

THE ALLEN HISTORIAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 31, Allen, MD 21810

Web Address: allenhistoricalsociety.org

VOLUME 24, NO. 2, August 2018

George Shivers, Editor

Community Calendar

Friday, Sept. 7 – Sunday, Sept. 9,
National Folk Festival in downtown
Salisbury. Check it out on line!

Sunday, Sept. 18, Asbury United
Methodist Church Picnic, at the
McEntegart home, immediately after the
church service.

Saturday, September 22, Allen Lions
Club Paddle Poker Run. For information
call 410-546-2043.

Saturday, October 13, Asbury United
Methodist Church Fall Bazaar, 9:00 am –
2:00 pm, Allen Community Hall

Sunday, November 11, Allen Lions Club
Beef Dinner, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm, Allen
Community Hall. For tickets, call 410-
546-2043

December, Date to be Determined. Allen
Historical Society, Breakfast with Santa,
7:30 – 10:00 am, Allen Community Hall.
For information call 410-546-2043

Thurs., Dec. 20, 6:30 PM, Community
Holiday Dinner, Allen Community Hall

At Salisbury University:

Ongoing exhibit at the Niemann Gallery,
Guerrieri Academic Commons by the by
the Nabb Center, “Delmarva: People,
Place & Time”

At the Ward Museum through Sept. 23,
“Through Artists’ Eyes: The Eastern
Shore Revealed.”

Message from a Reader

Barrie Parsons

(Editor’s Note: Barrie Parsons is the
daughter of the late Louis Casey Parsons
and Mary Belle Smith Parsons. She grew
up in Allen. She also served as Mayor of
Salisbury. What follows is her response
in an article in the last edition of the
Historian.)

I love the article by Butch about Mr.
Ashland Malone. I have "filmy"
memories of him & Mr. Ernest Griffith.
Daddy told a great story about Mr.
Ashland: One day he ventured over to
his house for his help on some type of
repair or project. As Daddy approached
his workshop, he heard Mr. Ashland
talking. There was no one around. When
he saw Daddy, he said, "Casey, I've
learned how little you learn when you
are talking to yourself." Daddy loved to
tell that story and I remembered it often
in meetings when I was mayor.

Remembering Mr. Ernest Griffith

By George Shivers

Barrie Parson's message reminded me of Mr. Ernest, whom I remember well from my childhood. He lived with two sisters, Miss Addie Griffith and Mrs. Costen in the big house that formerly stood on the corner opposite Asbury UM Church. The house had earlier belonged to Mr. Levin "Squire" Price, who taught in the Allen School for decades in the second half of the 19th century. I believe that Mr. Ernest was Mrs. Mary Griffith Payne's uncle.



Griffith Home

My mother, Lillian Phillips Shivers ran a store in Allen for many years (until 1946), and Mr. Ernest was a frequent caller. Mother often told me that when I was very young – we moved from the store when I was 3 years old – Mr. Ernest liked to pick me up and toss me on the studio couch that was in the dining room. Apparently, I liked it to, as I giggled merrily whenever it happened, but my mother lived in fear that he would break my neck! Fortunately for all concerned that never happened.

My later memories of Mr. Ernest were that I often saw him at the home of Miss Sadie Waller, when we visited her. He would frequently be stretched out on her couch. She lived in the house that once stood up the road a bit from the church. Both were well into their 70s or 80s by that time and no doubt just old friends, but to us Mr. Ernest was Cousin Sadie's boyfriend!



Sadie Waller



Sadie Waller House

**From the *Salisbury Advertiser*
July 23, 1898**

Death of W. F. Allen, Sr.

Mr. William F. Allen, Dr. died at his home in Allen Wednesday of last week,

aged 64 years. His remains were interred Friday afternoon in the M.E. church yard of Allen.

A widow, one son and two daughters survive him.

Mr. Allen had been in declining health for several months. He was engaged in farming and had been tax collector of Trappe Collection District several years. He had also served as judge of the Orphans Court.

Mr. J.S.C. Allen of Allen and Mr. A. J. Allen of Salisbury are brothers.



William F. Allen House

The house pictured here, built in 1870, is currently the home of the Taylor family and is across the street diagonally from the Huffington-Pollitt house. At the time of Mr. Allen's death, the house stood, very close to the road and directly across from the Phillips store building. It was moved to its present location by Mr. Ralph Bounds, when he and his wife Gwendolyn purchased the property.



Ralph Bounds (foreground)



Gwendolyn Bounds (with George Shivers). Wilson Shivers on horse in background.



On the left is Mrs. Lula Payne Shivers; to her right is Mrs. Gertrude Disharoon,

who lived with her daughter,
Gwendolyn, and son-in-law, Ralph
Bounds.

**Somerset County Certificates of
Freedom (1821-1864)**

(Editor's Note: The persons listed here
had been slaves of residences of the Allen
area, as near as I can tell. I don't have the
names of the owners in all cases.)

Jane Nutter, 5'1 ½", yellow, 41, Oct. 25,
1826, Col. Joseph S. Cottman

Jesse Nutter, yellow, 6', 38, Oct. 31,
1826, Col. Cottman

William Nutter, chestnut, 17, 5'3 ½"
November 15, 1827. Owner: Col.
Cottman

Harry, Black, 5'2 ½", March 4, 1828.
Owner: Wm. Whayland

Sarah Okey, bright mulatta, 23, Aug. 11,
1828. daughter of Peggy Okey, born free.
Owner: Col. Cottman

James Polk, bright mulatto, 21, 5'8 ½",
Nov. 7, 1829. Owner: Nancy ?

Priscilla Nutter, chestnut, 17, June 7,
1832, daughter of Seale, adjudged free
May 1801. Owner: Col. Cottman

Stephen Nutter, dark, 5'11 ½", 22. June
6, 1832, son of Seale

Sarah Ann Outen, mulatta, 5'2", July 15,
1836, daughter of Polly Outen, free white
woman.

Nancy Outen, mulatta, 20, 5'1/4", May
13, 1839. Daughter of Polly Outen, free
white woman, long hair, appears white.

Katy Nutter, chestnut, age 19, 5'6 3/8",
June 5, 1839. Owner: Col. Cottman

Zachariah Nutter, mulatto, gray eyes,
5'9", 23, June 5, 1839. Owner: Col.
Cottman

Matilda Nutter, 5'1/2", age 17, June 5,
1839. Owner: Col. Cottman

Susan Nutter, mulatta, grey eyes, 5'3 1/4",
21, June 5, 1839. Owner: Col. Cottman

Lucy Outen, dark chestnut, 39, 5'1", Jan.
6, 1846

Sarah Park, chestnut, 20, 5'4", Aug. 18,
1848

Simon Lucifer Cottman, Black, age 40,
August 8, 1850. Owner: Col. Cottman

Wesley Parker, yellow, 30, 5'7", March
18, 1858k

Jesse Nutter, light chestnut, 5'11", March
6, 1860. Owner: Col. Cottman

Marcellus Nutter, chestnut, 5'9", age 32.
March 6, 1860. Owner: Col. Cottman

Emeline Parker, dark chestnut, 4'11 ½",
May 8, 1860

Sampson, age 40, 5'8", June 11, 1862.
Owner: Col. Cottman

Emily, chestnut in color, age 18, 5'4",
October 25, 1862. Owner: Col. Cottman

Jacob Cottman, light chestnut, 5'4", 62,
Feb. 10, 1863. Owner: in the household
of Jonathan Huffington in 1860

**Notes from the Virginia Annual
Conference of the Methodist
Episcopal Church, South**

1918

A. L. Stevenson was appointed to serve
Asbury, Allen.

W.J. Twilley retired in residence in Allen.

Sunday School Superintendents:
Eden - E.D. Bosman
Allen – Roscoe Jones
Trinity – Jonathan Huffington

4 persons joined by certificate.

Deaths: 8

Membership: 336

Infants baptized: 10

Value of bldgs: \$6,000

Value of parsonage: \$1,500

Sunday School enrollment: 300

Pastor's salary: \$1,000

1920

W. J. Twilley, Allen, retired
Appointment: F.R. Holland, supply

Sunday School Superintendents:
Allen – Roscoe Jones
Eden – E. D. Bozman
Trinity – Jonathan Huffington

Admission by profession of faith: 28

Admission by certificate: 4

Deaths: 13

Membership: 341

Adults baptized: 8

Infants baptized: 9

Sunday School members: 316

Value of buildings: \$10,000

Value of parsonage: \$1,500

Insurance carried: \$3,500

Premium: \$504

Pastor's salary: \$1,000

1922

Sunday School Superintendents:

Allen: W.T. Malone

Eden: E.D. Bozman

Trinity: Jonathan Huffington

Insurance: \$3,500

Premium: \$36

Sunday School members: 285

Pastor's Salary: \$1,000

**From Pastor's Notes in an Asbury
Church Bulletin, May 1, 1955**

Baptisms: Allen – 31

Siloam – 33

Shad Point – 13

Marriages: Allen – 32

Siloam – 7

Shad Point – 6

Members Received: Allen – 33

Siloam – 25

Shad Point – 52

Funerals: Allen – 20

Siloam – 20

Shad Point – 14

**Notes on the History of Friendship
United Methodist Church**

First church built in 1866

Second church built in 1888 under Rev. Harrison T. Rich. It was built a few feet from the original building on ground given by Rufus Fields.

Church remodeled in 1923 under Rev. Isaac D. Pitts.

Oil furnace installed in 1961

Aluminum siding added in 1972

Wooden pews covered in 1977

Air conditioning installed in 1988.

Church members who became pastors:

Clarence Hayman
Robert Wayne Dennis
Roland Dennis
Edgar Nathaniel Dennis
Russell Clarence Burke
Alvin D. Gunther

**Contributions to the Friendship ME
Church Budget in 1909**

This information comes from the *Official Journal of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, the 47th session. March 19-22, 1909. It lists the members of Friendship ME Church in three categories: those who contributed \$1 or more, those who contributed \$.50 or more and those who contributed \$.25 or more. Since the time period is not indicated and this was the Annual Conference, I assume the amount was for one year. As a point of comparison, the average wage nationally at that time was 20 to 30 cents per hour and costs of basic necessities are listed below. (The amounts were found at the following website and are for New York).

Bread – 5 cents a loaf
Milk – 4 or 5 cents a pint
Potatoes – 3 or 4 cents a pound
Rice – 6 cents a pound
Oatmeal – 5 to 10 cents a pound
White sugar – 6 cents a pound
Coffee – 20-30 cents a pound
Bacon – 25 -30 cents a pound
Beef – 22 to 30 cents a pound
Pork – 20 to 24 cents a pound

Church Members:

Charles Bounds	Hannah Polk
Naomia Polk	Katie Polk
George Williams	Agnes Polk
John P. Poke	Leilia Polk
James Robinson	Dora Brewington
Annie Whitney	Viola Banks
Alice Polk	Ella T. King
Clarence Polk	Stewart Fields
Joseph Brewington	Levin Bounds
Elizabeth Bounds	Lewis Gale
Ismael Polk	Oliver Brewington
Noah Fields	Henry Wicks
Jerome Dennis	Martha Brewington
Marion Jones	Martha King
Louisa Brewington	Ella Davis
Katie Noble	Isaac King
A.C. Noble	Nora Dorman
Columbus Davis	Adeline Bounds
Scott King	John Brewington
Henry Polk	Levin E. King
Ernest King	Walter Banks
Joshua Dixon	Geo. Brewington
Arthur King	Wm. Dashields
Cassie Peters	Martha Williams
Naomi King	Sarah McBride
Gertrude Bounds	Jennie Polk
Joshua Brown	Ernest Elzey
Samuel Tull	Levin Dixon
Louisa Robinson	Luther Banks
Wm. Dennis	Mollie Robinson
Martha Polk	

Dr. Jarman



Dr. Jarman in the early 20th century owned and resided in the house known as Brentwood, which had been built in the 18th century for the Rev. Alexander Adams, Rector of Stepney Parish. Your editor knows nothing more about Dr. Jarman, not even his given name. If any of our readers can supply further information, I would appreciate it.

Allenites on Vacation?



This photo is of a group of Allen residents, taken in 1926 or early 1927. I can't identify the location, but it's clearly not Allen. Pictured are Mrs. Beatrice Malone on the left holding baby Jack

Malone with son Roscoe in front; Next to Roscoe is Mrs. Laura Banks with Mrs. Emma Phillips to her right. To the right of Mrs. Phillips is Mrs. Lula Shivers. Paul Huffington is behind Mrs. Shivers. To his right are Pauline Phillips and Lillian Phillips.

Mrs. Maud DeCon



Mrs. De Con and her husband came from New York in the 1930s and built a house on property just off Collins Wharf Road less than a mile from the village. They built a house there, which they never completed inside, and their intention was to raise chickens That never happened either. Mr. De Con worked for a number of years for the Dulaney Co. in Fruitland. He died of a heart attack in the early 50s, while on his way to work. Both the De

Cons had earlier worked on steam ships. She had been bursar on some voyages. She was always somewhat reclusive, but became very fond of your editor and his sister Emma Lou. Eventually she went to live with a daughter in suburban DC, and I visited her there when in college at American University in the early 1960s.

**Prof. J. Walter Huffington Appointed to
Succeed Mr. Holloway as Prinipal of
Salisbury High School**

**Extracts from an Article Published in the
Salisbury Advertiser
August 15, 1903**



J. Walter Huffington

The new principal in his two years experience here has made many friends and established a most commendable reputation in his school work to which he has devoted his energies with zeal one care and strict fidelity.

Mr. Huffington is twenty-six years of age and is the son of Mr. John Huffington of Allen. He graduated in 1896 from St. John's College with the degree of A.B. and ranking in high honors. He has been engaged in public school work ever since his graduation. For three years he was the principal of the Quantico Grammar School in this county and for the past two years has been professor of German Grammar and Cicero in the Salisbury City schools, where his where his ability as a successful educator is being recognized.

The Allen Historical Society welcomes new members. Our annual dues are \$15 for an individual, \$20 for a family, \$40 for a patron and \$250 for a sustaining membership. Send your check made out to the Allen Historical Society to P.O. Box 31, Allen, MD 21810. All are welcome to visit our small museum on the 2nd floor of Passerdyke Cottage, open by appointment.

You may also enjoy a virtual visit of our village on the web at:
allenhistoricalsociety.org.



**Passerdyke Cottage, c. 1830
Home of our Museum**



**Huffington-Pollitt House, 1884-85
Our future home**

Gifts to help us complete the restoration of the house's interior are gratefully received. You may make a gift in memory of a loved one or to honor a living person. We are a 501C-3 organization.