

Charles Robinson, Bobby Robinson, Charles Robinson, Randolph Howard, Edward Scott, Red Terrill, Clarence Hues, Powhatan Nelson, Warren Nelson, James Bannister, Henry Long, Ray Long, Moses Humes, Ronnie Robinson, Junior Watkins, Andrew Johnson, Charles Humes, and Freddie Braxton.

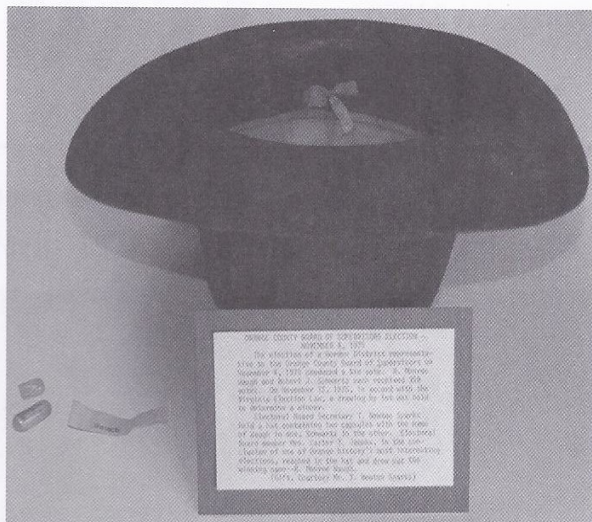
The Shen Valley League of Harrisonburg, Virginia, consisted of teams from Orange, Barboursville, Madison, Elkton, Harrisonburg, North and South Garden, Avon, Sperryville, Greenwood, Massie Mills, Covesville, Lynhurst, Ivy, Shipman, and Charlottesville. One game that really stands out in my mind was in Avon, at the top of Afton Mountain. My brother, "Butter" Ware, being small in stature, was very fast, bunted a lot, and singled often. Leading off the game he got the fat part of the bat on the ball and took it out of the park. The ball landed under a porch in a neighboring yard. The outfield retrieved the ball and threw it back in. They put the ball in play and appealed the call at second saying that he did not touch second base. I thought we would have to fight our way off the mountain. The rest of the game was played under protest to no avail. They furnished their own umpires and always called the action in favor of the home team. In other words, they cheated a lot, especially on key plays. By the end of the late sixties or early seventies, the Nats could not field a team. I continued to play a couple of years with the Barboursville Giants. In 1971 I received a letter from a Sam Douglas of Brooklyn, New York, a scout wanting me to travel to North Carolina to play with them. Being 31 years old and rearing a family, I didn't answer the letter. Later I joined the Grassland Sluggers, who had a decent team and we had a few good years.

My career ended when we had a scheduled game in Harrisonburg. Most of the young players went through a motorcycle craze and rode their bikes to the game. Our pitcher got on the mound for his warm-up and couldn't throw the ball to the plate. We had to forfeit the game because we didn't have another pitcher. I said to myself that this is it, no more, and hung up my spikes.

James "The Skipper" Washington passed away last year. The Nats honored him about four years ago and thanked him for caring and carrying us through a time when we were vulnerable and keeping us off the streets and at the ball park on Saturday nights. He taught us many things of the way in which we should grow up and become responsible citizens. He taught us many things including how to grow up to become responsible citizens. Most of us have retired from good jobs and some of us have worked in the church as preachers, deacons, trustees, treasurers, and other roles. God blessed us with a role model like James.

We thank Walter Ware for permission to condense this from a talk he gave at our November 2011 membership meeting.

From the Historical Society Vault



Joshua Vines

Among the many artifacts stored in the Orange County Historical Society vault is a brown felt hat once worn by an Orange County sheriff and two medicinal capsules donated by Orange pharmacist Bob Gregg. The event at which these items played a starring role was the 1975 election for the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

The election resulted in a tie between the two candidates running for the Gordon District seat. Robert J. Schwartz and R. Monroe Waugh each received 358 votes. On November 12, 1975, Electoral Board chairman T. Newton Sparks, following Virginia election law, held a drawing by lot to determine the winner. Electoral Board member, Martha Jacobs, drew the winning capsule from the hat and R. Monroe Waugh was declared the winner. The hat and capsules were later donated to the Society by T. Newton Sparks.



T. Newton Sparks and Martha Jean Jacobs. Photo courtesy of the *Orange County Review*.

Orange County Historical Society
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Orange, VA 22960

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Please Join Us!

“Beer”

[While working as a scanning volunteer at the Orange County Historical Society, Bernice Walker came across this beer recipe in one of the old family files. It is touted as requiring only five minutes to prepare, twelve hours to age, and costing only one cent per serving.]

COMBINE:

- 6 qts. Cold water.
- 1 pt. molasses (presumably the old blackstrap molasses of the day).
- 1 spoonful ginger (did not specify spoon size).
- 1 spoonful cream of tartar (“ ”).
- 1 pt. yeast.

Mix cold and let stand until in a full ferment (presumably that’s part of the five minutes). Bottle and store in a cool place (presumably that’s part of the twelve hours).

The use of molasses instead of grains would seem to put this drink more into the mead category, the typical mead being made from honey and sometimes called honeywine.

Anybody who tries this, please report results.

We invite you to join the Orange County Historical Society. Please provide your name and contact information as you wish it to appear in our records and select the appropriate dues level. Mail the completed form, along with your dues payment to The Orange County Historical Society (OCHS), to 130 Caroline Street, Orange, VA 22960.

The Orange County Historical Society is a non-profit organization. Your membership fees are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Name: _____
(If business/organization member, name of business or organization)

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Status: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Address, name, etc. update

Would you be willing to receive meeting notices via email in lieu of a postcard? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Membership Level: Society dues are for the period of January 1 - December 31.

- ☐ Annual Individual Member: \$20
- ☐ Annual Student Member (High School or College): \$12.50
- ☐ Annual Family Member: \$30
- ☐ Annual Sustaining Member: \$100
- ☐ Annual Patron Member: \$200
- ☐ Annual Sponsor Member: \$300

Please Don’t Forget . . .

To renew your membership! Did you know that membership dues make up almost 20% of our annual income (another 20% coming from the kindness of our annual fund drive donors)? You can see why your membership is so important to us. Thank You!