

NOA *News*

Finding the Path to your Tennessee Roots

VOL XXXVIII ISSUE 3 NATIONAL ODOM ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 2022

2022

July 14-17

Hosted by:

Wanda Odom Holt

and

Linda Odom Tidwell



from your president



Hello,
fellow NOA Members,

I trust everyone is staying safe and keeping healthy while we continue to survive the new COVID variant. Progress continues on our 2022 meeting in Greeneville, Tennessee. I have spoken to Wanda and Linda and I am so excited about the events they have planned for us. These ladies have put in a lot of hard work so I hope you will do them

Treasury Report:

Beginning Balance

\$ 4,000.00

Dues paid

\$ 250.00

Check printing

\$ (20.00)

Balance

\$ 4,230.00

As you can see we have only 10 people that have paid their dues for the year. It takes members to pay the bills just like any organization. Fill out the form on the back cover and send it and your \$25 to Bill and keep the organization moving forward.

the courtesy of filling out your registration forms as early as possible and put them in the mail. I cannot stress enough how important it is to know how many will be attending so the ladies can prepare for our arrival. Also, I urge you to book your hotel rooms as early as possible and remember you can always cancel up to 48 hours before your actual arrival.

I would also like to remind everyone that many businesses are still short staffed due to the pandemic so please bring your patience and kindness to Tennessee. I am sure that everyone has felt the pinch of rising gas prices and the increase of the cost of groceries. Please be prepared to spend more for our hotel accommodations and meals as well. Inflation will make everything more expensive this year so please, take that into account.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Greeneville, Tennessee. Until then, be well and be Blessed.

Yours sincerely,

Danny Powell

Thanks to the following for being prompt. More dues may have come in after Bill sent his report.

Raymond & Joan Odom
Dixie Duckworth
Norma Pecora, PH.D
James Phillip & Dana L Odom
Beckie Brooks

Donna J Bates
Edward & Gayle Odom
Henrietta & Albert Luttmer
Mike & Betty Haskett
Wayne Odom
Laurel Odom Johnston
Cheryl Odom Thompson
Paulette McCarter
Kody and Erica Blythe Family
Jared and Kristi Baggett
Slade and Shai Morris
Susan Garrett
Danny Powell
Natalie Tucker
Wayne and Phyllis Powell
Bob and Linda Bell
Tidwell Family
Holt Family
Bill Powell
Frank Odom
Kim Green
Bill and Sherry Odom
Peggy Hartsell
Mike and Betty Haskett
Bob and Sandy McClure

TIPS FOR LOOKING FOR FEMALES

1. Know all their names, formal and informal.
Abigail: Abbie, Abby, Gail, Nabby
2. Know all her titles. Aunt, Aunty, Sis, Mama, Mother, Grandma, Grannie, Nana, Miss, Mrs, Mistress
3. Look for posedonyms. Louisa May Alcott vs. A M Barnard.
4. Know her initials and alternative names. C O Thompson, Cheryl O Thompson, Mrs Steve Thompson.
5. Look for alternative names or spelling differing between the old country and America.
6. Search alternative options for marriage records. Bibles, Cemetery records, Newsletters, Death records, Land records, Wills etc.
7. Enter maiden name in a search engine.

Unlike men, women's identities are a lot more tricky to find. Unlike men, women's names may change multiple times during their lifetime with not one link from one to the next. Women often leave their father's home, and go to a marriage with a new name. Be diligent.



NATIONAL ODOM ASSEMBLY
Greeneville, Tennessee

42ND ANNUAL NATIONAL ODOM ASSEMBLY EVENT REGISTRATION FORM JULY 14-17, 2022

HOTEL DETAILS

Hampton Inn, 3130 E Andrew Johnson Hwy, Greeneville, TN 37745
Call manager directly to receive NOA rate - (423) 638-3735 - Elaine Cutshall

**ROOMS MUST BE RESERVED BY JUNE 30
TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTED ROOM RATE.**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name :

Email : Phone :

Address :

City : State :

Zip Code :

Please list badge names on back of form.

EVENT REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FORM DUE MAY 1

Event (click titles for websites)	Date/Time EST	Cost	# of People	Total Cost
<u>Genealogy Library Tour</u> T. Elmer Cox Genealogy Library Tour	Thursday Afternoon or Friday Morning	Free Groups of 10		
<u>Dickson-Williams Mansion Tour</u> Meet at General Morgan Inn and Walk	Thursday 1-3pm	\$10/Person		
<u>Van Tour with Stops, Transportation, and Narration:</u> President Andrew Johnson Homestead, Visitor's Center, Monument Hill, State of Franklin, and historic downtown	Thursday Afternoon or Friday Afternoon	\$5/Person Groups of 10		
<u>General Meeting & Box Lunch with tickets to City Garage Car Museum</u> Over 40 cars to see (1914 to present)	Friday Morning	\$20/Person		
<u>DNA Workshop with Lori Thornton & Lunch</u> Lori is an academic librarian, professional genealogist, and genealogical speaker.	Saturday Morning - Early Afternoon	\$15/Person		
<u>Banquet & Auction</u> Enjoy a delicious meal with entertainment	Saturday Evening	\$30/Person		
TOTAL ENCLOSED				\$

Please mail registration form and checks (payable to NOA) to:
Linda Tidwell, 6644 Cairo Bend Rd, Lebanon, TN 38087
(615) 207-5226

Greetings from beautiful Tennessee! Linda and I are super excited about NOA meeting in our home state this year. Plans are well underway for our time together in lovely, historic Greenville, Tennessee on July 14 – 17, 2022. Here are a few pointers as you start planning your trip:

Greenville (that middle E is unique and important) is in upper East Tennessee and is, therefore, in the EASTERN TIME ZONE. Yes, Tennessee has two time zones, and it gets super confusing at times. The closest airport, Tri-Cities, Tennessee (TRI) is about one hour from Greenville. The next closest and biggest, Knoxville, Tennessee (TYS) is about two hours away. Nashville (BNI) is about five hours, and a time zone, away. If you fly, you will need to either rent a car or call one of us to arrange a pick-up. If you drive, Greenville is located between interstates 40 and 81 close to the North Carolina state line.

Greenville, named in honor of Revolutionary War hero Nathanael Greene, was founded in 1783 and is the second oldest town in Tennessee. It was the home of Andrew Johnson, the 17th President of the United States. You will want to visit his homestead, burial site, and visitor center. Greenville was also the capital of the State of Franklin, the precursor to Tennessee. Greenville has numerous museums; historic buildings, cemeteries, hotels, and homes; in addition to one of the finest genealogy libraries in the state. We have arranged van tours for many of the sites you will want to see during your time in Greenville.

Greenville is centrally located near many other attractions. You may want to add a few days onto the beginning or end of your trip to visit a few of them. From Greenville, you can travel

to Bristol, TN; Jonesborough, TN; Asheville, NC; or Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge/Sevierville, TN in about one hour.

The registration form is included. We will be staying at the Hampton Inn. You will call them directly to book your stay. A daily, hot breakfast is included. Their conference room right off the lobby will be our home base for registration, hospitality, and snacks during our stay. Meet up with us there on Thursday when you arrive to register and receive your welcome packet. On Friday, we will be based at the City Garage Car Museum where we will have our general meeting, tour the museum, enjoy lunch, and start our exploration of historic Greenville. The museum is directly across the street from the Andrew Johnson Homestead and next door to the Greenville Greene County History Museum. Everyone needs to register for this event.

On Saturday, we will be based at the beautiful Andrew Johnson Clubhouse with backdoor views of the Appalachian Mountains. We will have our annual meeting in the morning. We are excited to have Lori Thornton for our workshop and lunch also at the clubhouse. Lori is an academic librarian, professional genealogist and genealogical speaker. She will speak on using DNA to aid your genealogical search. After a break for more exploration, we will meet back at the clubhouse for our banquet and auction. We are working on some nice auction items and hope you will bring some exciting items along with you as well.

Please complete the registration form and return to Linda Tidwell as soon as possible. If you are viewing the form online, the underlined items on the registration form are links to websites where you can read more. If you have

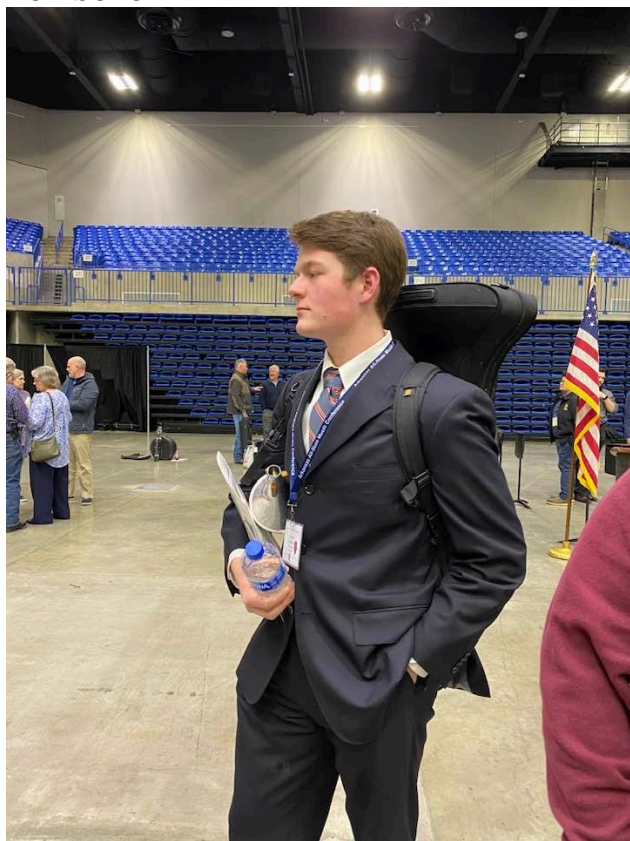
questions, please contact us. We look forward to having you here in Tennessee!

Wanda Holt – (615) 456-3240
wandaholt52@gmail.com

Linda Tidwell – (615) 207-5226
lindatidwell2014@comcast.net

Peggy Hartsell shared

This is David AIKMAN from Russellville, Ar , I'm sure a lot of met him there at the reunion, he is Linda Odum Bell's grandson and Andrea Bell Aikman's son. He plays the trombone



David made 1st band at All State (also made All State Jazz Band). So proud of his hard work. This has been a goal of his since forever. The music was A+ as the outstanding young musicians in the state came together to play.
Blackberry Pickin' Time

Blackberry Pickin' Time

When we were young boys being raised in southern Indiana farm country one of our chores was to help my father and mother pick wild blackberries so my mother could can them, make pies and cobblers, and jam for eating over the winter. My father knew where every patch of blackberries were in Gibson County from the roadsides to the banks of the Wabash and Patoka rivers. When the berries were starting to ripen he knew where to go and he would load all of us (you had to be six years old) in , at that time, a 1937 brown Plymouth station wagon with six of us boys , one sister and our mother , sometimes with a new baby, and head out just right at daybreak so we could finish picking before it got too hot. We would take Vicks salve and spread it on our wrists, and neck areas to help keep the chiggers away and wear long sleeves to keep from scratching ourselves too much., it worked most of the time.. We would start at one place and go from patch to patch until we had enough for him to take us home.

We all would tie a half-gallon empty lard bucket to our belts and pick the bucket full and then take it to the car where mom was sitting and empty it into a No 9 washtub and go back and start picking again. This was repeated until the big tub was full and then we could go home. Well, one year we were picking at the Brown's place along the fence line and had the big tub sitting on the ground in the middle of the farm road next to the fence where cows were grazing in the field. We had the tub almost full that morning about nine o'clock and with our last bucket of berries headed back to fill the tub up and go home. Well, it seems the cows had a different idea and had broken through the fence

and were eating the berries in the tub to their heart's content. Most of them were gone and so instead of going home , guess what, we went back to picking blackberries!! Only this time dad placed the tub in the back of the station wagon so the cows couldn't get to them and after filling it the second time we went home and, yes, that night for dessert after supper we had fresh blackberry pie.

Ray Odom

News from South Carolina

We all should be looking forward to a great time in Tennessee. I have some sad news regarding the NOA correspondence from South Carolina. My wife, Joan, and I will be moving to Texas in April due to her continuing health problems and my getting older. I am concerned about my ability to give her the best care she needs at my age I will be 81 and my daughters both live in the Houston area and have committed to caring for us when in need. My health is still ok and I will still be active in the organization and do things when asked by someone in the organization. I am going to do my best to attend the get together in Tennessee and am looking forward to it. My jokes and singing will come with me.

The Odom DNA line C group that I match with traces back to Abraham Odom in 1798 in Central and Eastern Tennessee. I still haven't been able to find a tie to the Odoms' in the Carolinas but my g-g-g-grandfather was married in western NC which I think now is part of Tennessee. I might be able to find an answer when we go the the library in Greenville. I have been told that my family was the Odoms' who went west instead of south into the Carolinas.

I have been ask to host the 2024 NOA meeting and I agreed , but now due to unfortunate circumstances I am asking for the group to consider relieving me of that responsibility. I will help, though, in any way that I can.

We must always keep family and the search for more family as the number one goal of our organization. Family is a precious asset.

Ray Odom
South Carolina

Betty Haskett has submitted this wonderful article from Ancestry Magazine by Donn Devine, Sept/Oct 1995 issue about women and their property interests. I will be breaking it up into two parts so watch for the final segment May issue. We ran out of space, Yahoo, and I lost the original, BooHoo, so look for the end in May. Editor

March 2nd is Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent. The time we all reflect and meditate on our Christian journey. With the passing of our Chaplin, Paula, we have a hole in our hearts. No one can "fill her shoes", but someone needs to fulfill her mission of honoring our Christian life, honoring our passed members, away family there for need of shoes to fill, foundations one of you are waiting for and being those in comfort. Big but one of our and we hope feels the call. We you to reach out.



The Persistence of an Odom

by Marianne Odom

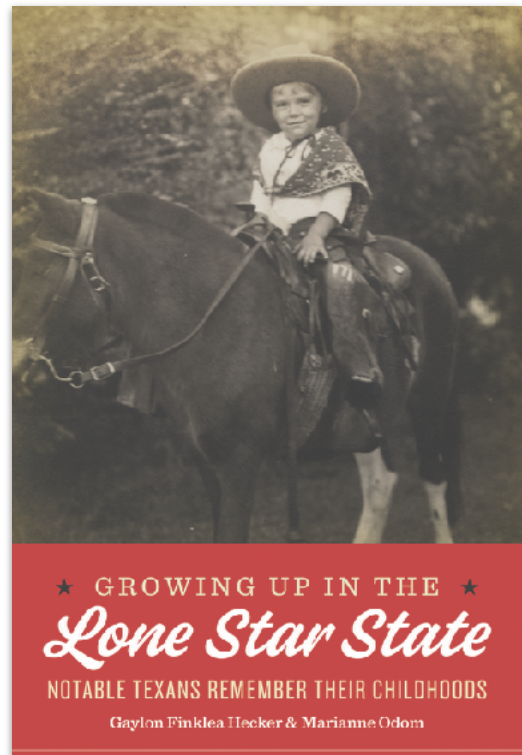


It only took 40 years — really — to question famous native Texans on the childhoods that prepared them for success and compile their oral history interviews into a book — **Growing Up in the Lone Star State: Notable Texans Remember Their Childhoods** published in July 2021. So if you enjoy reading memoir, you'll find something for everyone here. Among the biggest names are Lady Bird Johnson, Debbie Reynolds, Jaclyn Smith, Mary Martin, Sandy Duncan, Phyllis George, Nolan Ryan, Ray Price, Jimmy Dean Dan Rather, Bob

Schieffer and Tommy Tune.

And if you've not embraced the value of oral history, this may inspire you to add edited oral history interviews to your genealogical efforts. Although the recorded words (video or audio) are valuable, the transcribed interviews edited into anecdotes will be treasured. Or you can start your own oral history by recording memories as you think of them or simply writing them down in any order. Just start somewhere.

Growing Up in the Lone Star State: Notable Texans Remember Their Childhoods by Gaylon Finklea Hecker and Marianne Odom, Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas Austin, distributed by Tower Books UT Press. ISBN: 978-0-9997318-4-0. Available in hardcover or e-book from Amazon or UT Press.



<https://utpress.utexas.edu/books/hecker-odom-growing-up-in-the-lone-star-state>



<https://www.family.dianathornton.com/dna->

ODOM “A” news (and all others)
Florida Bill Odom

April 1, 2022, will be a giant day for genealogists. No, not a joke. The 1950 Federal Census will be released to the public! Now we have a set of documents that go from 1790 to 1950, 160 years of information about our ancestors.

These are an excellent information source to track their movement as they settled our country. Many times early on families traveled together and would show up in the census living close together in several census. Children of these families often become wives and husbands. If you are brick walled on which Elizabeth married into the family, look in the adjacent families on the census pages.



For example, comparing the 1940 and 1950 census you should be able to tell a little about the impact World War II had on your ancestors. Personally, my parents went from Sharecroppers to welders and toolmakers building Liberty ships.

The following questions were asked of everyone in the household.

1. Name of street, avenue, or road where the household is located
2. Home or apartment number
3. Serial number of dwelling unit
4. Is this house on a farm (or ranch)?
5. If no, is this house on a place of three or more acres? (New question for 1950 thanks to the expansion of suburbia.)
6. Corresponding agriculture questionnaire number
7. Name
8. Relationship to head
9. Race

Census takers were instructed to assume that all members of the related household were the same race. For unrelated people they were to ask. And if you see a description you are unfamiliar with, consult the **1950 census enumerator instructions**.)

10. Sex
11. How old was this person on his last birthday?

It was expected that there would be some folks who either didn't know their exact age or didn't care to share it. Census takers were instructed to try to zero in and get as accurate as possible. If age wasn't known, they were instructed to enter an estimate as the very last resort, and footnote that it was an estimate.

12. Is this person now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married?

Marriage codes found in this column:

MAR = married

WD = widowed

D = divorced

SEP = separated

NEV = never married. People under the age of 14 were automatically labeled as never married. Also, common-law marriages were reported as Married, so while marital status can be an indicator to look for marriage records, it is possible that there may not be any.

13. What State or country was the person born in?

It's important to note that if the baby was born in a hospital across the state line, they were reported as being born in the state where the family lived. This is important to keep in mind when hunting for birth certificates.

14. If foreign born, is the person naturalized?

This will be a yes or no. But if you see "AP" it means the person was born of American parents abroad or at sea. Also, if born at sea they were an American citizen if their father was, or if they were born after 5/24/1934 and either parent was American.

Questions Asked in the 1950 Census of People Over the Age of 14

You may be wondering why the last 6 questions of the 1950 census were only asked of people over the age of 14. It's because these questions were about employment status. Not surprisingly, these questions vary a bit from what was asked about in employment in 1940, but they are pretty similar.

15. What was this person doing most of last week – working, keeping house, or something else?

Employment Codes used in questions 15:

WK = working

H = keeping house

U = unable to work

OT = other

16. If the person was "keeping house" or "something else" in question 15, did the person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house? (Including work-for-pay, in his own business, working on a farm or unpaid family work)

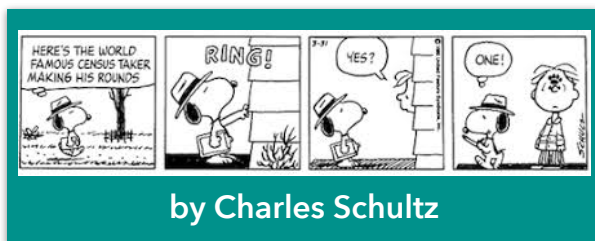
17. If the person answered "no" to question 16, was he looking for work?

18. If the person answered "no" to question 17, even if he didn't work last week, does he have a job or business?

19. If the person was working, how many hours did he or she work in the last week?

20. What kind of work does the person do?

So don't be fooled and miss this valuable research tool.



Just when it appeared that COVID

was calming down, it appears it has morphed into something else and presently our area of Indiana is up again for cases and the hospital. Mike & I and our children are all vaccinated, but we still venture out cautiously and still in mask.

With health concerns for both Mike and me, we were so happy to get the go-ahead for travel to Texas for the 2021 NOA reunion. We took 2 days to get there to visit a couple of sites along the way, including a stop again, at the Stroud, Ok grave of my Cherokee g-g-grandmother. How I look forward to talking with her in Heaven some day.

Martha Caroline Little Babb was left on their Arkansas farm to raise 6 children when her husband Tristram was killed during the Civil War by his good friend Cherokee Long Star/Starr, who then rode out to tell Martha what he had done; and then rode away. This was a terrible time in Northwest Arkansas. Martha later married Reubin S. Hamilton and spent her last years with their son Lee in Stroud, Oklahoma.

On our arrival in Amarillo, it was great to see NOA friends and looked forward to seeing more, sharing history, and the wonderful weekend plans of the Powell family. Unfortunately, a health issue for Betty arose and we thought it best to head home.

Sadness was missing the familiar faces of those who passed away in the previous year.....many whose work kept the NOA constant throughout the years. Danny has done an excellent job in leadership, adding efforts by Bill and others as family research has taken on a more technological advance.

As to our children : Kathleen remarried to Matt with their 2 + 2 children in attendance. She was responsible for remote high school teaching.....Newnan, GA. Matt teaches Middle

School there. Her twin sister Danielle received her PHD from U of Georgia and took a Professor position @ South Dakota State. Her husband Kyle, also PHD from U of Georgia, works for the government--a position that allows him to work from home.

The eldest, Kristine, weathered her New Orleans Tulane U. job shutdowns due to COVID, tropical storms, and hurricanes, by being able to escape to her mother & step-father's GA home where she could work from home.

Son Dan and fiancée Jessica put their Spring 2021 wedding plans on hold because of COVID upswings. Thankfully, they were essential workers when all of this began, then on-hold for a short time. They have remained at their jobs with constant over hours now.

These children have all turned the big 4 0....with Kristine +. The 2 grandchildren, Lucas (17) & Lorelei (12) are doing very well. We have a total of 8 grandcats and 2 granddogs.

A pontoon, purchased new just before COVID took off, was a good small size, beautiful, and a "great ride", but not easy to launch. Mainly, Mike likes to fish, so it was sold for a bass boat. Another toy was the purchase of a Corvette this summer. We have enjoyed going places with a Corvette Club, since we are uneasy about trying to plan for vacations. Mike has been waiting years for this car. We had owned 2 others, but they were each sold when children needed \$ to finish college.

Mike has been very well received as an official Methodist minister, serving at our church. I am so proud of him.

A real joy through this difficult pandemic time period, has been the birth of the identical twin sons of Shaun J. Odom and wife Morgan. They arrived early Feb. 2020 ahead of their May due date. It was a journey of faith and a testament of God's glory. The parents, and



their twins, have been a blessing to all. **These little guys should be part of the D GROUP !!** Shaun is the youngest of the 4 sons of my brother John who passed in May 2019. At the 2007 NOA Augusta meeting, it was amazing to see that 2 of the Cecil Jay Odom group brothers **definitely had to be cousins of my brother John's sons.**

I am so looking forward to 2022 NOA in Greene Co TN and the Babb family history there. I have long been at a brick wall for my great- great -grandfather Tristram Ewen Babb of Washington Co AR. Born 1815 in Tennessee, I strongly suspect him to be related to Thomas Babb and Martha Ewing, Frederick, VA to Greene Co TN.

Tristram's only known brother Prillyn (Philip) Francis Asbury Babb b. 1820 in Tennessee is with Tristram in Washington Co Arkansas by 1840 and he marries in Dec 1850 to Mrs. Elizabeth Franklin Little—Tristram's widowed mother-in-law. Philip disappears to TX about 1860 with the eldest of their 2 sons.

Tristram marries Martha Caroline Little (Cherokee, daughter of James and Nancy Gentry Little) by 1845 in Washington Co, and they are at Natural Dam in Crawford Co

Arkansas by the 1860 census. Their daughter Julia Graham Babb will marry James Lafayette Shoemaker and have my grandmother Mamie Irene Shoemaker. Mamie will marry John Franklin Odom (Littleberry Jr, Littleberry Sr., John) 22 March 1907 in Tecumseh, OK. She will be disinherited, told never to return home by her father and step-mother,--- and she never did. Mamie and John will have my father James Berry and Chester Leroy.

My Babb family in Greene Co connects to Kerby/Kirby, Rector, Davis, Dillion, Hale, Haas, Jones, Correll, Brotherton, and the Sevier family, along with a Beal/Beals family from Maryland.

The Rector and Ewen/Ewan/Ewing family names are used repeatedly in my Arkansas Babb, Little, and Cottrell families.

A Greene Co relative connection to Arkansas is Philip Hudson Babb (1844—1888, son of

Philip and Artemesia Hale Babb, wife Mary J. Correll), who taught at the U. of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Washington Co. He was responsible



for bridge building with the E. TN and VA RR, and then to Missouri, and buildings in Benton Co Arkansas, and Tahlequah, Oklahoma. A Confederate soldier, he had been captured at Cumberland Gap with relative John B. Correll and held in Chicago prison, Camp Douglas. His father Philip had helped with the Georgia Cherokee removal to Indian Territory, then returned to Greene Co TN to die.

Elizabeth A. Odom Szlizewski/Haskett (Betty)

Thomas Oscar Odom

November 21, 1935 ~ December 10, 2021 (age 86)



Thomas Oscar Odom age 86 of New Market, Alabama, joined his beloved wife, Bobbie in Heaven on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 9:35 in the evening. What a wonderful reunion it must have been! Thomas was born to John and Wilma Odom on November 21, 1935 in Isney, Alabama.

He received his degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alabama and worked for the Department of Defense until his retirement. He was a faithful member of the New Market United Methodist Church, a founding member and former Chief of the New Market Volunteer Fire Department and an upstanding member of the New Market community since the family moved there in 1973. After retiring from service to the Department of Defense, he and Bobbie started the Food Pantry at New Market United Methodist Church-it continues today as

the Bobbie W, Odom Memorial Food Pantry where he dedicated most of his time to continue serving the community by providing food to those in need up until his hospitalization. He loved woodworking, crossword puzzles, sudoku and loving on his grandkids (and the great ones too)!

Thomas was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbie Jean Watkins Odom, granddaughter, Blaine Richards, his parents, John and Wilma Odom and brother in law, Bob Trimble.

He is survived by his sisters, Edna Trimble and Betty Thomas (Perry) and by his children, Michelle (Rick) Creacy, David (Amy) Odom, Glenn (Merry) Odom and Paul Odom, eleven grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren along with many other family and friends.

Visitation will be Wednesday evening December 15th from 5 until 7 with the service beginning at 7PM in the Hazel Green Funeral Home Chapel with his grandson, Dillon Odom officiating with the assistance of Pastor Sam Wilson.

There will be an additional visitation Saturday December 18, 2021 at Isney Baptist Church in Silas, Alabama from 1 until 2PM and burial will follow in Isney Cemetery, Dillon Odom will officiate with the assistance of Jesse Griffith. Pallbearers will be his grandsons, John Odom, Patrick White, Tyler White, Dillon Odom, Josh Odom and Cody Odom.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Bobbie W. Odom Memorial Food Pantry, 310 Hurricane Road New Market, Alabama 35761 or the Isney Cemetery Association, c/o Jean Lofton, 10 Isney Circle, Silas, Alabama 36919 in his memory is requested.

What a gentle and handsome man. His devotion to his wife and family set a high standard for the rest of us. Let's all support his charity in memory of Bobbie and hope they rename it the Bobbie and Tom Odom Memorial Food Pantry. Editor



Helen Francis Odum Harrell

National Odom Assembly, founding member,
Helen Odum Harrell passed away
12 February 2022. She was 98 years old.

Helen, or LadyH as some called her, was an active member of the NOA since its founding in 1980 at Eufaula, Alabama. She served in all



capacities at one time or another, but primarily early on as the editor of the NOA newsletter. Among her many achievements was the publishing of her book ODUM/ ODOM RESEARCH NOTES, North Carolina and South Carolina:



The Early Years, which is recognized as the definitive source for research of the early Odom/Odum families. When DNA research became somewhat affordable, she instigated the Odom Y Project which validated many of the established lines but also raised questions on others. The results have become a great part of today's genealogical discussions.



She was always willing to share her vast knowledge of genealogy. Many a new member found their ancestor or broke down that brick wall with Helen's assistance. Her uncanny ability of making sense of various facts led to discoveries for many members.

Rest in Peace Helen. The NOA will surely miss you.

Miss Thelma - Please stand up when you are speaking.. What a little bitty, but powerful woman. Our awards lady that wanted everyone to receive the year pin, oldest, youngest or whatever award they were entitled to.



We Are a Family

As I was looking for pictures of our matriarch, Helen Odum Harrell, I knew that I had photos from our Nacogdoches, Texas gathering in 2013. When looking for them, I realized I had some of those no longer able to join us and thought I would share the memories. This was an especially notable gathering for Laurel, my sister and I, as we convince Helen and her daughter, Donna, to let us help them get to that gathering. We flew down to Los Angeles and caught the train to Dallas Fort Worth. The train stopped at an ungodly hour at a station in California and picked up Helen and Donna. What a joy, to meet them and share our time on the train, grab our car and travel on to Nacogdoches. Helen and her sidekick Donna, were the life of the party. What a reunion this gathering was. So many were gathered and shared their stories.



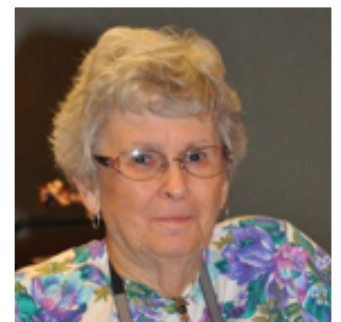
Jimmy Ray Odom - TX How many phone calls did Jimmy Ray make to NOA members and those potential members. Promoting NOA was his passion. When DNA was young he convinced my father to be tested and found that there were 3 cousins who's g-g-g-g-fathers were probably brothers, himself, Don and Ivan.

Dorothy Odom Bruce - a family member we have been missing during this Covid pandemic. She has worked so hard to make this a solid important organization.



Emma Odom

- a charter members and her boys, shared their music to the delight of all.



Tom Odom - A gentle a soul as ever to be found. He loved being with us, just sitting back and taking it in.



Kathy Odom - gracious partner to Jimmy Ray. Jimmy Ray never did learn to use a computer so she was also his scribe and wrote many emails on his behalf and kept the membership roster for NOA

Paula Tucker - our longtime beloved Chaplin. Reaching out to check up on us in her kind and unassuming way. She embodied the spirit of the National Odom Assembly. We miss her so much.

2021-2022 DIRECTORY

President

Dan Powell
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2nd Vice President - Host 2022

Greeneville TN July 14-17

Linda Odum Tidwell
Wanda Odum Holt
LindaTidwell2014@comcast.net

3rd Vice President - Host 2023

Missoula MT July 16-19

Cheryl Odom Thompson
Laurel Odom Johnston
406-677-2309 solutions11@mac.com

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DUES RENEWAL

(Membership Year is August 1 to July 31)

Name: _____ ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Info: _____

Earliest ODOM Ancestor: _____

Newsletter Preference: ☐ Email ☐ Snail Mail Have you been DNA Tested? ☐ Y ☐ N

Please make your check out in the amount of \$25.00 payable to National Odom Assembly and mail to:

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Your payment of dues entitles you to receive the NOA Quarterly newsletter, publication of queries, entry of your family line into the Members Only Section of the website and entry into the Members Only Section of the website

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