

Family Tree Newsletter

The Coleman-Feaster-Mobley Family Association

August, 2022

**82nd Annual C-F-M Family Reunion is
Friday-Sunday, Sep. 30th-Oct. 2nd!**

Come Support A Great Tradition

Who remembers 1978? Jimmy Carter was President, the Bee Gees were on top of the music charts and we were riding around in Ford Pintos. Take a look at our group photo and you will also see that kids sat in windows (and no one freaked out) while men wore dress



shirts, even ties in the heat of July (when Reunions were held back then). Wouldn't it be amazing if we could go back, just for a moment, and hang out in 1978 again. Well, in a way we can. The Reunion is coming up and though we no longer have bowl cuts and Pintos, we still have Feasterville and all our cousins and friends. Even those folks that are no longer with us physically might just join us in spirit. For a good look at this and other old photos check out the C-F-M Family Association website at: <http://fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/CFM-Reunions.htm>

Protecting Our Historic Buildings

By Bob Blair, Aug. 2022

We have reluctantly delayed repairs to our buildings for many years, but the recent weather has forced us to replace a window damaged by a tree fall at the Liberty Universalist Church. This was a front window to the left of the porch (photo right).



This antique and fragile window was not repairable (within our means), so we replaced the entire window, as well as the one on the right to keep a matching appearance. These were custom manufactured windows, not box store windows. At the Boarding House, weather over a long period had damaged the siding boards above the front porch roof which was pulling away from the building due to the decaying porch columns



(photo left) and the slow movement of the porch floor over time, so these repairs had to be made as well. The porch roof was re-shingled as a part of this work. (Cont. on pg2)

(Cont. from pg1) The Association's bank account is down now over \$6200 to pay for these two repair projects. We are hoping for a little extra generosity from our remote members and as well as our Reunion attendees to help us recover our bank accounts and prepare for the next repair. Please be a part of giving these irreplaceable buildings the love they deserve.

Tour of Shivar Springs, Sat Oct. 1st

While the healing properties of the spring water found in Shelton were revered locally, Mr. N. F. Shivar took things a step further in 1907 by bottling the water commercially. It



started two years earlier when Shivar spent some time in Shelton recuperating from an illness, and while there became enamored with the widow Ida Newbill (and her natural spring). They married and started the Shivar Springs

Bottling Company producing mineral water and later ginger ale. A total of four springs were

Photos: *Old Shivar cistern (above) -SC Picture Project; Bank of Shelton in 1969 (below) -Walker History Center.*

eventually involved, with the water being pumped into large cisterns located near Shelton. The cisterns can still be seen. All of



this is of course now part of the ghost town of Shelton which was once the center of commerce in northwest Fairfield. The ruins of Shelton lie waiting at the end of an old dead-end country road which we will wander

down and maybe find a spiritual connection to the past, or just a nice walk in the woods. Bryan Greer, who has led many tours for the Association and knows the history of this area well, will be leading this tour on Saturday, October 1st at 12:30.

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory and honor of Harry M. Jeter

Harry passed away from us on March 27th, 2022. He was one of our Trustees, a past President and Treasurer of the Association. He was an integral part of our Reunions, he made everyone feel welcomed, and was always involved in making sure everything was going as planned. He worked to keep up the historic properties and was quick to tackle any project that needed doing. Harry was a son of William Gist and Lula Coleman Jeter. He was a US Army Veteran who served in Vietnam and retired as a Master Sergeant. He was also a letter carrier for the USPS for 37 years. He is interred at the Jeter Family Cemetery in Carlisle, SC. The CFM Family Association welcomes Memorial Contributions made as a tribute to Harry Jeter, continuing the C-F-M work he loved and perpetuating our remembrance of a faithful C-F-M Family servant.

A Special Thanks

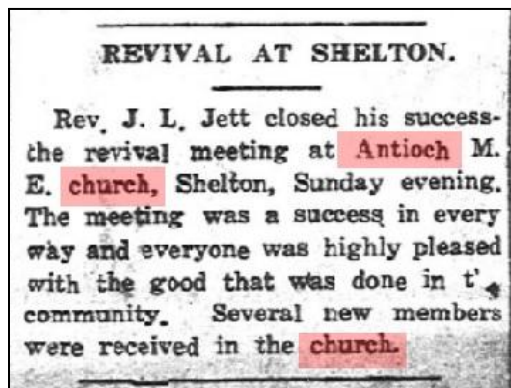
We would like to recognize all the work done by Bob Blair (Trustee) this year in diligently searching for and coordinating with contractors to address emergency repairs to the buildings and to mow all the properties. It is a blessing to have someone who cares so much about the properties, has the necessary connections and knowledge, and is willing to devote many hours of personal time. (Cont. on pg3)

(Cont. from pg2) A big thank you to the volunteers who devoted their time and energy during many workdays this year removing the numerous trees that fell on Feasterville and Liberty grounds and performing general maintenance of grounds and buildings. They are: Eddie Killian, Bryan Greer, James Green, Bob Blair, Micheal Blair, Garret Hunter, Chris Parham, Greydon Maechtle, Coleman Whitesides, Myong Pak, and others.

Revival at Antioch Church

By Ron Chicone, Jr.

“Awake, then, thou that sleepest! Know thyself to be a sinner. Know the corruption of thy inmost nature, whereby thou are very far gone from original righteousness!” These are the powerful words of Charles Wesley, the founder of Methodism. This unorthodox (pun intended), unscripted, and from the heart



revival preaching style practiced by Wesley and others emerged in early

18th-century England. It was a movement away from formal, outward, official religion toward experiential, inward, personal religion. Methodism took up this new religious spirit and rode full stride from England on throughout America.

Photos: *The News & Herald*, 1921 (above) -Library of Congress; and Antioch after restoration by the late Frank Blair (next column).

According to William Powell, Jr. of the University of Richmond, the circuit-riding minister was the central expression of Methodism in the United States. Once each

month, and occasionally more often, the traveling minister appeared in a community. These men were “imbued with a self-sacrificing spirit and endured many hardships which few men of the present age can fathom.” When the weather got really bad, would say “There’s no



one out today but crows and Methodist preachers.”

The religion took hold in the South in the 1800s, and in 1891 Methodists in the Shelton and Feasterville area completed their own church - the Antioch Methodist Episcopal Church. This quaint country church just north of Feasterville, off Dave Jenkins Road, is maintained by Coleman- Feaster- Mobley Family Association and will be on the Saturday afternoon tour. For full article go to C-F-M Association facebook page.

Endowment Fund Proposal

By Teddi M. Miles, Treasurer

Many years have passed since 1941 when Coleman, Feaster and Mobley families first began to meet informally; it is not difficult to understand that a sense of “personal interest” or “personal investment” can have lessened. Incorporation as a 501(c)3 has worked well for the Association; numerous necessary building repairs have been undertaken (many accomplished during the lifetime of the late Frank Blair, a gifted, talented craftsman who served the Association without compensation). However, the Association has no Reserve Funds that could pay the cost of (Cont. on pg4)

(Cont. from pg3) major repairs (replacing a roof, for example) or a new project (fencing a cemetery, for example).

Isabel Wright Alexander, who died 14 July 2021, left the Association a Bequest of \$ 5,000.00. It was her way of helping insure the future of this Association in which she was a lifelong participant and which her mother, Mae Allen Wright, had helped to organize. Since receiving Isabel's Bequest, I have received another contribution of \$ 5,000.00 to match the Bequest. This gift by my parents (Henrietta and Ted Morton) was made with the proviso that I explore a way for the Association to create, manage and promote a "Fund for the Future of the CFM Family Association." The Future gets here much sooner than it used to, so now is the time to prepare for it with a responsible, permanent plan. For further details please contact me at the address or email listed on the last page.

SUNDAY REGISTRATION

Starting at 10AM, sign in at the **Registration Tent** in front of the Boarding House and get your name tag. Be sure to include everyone in your group and your email address. Pay annual dues and make other contributions here.

SUNDAY PICNIC DINNER

This will be your best meal of the year. Forty plus feet of tables filled with home-cooked main dishes, side dishes, and desserts. And sweet ice tea served out of a large pot. Then eating under the sun or shade trees with your families and relatives. The secret to a covered dish dinner is the individual quality of each item, made with extra care by families that are a part of something grand and historic. It is amazing how the complete randomness of what is brought to the Reunion, once set out on the tables, turns out to be like a plan come together. The cost of all this: Bring a dish,

register and pay dues at the registration table, and self-serve. The Association provides plates, utensils, napkins and iced tea. Some tables and chairs will be provided, but you may bring your own.

Rules about food: Please practice good food safety. Put your name on your dish and provide a serving spoon if necessary. The Picnic depends on the honor of each family and attendee providing a good amount of "covered-dish" food so we can fill the tables.

NOTES

You can register online at our website:

<http://fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/2022/CFM-2022-Reunion.htm>

Donate: Please donate what you can at the Registration Tent on Sunday. You can also mail a check directly to our Treasurer, (see last page) or go to our website's donation page: <https://www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/CFM-Donation.htm>

Mailing List: Please make sure we have your correct information so we can keep in touch by mail or email with all our cousins and friends.

C-F-M Family Association Website: Eddie Killian has added many pages to this awesome collection of documents, newsletters, and photos, etc. Please check it out at:

<http://fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/CFM-Family-Association.htm>

C-F-M Family Association facebook: For all the latest news and interesting stories go to: <https://www.facebook.com/Coleman-Feaster-Mobley-Family-Association-1596347080651436>

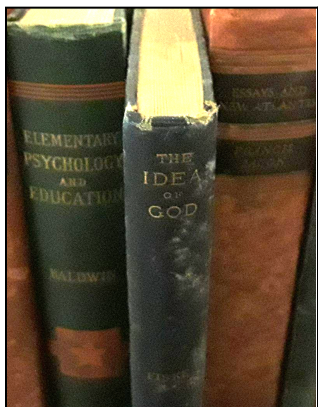
Places to stay and things to do in the area:

<http://fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/CFM-Reunions.htm>

The Magic of an Old Book

By: Ron Chicone, Jr.

Some time ago, while looking through an old hand-made bookcase in the Feasterville Schoolhouse, I happened upon a curious and very old little book published in 1886, *The Idea of God*, by John Fiske. Like a message in a



bottle, it had survived so long making a journey all its own to end up here. I wondered how long had this book been in the schoolhouse? Was this part of the curriculum? Did this philosophy represent the Universalist beliefs of the Feasterville community? The name Franklin Smith is written on the inside cover.

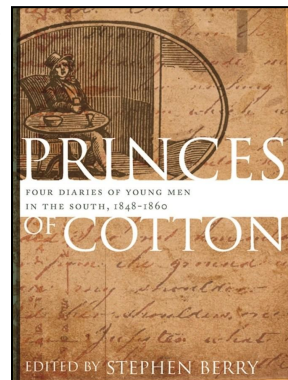
Fiske unloads some heavy insight in this book, saying “we may hold that the world of phenomena is utterly unintelligible unless referred to an underlying and all-comprehensive unity. All things are manifestations of an Omnipresent Energy...and into it they must all ultimately return and be absorbed.” Yeah, mind officially blown. Well, if you ever had the thought that these old timers in Fairfield were a bunch of backwoods illiterates, think again. Actually, Feasterville Academy has a long tradition of valuing education starting with the first teacher in the 1830s, Catherine “Kate” Stratton Ladd, who according to the Federal Writers Project in 1938, “devoted her life to school teaching and is honored and loved to this day in Fairfield.” (For full article go to C-F-M Association facebook page.)

Princes of Cotton

Mini Book Review

The diary of our own John Albert Feaster Coleman (1828-1898), is one of four fascinating diaries published in *Princes of Cotton* by Stephen Berry.

"Down the furrows of their fathers' farms, through the thickets of their local woods, past the familiar haunts of their youth, Harry Dixon, Henry Hughes, **John Coleman**, and Henry Craft arrive at manhood



via journeys they narrate themselves." John was a witty young man spouting quotes like: "Keep the cents and the dollars will keep themselves." and "Never make a Doctor thine heir." Hmm...words to live by. Reading this book puts you right in the middle of all his drama and drudgery in antebellum Feasterville. Well worth the read. Available from UGA Press.

Just for Fun Y'all

It was July, 1921. Babe Ruth sent a Bert Cole pitch over the fence at Detroit's Navin Field to break the major-league record for career home runs. Meanwhile, Winnsboro's News and Herald told of another “very interesting game:”

There was a very interesting game of ball played between the fat and lean ladies of the neighborhood Thursday afternoon at the Feasterville school ground. The leans won the game, although the fats did some good playing. Ice cream was sold for the benefit of the Methodist church.

Don't worry, we have no plans to re-create this historic game...but the ice cream would be good.

Schedule of Events:

Friday Sep 30th

- Fairfield County Museum, Winnsboro open 9AM to 5PM
- Feasterville Academy grounds open from 9AM - until
- Tent and RV camping Set up all day (please RSVP on CFM website)
- Research Assistance at the School House 5:30 - until
- 7PM cookout and campfire

Saturday Oct 1st

- Research assistance at Feasterville School House 8:30am -12:30
- Feasterville Academy grounds open 9am
- Tour of Shivar Springs and old Shelton ghost town 10:00 to 12:30
- Lunch at a local Mom & Pop restaurant
- Tour of Cemeteries and Antioch Church 1:30 - 5:30
- Barbeque supper at Academy grounds and campfire 6pm - until

Sunday Oct 2nd

- Research assistance Feasterville School House 8:30am - 11:00am
- Registration, Dues, Donations and visiting 10:00 - 11:00
- Services at Liberty Universalist Church 11:00 - 11:45
- Annual Business Meeting at Liberty Church 11:45 - 12:15pm
- Reunion group photo 12:45 - 1:00
- **Association and friends family picnic 1:00 - 2:00**
- Reunion games and prizes 2:00 - 3:00
- Tours: cemeteries, churches, Oaks Plantation (4pm) The Old Spring Trail 3 - 6:30pm

Sally Shedd Garner, Chair of the Nominating Committee, is ready for a volunteer to replace her. If you would be willing to serve our Association in this position, please make a call to Sally at 803/429-9403.

Association Officers and Committee Members

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| President | Eddie Killian, PO Box 39, Gaston SC 29053 robertekillian@yahoo.com |
| Vice-President | Dru Blair, 4935 Buckhead Rd, Blair SC 29015 drublair@drublair.com |
| Secretary | Samantha Blair, 2592 Buckhead Rd, Blair SC 29015 blairsam95@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Teddi M Miles, 104 Leisure Ln, Ninety Six SC 29666 milesteddi@gmail.com |
| Chaplain | Rev Dr Steve Mentzer, 518 Saddle Hill Rd, Greenwood, SC 29646 drstevementzer@gmail.com |
| Genealogist | James W Green III, 285 Agnew Rd, Winnsboro SC 29180 broomdna@juno.com |
| Historian | Henrietta R Morton, 167 Rutledge Rd, Greenwood SC 29649 mortonhr34@gmail.com |
| Webmaster | Eddie Killian, PO Box 39, Gaston SC 29053 robertekillian@yahoo.com |
| Trustees | Robert C Blair Jr, Teddi M Miles, Ron Chicone, Jr. |
| Newsletter Editor | Robert C Blair Jr, 1926 Old Blair Rd, Blair SC 29015 rblair1926@gmail.com |
| Past President | Dru Blair, 4935 Buckhead Rd, Blair SC 29015 drublair@drublair.com |
| Nominating Committee..... | Sally Shedd Garner, Chairman |
| Communion Committee..... | Wylie Blair Parham, Allison Blair Hunter |
| Picnic Arrangements | Billy Hendrix Jr, Sally Garner, Bryan Greer, Samantha Blair, Garrett Hunter, Chris Parham, Coleman Whitesides |
| Cemetery Committee | Robert Blair (Chairman) |
| Fort Wagner Monument..... | Bryan Greer |

Coleman-Feaster-Mobley Family Association

Family Tree Newsletter, 1926 Old Blair Rd Blair SC 29015, Website:

<https://www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org/Family-Associations/CFM-Association/CFM-Family-Association.htm>