

GRAHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



HONORING THOSE WHO PIONEERED THE RUGGED MOUNTAINS OF GRAHAM COUNTY



www.HISTORYGC.org

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grahamcountymuseum@gmail.com



Graham County Flame Azalea NEWSLETTER

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GCHA VISION STATEMENT

To maintain a heritage center located on Main Street, by focusing on education, history, and community activities, to assure that Graham County's place in history will be secured for future generations. Participate in the revitalization of downtown Robbinsville, N.C., and promote cultural tourism and economic development in our area.

← Contact Us Today!

MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve, interpret, and convey Graham County, regional, and Appalachian history through exhibitions and educational programs to showcase our history, making Graham County a desired historical destination.

GCHA meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 5:00 p.m. at United Community Bank, 132 Rodney Orr Bypass, Robbinsville, NC and via teleconference. Contact us for call-in information.
grahamcountymuseum@gmail.com

GCHA Board of Directors

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Our Lucky Winner!



Maxine Williams-Bahr cleaned up at the GCHA Craftsman Shop Vac & Hoover Vacuum Raffle

Born on a farm on the outskirts of town, this lifelong Robbinsville resident is the

owner of Southland Realty. While spending many years as an educator, she instilled in her students the importance of dedication to community and appreciation of this area's natural beauty, and exemplifies that in everything she does.

Upon receipt of her prize, GCHA Lifetime Member Maxine Williams-Bahr made a \$2,000 Donation, stating that she is "appreciating and in support of what GCHA is doing."

Thank You & Congratulations, Maxine!

WINDOW DISPLAYS ~ NOW SHOWING

William "Bill" Cody Collection



View photos of the William "Bill" Cody Family, who lived in the Stecoah community in the late 1800's. On display are items used in their daily lives, such as cobbler tools, a wooden churn, tool chest, hats, and more.



Bear Creek Junction Collection



View photo murals of the Logging and Railroad industries once housed in the Bear Creek Junction Museum.

Graham County
Historical Association

10 S. Main Street
Robbinsville, NC 28771

HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - PART IV

A compilation by Tere Moore

PIONEER LIFE IN GRAHAM COUNTY

Many of the speculators who had purchased large tracts of land after the Treaty of 1819 and the removal of the Cherokees in 1838 had hopes of financial gain from the exploitation of the natural resources such as minerals and timber.

Excerpt: Western North Carolina: Its Mountains and Its People by Ora Blackmun

"After 1838, the first stage of frontier life rapidly disappeared in Western North Carolina as settlers took up land in the old Cherokee nation and transplanted their ways of living to the newly opened areas that extended to the borders of the state. That is not to say that the pattern of living throughout the region became one of prosperity and progress. On the contrary, until the Civil War every county had mountain sections in which people lived much as the earliest settlers had."

THE CIVIL WAR IN GRAHAM COUNTY

"WAR COMES TO THE HILLS"

Excerpt: Western North Carolina: Its Mountains and Its People by Ora Blackmun

"By the middle of 1863 affairs in Western North Carolina were getting desperate. In addition to the extreme scarcity of needed goods, there was no money to buy what trickled in. Taxes were steadily rising, and they were many, reaching into every avenue of life. Some of the counties had earlier levied extra taxes to enable them to clothe and equip their own troops. State taxes had been drastically raised, and it had been necessary to levy new ones. Then, too, the Confederacy ever needed new sources of income in order to meet its needs; thus it levied taxes on occupations, on necessities such as flour, corn, oats, and dry goods, on salaries over \$1,000 a year, and it placed an eight percent tax on all agricultural products on hand July 1, 1863.

"The Confederate tax that most drastically affected the mountain people, however, was the tax in kind. It required that 10 percent of all farm products above a specified exemption for home use must be delivered by the producer to the nearest railroad for shipment to Confederate warehouses. This tax tended to reduce surplus raising of food, and it meant transporting the grain and the vegetables produced on farms in the hills to the railroad at Greenville, South Carolina, or to the station east of Morganton. Such journeys would be difficult at best and sometimes almost impossible as women took over

practically all the work on the mountain farms. That problem ceased to exist by 1864, for by that time raiding troops that lived off the land and bands of outliers from the mountain recesses were taking not only the surplus but much of the food raised for families.

"From the first each county had had its militia, which was charged with local defense. In 1863 these units, which had been under county control, were disbanded, and Home Guard units were organized as a part of the state's military program. All men between the ages of 18 and 50 years not already enlisted in the State Militia or the Confederate armies automatically became members of the Home Guards, and training centers were set up in the counties. John W. McElroy was made Brigadier General in charge of the western units and made his headquarters at Burnsville.

"In addition to guarding the counties against enemies, both those from the outside and those on the inside, the Guards were charged with the duty of rounding up deserters and renegades. The Home Guards were an improvement over the county militia units, but by the end of 1863 they were made up almost entirely of young boys and old men. In the counties bordering Tennessee they were unable to cope with the spreading lawlessness. Then, too, members in these Guards constantly decreased in numbers. Lieutenant Colonel William W. Stringfield, in charge of defending the most westerly counties, by 1864 had only some 300 Home Guards for covering the area from Asheville to Murphy. This made it necessary to keep several regiments of State Militia at Western North Carolina to insure order, to protect property and citizens, and to render assistance to the Home Guards.

"Except for two small skirmishes in 1865 – one at Craggy near Asheville and the other near Waynesville – Western North Carolina saw no battles during the years of the war. Instead, war in the hills took the form of raids and, as bitterness and distrust among the citizens deepened, personal attacks by individuals and small bands became frequent. There was also the problem of deserters and 'outliers.' Deserters from both the State and Confederate forces steadily and stealthily returned to the mountains. Some of them, satiated with the scenes of war, came back to work on their farms. Others were unwilling to return to their homes or, having returned, found themselves unwelcome in their communities. They became 'outliers.' As the war went on, bringing each month greater privations and suffering to the families of

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HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - Part IV (cont'd)

soldiers, men with no criminal intent sometimes left the ranks in response to appeals from members of their families.

"Men from Western North Carolina served in every area of war activities and took part in most of the battles. North Carolina topped all of the Southern states in its numbers of deserters, but some 8,000 of these later returned to the armies. Since North Carolina had furnished more soldiers than any other Southern state, the ratio of desertion was about that of both the confederacy and the Union. During the entire conflict about 23,000 soldiers and 423 officers from North Carolina deserted the army.

CIVIL WAR IN GRAHAM COUNTY: UNION AND CONFEDERATE RAIDERS

North Carolina Digital Collections

"During the Civil War, Graham County (then part of Cherokee County) offered scant support to the secessionist cause, although both ardent Confederates and staunch Unionists lived here. The region was not financially dependent on slavery. Most families wished to remain neutral but were pressured into choosing sides and then suffered from both Union and Confederate raiders. Renegades or bushwhackers were especially troublesome here, where the rugged terrain offered a haven.

"Confederate Capt. J.W. Cooper's Company H, 69th North Carolina Infantry, occupied Camp Cheoah on Rhea Hill, site of present-day Robbinsville Elementary School. Col. William H. Thomas's Legion, of which Cooper's company was a part, defended western North Carolina from Federal incursions. An engagement occurred here in November 1864 between Companies C and G of the 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry (U.S.) and Cherokee soldiers of Thomas's Legion. The 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry consisted largely of Confederate and Union deserters.

"Several Kirkland family members joined but later operated independently here as the Kirkland Bushwhackers under John Jackson "Bushwhacking"



Kirkland. His band of outlaws terrorized the area, ambushing, robbing, and murdering innocent people.

Left: Former 2nd Lieutenant John Jackson Kirkland "Bushwhacking John" was a Confederate deserter.

"After the principal Confederate surrenders in April

1865, Maj. Stephen Whitaker of Thomas's Legion issued parole papers to Confederate troops here at Thomas's Store on May 14. They were among the last troops in North Carolina or east of the Mississippi River to surrender, eight days after one of the last engagements in the east on May 6 at Hanging Dog Creek in Cherokee County."

"SETTLING GRAHAM COUNTY WAS A TOUGH JOURNEY"

Excerpts: by Marshall McClung
January 27, 2005 - The Graham Star

"The Civil War was rough on Graham County which at this time was still a part of Cherokee County, and would remain so until 1872. There were no major battles fought here as there were no vital military targets located in the area. There were some small skirmishes, but what plagued Graham County most was bushwhackers and renegades. Perhaps the most well-known group was the Kirkland Bushwhackers, but other groups made raids through the area also. Many were deserters from both the Union and Confederate armies; many were just plain outlaws who took advantage of the time to plunder and murder defenseless homesteaders whose men were gone to war.

"Company C of the Third Tennessee Mounted Cavalry, made up mostly of deserters and renegades shot and killed two teenage boys, John Stratton and Tom Mashburn, on October 3, 1864. They are buried in the Goldmine-Rock Creek area...

"Robert Stratton, who lived in the Santeetlah area, and the father of John Stratton and another man with him, Jack Roberts, were killed by the Kirkland Bushwhackers on Sept. 2, 1864.

"One of the Kirkland Bushwhackers, Jesse Kirkland Jr., was killed near the Ground Squirrel-Cross Creek section while courting his girlfriend... and was surprised by members of Captain W.R. Abbot's unit of the Confederate Army, who wounded him and then killed him while he tried to escape crawling along on the ground."

By the late 1880's, the area was virtually untouched other than by the pioneer farmsteads that dotted the valley land. Life was not easy and it took a determined spirit and unbending will to forge a life in the western mountain country. Our Graham County ancestors were indomitable people who subjected themselves to the forces of nature to forge a new life from the wilderness.

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HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - Part IV (cont'd)

AN INDOMINABLE GRAHAM COUNTY PIONEER WOMAN

"Courage and bravery have generally been a characteristic of the mountaineer in war and in peace. The Civil War exposed the entire family to hardships and extreme danger. Often the safety of the soldier-husband depended upon the ingenuity and craftiness of the wife. Many may have experienced perils possibly of equal merit; however, the account of Hazie Crisp Brown of Stecoah community will illustrate the point at hand." Excerpt: www.grahamcounty.net

There are varied accounts of a daring rescue performed by **Hazie Crisp Brown**, daughter of William Bray "Ole Billy" Crisp and Alice Miley Barker, wife of John Brown, a Union Volunteer in the Civil War who was wounded on September 19, 1863, but none told by such a well-researched historian and genealogist as Shirley Crisp, whose rendition follows:



"This is the story as I have heard it. George Williams, his brother Bart and Brother Thomas Jefferson Deaver all stayed with Union forces during the Civil War. They were captured by Confederate forces near Madisonville, TN. John Brown, husband of Hazie Crisp Brown of Stecoah, was left for dead at the scene. I think this is the place Hazie Crisp Brown rode her horse to find her husband, John Brown.

"George Williams, his brother Bart Williams and brother-in-law Thomas Jefferson Deaver were taken to a jail near Asheville, NC. All three were able to escape and were trying to get back to Tennessee. They stole three horses on the north side of the Little Tennessee River on a primitive road known as the Little Tennessee River Turnpike. Most of this is now under the water of Fontana Lake.

"From a statement given by Dewitt Ghormley, he and two other men gave chase. One of the three men caught up with them at about 1 or 2 a.m. and killed all three. Ghormley said they were near the home of Burton Welch on the Little Tennessee River. George Williams, Bart Williams and Thomas Jefferson Deaver were buried beside the road on January 10th, 1865. The bodies remained there until 1892, when they were removed by the US Army and placed in the National Military Cemetery at Knoxville, Tennessee, Sections B and C, Nos. 3165, 3166 and 3167.

"The story is that when Hazie received word that John had been wounded, she rode horseback from

Stecoah to the site near Madisonville, TN, found John, nursed him back to health until she was able to bring him back to Stecoah.

"Hazie's granddaughter, Minnie Taylor, said, 'Granny left with one horse, but when she came back Granny was riding one horse and Grandpa John was riding another horse.' They didn't ask Granny where she got the extra horse."

According to accounts posted on Grahamcounty.net and Findagrave.com, Hazie rode directly to the battlefield to find him lying in a ditch and, with the aid of some of his comrades and friends – Milas Cody, Joel L. Crisp, Brit Maynor and Lew Hogan – she hoisted him into the saddle and then rode behind him holding the reins to guide the horse. Hazie and John stopped at a house behind the battle lines, where she kept him until he was able to be moved, then nursed him until he recovered sufficiently for the trip back home to then Cherokee County.

Another account of her grit and tenacity reflects that she fooled a group of men who came to her house looking for her brother Mansil. She had him hidden in the loft among sacks of dried fruit. After they demanded that she prepare dinner for them, she took a bucket and went to the loft to get some of the dried fruit. While there, she gave her bonnet and dress to her brother who then came down in disguise. He was near freedom when the men recognized him and gave chase.

Hazie and John Brown lie buried in the cemetery in Stecoah that bears her name.

BUILDING HOMESTEADS

Excerpts: Fontana – A Pocket History of Appalachia by Lance Holland

"To expand or create cropland, pioneers used a technique called "deadening." This procedure involved chopping a ring through the bark and cambian layer of standing timber. The cambian layer just inside the bark contains the vessels that transport nutrients up and down the tree. Cutting through this layer severs the lifeline of the tree and causes it to die. In the spring, the lifeless standing timber allowed light to reach the fertile ground beneath where corn and other crops were planted. As time and labor allowed, some of these dead trees were used for buildings and fencing..."

"Jessie and Cyrene Gunter, who settled in the Welch Cove area, forged out of the wilderness a cabin that still stands today as the Fontana Museum.

"The brothers felled large, straight tulip poplar trees and dragged them to the site. The logs were

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HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - Part IV (cont'd)

peeled and split using axe, maul, and wedges, then smoothed on two sides with a broadaxe and foot adze. They were then joined with near-perfect half dovetail notches to form the walls of the cabin. Other shorter slabs of poplar and cherry were hewn into puncheons, some two feet wide, that would be laid on squared joints to become the floor in the two downstairs rooms. Jessie would later remove and use some of these broad flat puncheons for a far different purpose. The loft or upstairs of the cabin was floored with boards that were created with the same splitting techniques and further smoothed with a drawknife to such a fine finish that only close inspection well reveal that they were not sawmill lumber.

"To connect the two floors, a magnificently simple staircase was fabricated. Massive stringers were hewn from green timber and mortises or slots were cut into them to accept the tenons, or projections on the ends of the step treads that had been crafted from well-cured timber. The staircase was assembled using no nails, pegs, or glue – and as the green stringers dried, they shrunk around the tenons, creating joints that are still sound 120 years later. Roof boards or wooden shingles were rived or split from log sections of straight grain white oak to cover the building."



Gunter home built by early settlers

Mountain Transportation – Sourwood Sledge



Early settlers split the naturally bent Sourwood logs for use as sledge runners, tool handles, etc. Locals believe that the natural "crook" in the Sourwood tree is God's way of providing the perfect material for sledge, sleigh and sled runners.



The **Sourwood tree** wanders back and forth seeking the sunlight as the canopy changes, causing it to have a natural curve in its trunk. Its wood is hard, dense, heavy, and close-grained.

The sweet nectar and sap of the sourwood led early settlers to use it as a tonic, decoction to treat

urinary/prostate conditions, indigestion, diarrhea, dysentery, mouth ulcers, and more. The honey from its nectar and pollen is a most sought-after honey.

"MOODY'S 'STOMPIN GROUNDS'"

Excerpts: by Marshall McClung

August 8, 2002 - The Graham Star

"Abner Moody and his wife Joanna Carver Moody moved from near Hiawassee, Georgia to Moody Stomp Gap near the Graham/Cherokee County line somewhere in the late 1800's. Abner had served the last two years of the Civil War in the Confederate Army. Upon arriving in what is now Graham County, Abner built a cabin near a spring in the vicinity of a small gap that we now know as Moody Stomp. There was an old road that ran from Eller Cove past Moody Stomp, Cozad Gap, and either turning toward Andrews down Beaver Creek or down Little Snowbird Creek, depending on which turn you took.

"Abner and Joanna had several children. Newton Jasper, John Harve, Hettie, Texan, Ida, Wiley. "John Harve Moody was the first white child born [in this area] after this became Graham County in 1872. "Wiley Moody was a young child when the family made their move from Georgia to the back woods of Little Snowbird. He... remembered traveling up and down Little Snowbird when there was no road of any kind, only a trail. Few white families lived in the Snowbird area then.

"Joanna Carver Moody had a favorite mule she rode, but swapped it for a tract of land. Eventually the Moodys owned a large section of land totaling some 1,000 acres lying near the forks of Big and Little Snowbird Creeks, including the area now known as Nelms Road, and continuing on down Snowbird Creek.

"Joanna Bald, where the forest fire lookout tower is located on the Graham/Cherokee County line is said to have been named after Joanna Moody. Joanna Bald, rising to an elevation of 4,716 feet is also known by a Cherokee name, Teyahalee or Diyahaliyi Bald, meaning 'Lizard Place.'"

The average life expectancy of a pioneer man, woman or child ranged from 30 to 40 years, if they were fortunate enough to survive childhood.

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HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - Part IV (cont'd)



These pioneer women defy that statistic and were a symbol of the strength of early women of Graham County. Childbirth, disease, hardship and hard work took its toll.

Pictured (left to right):
Amanda Wiggins Slaughter
Ruth Ammons Wiggins
Lizzie Wiggins Cooper

TOWN OF ROBBINSVILLE

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF ROBBINSVILLE IN GRAHAM COUNTY

The General Assembly of North Carolina Do Enact:

Section 1. That the town of Robbinsville in Graham County be and the same is hereby incorporated under the name and style of the "Town of Robbinsville," and shall be subject to all the provisions contained in chapter sixty-two of the Code, except sections thirty-eight hundred, thirty-eight hundred and seven, thirty-eight hundred and eight, thirty-eight hundred and fifteen and thirty-eight hundred and sixteen.

Section 2. That the corporate limits of said town shall be the same as set forth under the plat of said town under the original charter of the town of Robbinsville in Graham County.

Section 3. That the officers of said town shall consist of four commissioners, and a treasurer who shall be ex-officio clerk of the board of town commissioners, said four commissioners shall chose one of their number mayor, and also their constable and treasurer.

Section 4. That until the officers shall be elected under the general law concerning corporations, N. M. E. Slaughter, G. B. Walker, N. G. Phillips and J. W. King are appointed commissioners of said town with the power to appoint their constable and treasurer to serve until the time prescribed by law for the next election of officers for incorporated towns.

Section 5. That the commissioners of said town shall have power to make all necessary by-laws, rules, and regulations for the good government of said town, not inconsistent with the constitution of this state, or the United States.

Section 6. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification. Ratified the 27th day of February, A. D. 1893.

There is a considerable difference of opinion as to how the Town of Robbinsville got its name. One account is that Robbinsville was named for James L. Robinson, a senator in the state legislature from Macon County at the time of the formation of Graham County.

Another version is that a Mr. Robbins from Clay County moved to Cheoah Valley and taught in the first school. However, it is rather generally accepted that the county seat was named for James L. Robinson, even though the spelling of the town name favors the other version. Yet another theory is that Robbinsville was named after a Colonel Robb.

"TOWN OF ROBBINSVILLE NAMED FOR COLONEL ROBB"

by J. R. Miller - Asheville Citizen-Times 30 Nov 1930

"With these days of so much robbing, the people of this little mountain community do not want people in general to believe that this town was named after a robber or rob. This town was named after a once popular politician of the central part of the state, one Colonel Robb.

"The town charter was granted in 1892 and R.B. Slaughter was the first mayor elected and has served continuously since. The government of the town has been on a citizen ticket and has been non-partisan as to rule. Many city marshals have come and gone. This is not a very pleasant work, for the law is to be enforced and taxes collected, the city water and fire departments fall on his shoulders, and the salary has never been large.

"Robbinsville is almost centrally located in Graham County and is the trading center for the entire county, which was once known as the 'Lost Province.'"

North Carolina's "Lost Province": The three counties in the northwestern corner of North Carolina, Allegheny, Ashe, and Watauga counties, were known as the lost provinces of North Carolina because of their isolation from the remainder of the state.

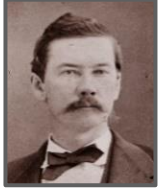
SO WHO WAS ROBBINSVILLE NAMED IN HONOR OF?

After researching several encyclopedic and ancestry websites, I could find no information on a Mr. Robbins from Clay County who was a teacher. The closest person living in that time frame whose occupation was teacher was a John M. Robbins from Randolph County, NC. I also could not, from any military records, identify a person known as "Colonel Robb" who later became a politician in North Carolina.

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HISTORY OF GRAHAM COUNTY - Part IV (cont'd)

James Lowry Robinson (September 17, 1838 – July 11, 1887) a Democratic politician from the U.S. state of North Carolina; he served as the fourth lieutenant governor of the state for four years under Governor Thomas J. Jarvis and as acting Governor of North Carolina for one month in 1883.



William McKendree Robbins (October 26, 1828 – May 5, 1905) a U.S. Representative from North Carolina, born in the old homestead near Trinity, North Carolina, pursued classical studies, attended Old Trinity College and graduated from Randolph-Macon College, Virginia, about 1850. He studied law.



Look for "History of Graham County – Part V" in the next issue of the GCHA Newsletter

Out and About

Did you See the Graham County Historical Association booth at the:

**Drag-On
Car Show
May 15, 2021**



**Graham County
Heritage Festival
July 3, 2021**

Stop by and see us at the GCHA booth at these upcoming functions:



**July 10, to December 18, 2021
Every Saturday from 8am – 12pm**

Parking lot of Graham County Public Library
80 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC 28771

AND



**October 16, 2021
11am – 5pm**

Featured: Artisan Foods ~ Arts & Crafts ~ Dairy & Eggs ~ Flowers ~ Fruits & Berries ~ Herbs ~ Nuts & Seeds ~ Specialty Products ~ Vegetables

The Graham Star – August 8, 2002

Brooks was Robbinsville's 'village blacksmith'

Many schoolchildren of earlier years were no doubt familiar with the poem written in 1842 by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow "The Village Blacksmith."

Longfellow describes the blacksmith in his famous poem as being a strong, honest, hard-working man who loved his children and visits his mothers grave and weeps.

There is little doubt that the blacksmith was a noble and much needed profession in earlier times. They were the mechanics of their day.

Robbinsville was not without its own village blacksmith. John Brooks operated a blacksmith shop at the corner of present-day Circle Street and Junaluska Drive, ironically, across the road from a mechanics shop, Mitch Ford's Autologic. Robbinsville was incorporated as a town in 1893. James Gordon Brooks and his wife, Mary Ann Johnson, settled in the Yellow Creek area around 1845. James worked on the construction of the first road to the Tennessee state line. Brooks Gap, located near Santeetlah Dam, is said to be named after him.

John Bunyan Brooks, one of the sons of this couple, born in 1867, moved to Robbinsville and set up a blacksmith shop. He was to be the "village blacksmith" for the

next 40 years. John made most of the tools he worked with as well as a lot of tools the farmers used. He could build a wagon from the ground up. There were no funeral homes in those days, so John made coffins, too. John had an instrument he used when shoeing horses or mules that caught the animal's leg just above the hoof and held it fast. A crank was then turned to raise the animal's leg to the desired height and hold it in place. In addition to his blacksmith duties, John also administered Robbinsville's water system.

John Brooks was married to Frankie Hyde, daughter of John Aaron and Louisa Hyde, early settlers in the Cheoah Valley. Early records indicate they may have been the first white people to live there. John and Frankie Brooks had six children: Lavada, Icie, Amanda, Ada, Minnie and Daisy. John and Frankie are buried in the Old Mother Cemetery. John died in 1940 and Frankie in 1944. Nearby are three infant sons, apparently stillborn, with the dates of 1887, 1897 and 1904. A daughter, Lavada L., who was around 10 years old when she died in 1899, is also buried nearby. There is an Edward Brooks who lived only 10 days in 1906 buried close by, but there is no indication if he



Robbinsville's village blacksmith in the 1800s was John Brooks shown shoeing "Kate" the mule. Holding Kate's reigns is Oliver Ammons. Brooks' blacksmith shop was located at the intersection of Junaluska Drive and Circle Street.

was their son or not.

There is an amusing story involving "Kate" the mule. The story is told by Gordon Ammons. Gordon and the mule have something in common. They were both born in 1906. Gordon tells that the Reverend George Slaughter asked

Kate's owner, John Ammons, about borrowing her to ride to church because she was so gentle.

John instructed his son Will Ammons to saddle Kate for the preacher. Will had made plans to ride Kate to visit his girlfriend, but saddle the mule as instructed.

When the preacher got on Kate, Will stuck a cob under her tail and she bucked the preacher off. At this point, the preacher decided he would seek other transportation and Will got to use Kate to go see his girlfriend as planned.

Graham County COVID Statistics – 7/12/2021

Population	Cases	Deaths
8,441	680	14

For more information visit: <https://usafacts.org/visualizations/coronavirus-covid-19-spread-map/state/north-carolina/county/graham-county>

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10 years	\$200.00 (2 years free)	All 1-year benefits plus GC Centennial Book
Lifetime	\$1000 or more	All 1-year benefits plus memorial at Museum

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- Mail to **GCHA**, PO Box 1221 Robbinsville, NC 28771

If you know someone who loves history like you do...



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GRAHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

The work of Graham County Historical Association is greatly assisted by your generous support!

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