

**MOUNTAIN MEADOWS MONUMENT FOUNDATION, INC.**  
**8002 Wind Rock Lane, Harrison, AR 72601**

**Volume 27**

**May 2006**

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**Board Members**

**Burr Fancher, President**  
**Harley Fancher, Secretary**  
**Phil Bolinger, Treasurer**  
**Pat Stroud**  
**Jim Fletcher**  
**Ron Wright**  
**Susan Fancher**

**Committee Chairs**

**Arkansas History: Larry Fry**  
**Cemetery Marking: Jim Fletcher**  
**Library Collections: Burr Fancher**  
**Carrollton Lodge: Scott Fancher**

**Plans for Meeting in Arkansas**

Our annual meeting will be held in Carrollton, Arkansas on September 8-10. The basic program will be:

**Friday, September 8 (4-8 p.m.) MMMF Board Meeting, MMMF Annual Meeting, Auction.**

**Saturday, September 9 (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) Wagon Train trip, Barbecue, Joint Activity with Descendant group.**

**Sunday, September 10 (To be arranged) Tours of Mountain Meadows related places. Joint Activity with Descendant group.**

There appears to be large segments of our membership coming to Carrollton from the wild, wild West. They will have the opportunity to renew their ancestral ties through cemetery visitations, library research, and visiting with family members. Individual tour guides will be available to help out-of-state visitors in navigating the Ozarks.

**Motels and RV Accommodations**

Harrison, Arkansas seems the most logical place for out-of-state folks to find lodging while attending the MMMF meeting in Carrollton. Harrison is a good take-off point for other tourist activities:

**34 miles to Branson (shows and more shows)**

**19 miles to Bull Shoals Lake (a fishing paradise)**

**36 miles to Cotter and world class trout fishing**

**14 miles to Buffalo National River (float trips, canoe trips, elk herds, scenic landscapes)**

**39 miles to Eureka Springs (passion plays, Christ of the Ozarks)**

**Caves, hiking trails, National Park lands**

Lodging may be obtained at Holiday Inn Express (\$85), Comfort Inn (\$75), Harrison Days Inn (\$68), and Super 8 (\$47.25-\$68). Further information, photos, and reservations may be obtained on Internet at [roadsidcamerica.com](http://roadsidcamerica.com). There are many bed and breakfast options available in the area.

**Branson Shows**

Several members have shown an interest in Branson shows. Discount lodging, tickets and packages are available on-line at [bransonchamber.com](http://bransonchamber.com), [branson.com](http://branson.com), and [bransontourismcenter.com](http://bransontourismcenter.com). The tourism center can be reached by phone at 1-800-785-1550. Lodging is available in economy, standard, deluxe, luxury, condos, cabins and bed and breakfast categories. Show tickets can be bought for popular, discounted and limited engagement categories. The average show ticket is about \$25.

## Wagon Train Trip

Phil Bolinger informed me that the wagon train trip is still planned for September 9. It will be 6-7 miles down Dunkard Road to Carrollton Park. That is supposedly the route of the original Fancher-Baker wagon train. You do not need a wagon to participate in this wagon trip. In addition to wagons, the entourage will include mounted riders, people walking, and with some of us elderly riding in horse trailers being shuttled behind the wagons. The wagon train will be slow moving with a lunch break along the way. The Descendant group (Patty Norris group) will join us in this symbolic wagon train trip. A catered no-host barbecue and country music will welcome the tired wagon train people into the Carrollton Park.

## Items for Auction

Please bring some items for our annual auction. Unique items from your home state add to the fun at our auctions. The proceeds from our auction allow us to do some neat projects such as marking cemeteries, providing schools with curriculum materials, developing our interpretative site, and contributing to the restoration of the old Yell Lodge. Past auction items have included such things as bird feeders, quilts, wines, special jellies, antique medical devices, books, special recipes, etc. Our auctions have always been a fun experience with our member auctioneers. Phil Bolinger and Danny Dotson provide a mix of stand-up comedy and auctioneering.

## Local Tours

Local members will serve as tour guides to accommodate member desires. Some potential tours within the area are:

- Tour 1- Caravan Springs where the wagon strain started its journey, Monument on courthouse square in downtown Harrison, MMMF Library Collection at Heritage Center.
- Tour 2 -Visits to survivor graves of Martha Elizabeth Baker, William Twitty Baker, Kit Carson Fancher, Triphena Fancher, William Tackitt.
- Tour 3 - Walking tour of Old Carrollton with local historian, Jim Putman.
- Tour 4 - Scenic tour to Ponca, Lost Valley, and Old Kingston.

## Nominations for MMMF Board of Directors

Jim Fletcher's term expires at the end of this year. We will accept nominations for that position at our annual meeting on Friday, September 8, at 5:00 p.m. Fourteen cemeteries have been marked. Maybe we can persuade Jim to continue on the Board until all 17 graves have been located and marked. Jim deserves our appreciation for his time, travel, and perseverance in carrying out this important task. Voting for Board members is conducted by mail ballot after the Fall meeting.

## Officers for 2006

Board members will decide the slate of officers for the coming year. They will be selecting a new president, secretary, treasurer, and newsletter editor. MMMF members should make your wishes known to the board members prior to their meeting if they wish to influence the leadership of the organization.

## Sponsors for Survivor Plaques

All seventeen wall plaques to honor the massacre survivors have been sponsored. Ten plaques have been made and shipped to Scott Fancher for installation on the wall of Yell Lodge in Carrollton. Others are being made at this time. We plan to have all seventeen plaques in place before our September meeting. Sponsors for the individual plaques are: Robert Paul Wilson, Elaine Wilson, Gladden Family Descendants, Betty Pinkston, Cheri Baker Walker, Bob Fancher, Junior and Patty

Norris, Burr and Ada Fancher, Phil and Kim Bolinger, Jim Putman, Bud and Leslie Wilson, Gremaux Family, and Lew Jones. Our Foundation is most appreciative for the sponsors and their eagerness to participate in this endeavor. A small memorial in Carrollton might have a greater impact than a big one in Utah. At least, a memorial in Carrollton belongs to the families – not the LDS Church..

### Grave Marking Project

Jim Fletcher has recently marked the graves of Georgianna Dunlap McWhirter in Oakland Cemetery in Dallas, Texas and Felix Marion Jones in Copperas Cove Cemetery in Copperas Cove, Texas with historical interpretative signs. The grave of Nancy Saphrona Huff Cates was recently located in Antioch Cemetery in Perry County, Arkansas. Her marker is currently being made.

We still need to pinpoint the final resting places of John Calvin Miller, Joseph Miller, and Mary Miller. We believe that John Calvin and Joseph Miller may be buried in Artesia Cemetery in Los Angeles County, California. There is a Mary Miller buried in San Gabriel Mission Cemetery in Los Angeles County. There is a John Calvin Miller (1850-1917) buried in Artesia Cemetery. Is he the survivor of Mountain Meadows massacre? We need verification on the Millers in order to finish grave markers and plaques for the Yell Lodge interpretative site.

Our hearts go out to the orphans of Mountain Meadows. They received rough treatment during and after the massacre. Many of them lived hardscrabble lives as adults. A description of their plight when being recovered from their Mormon captors is described by Dr. Jacob Forney in our "Historical Tidbit."

### Arkansas History Project

Diann Fancher participated in the initial meeting of the University of Arkansas Press efforts to revise the Arkansas History textbook for use in teaching in Junior High Schools in Arkansas. The purpose of the meetings was to bring up to date all issues that should or should not be included in the textbook. The history surrounding the Mountain Meadows Massacre has been absent from Arkansas History textbooks since 1957 and needed to be included. With the support of Burr Fancher, Larry Fry and others, Diann contacted Ms. Shay Hopper, Director of Textbook Development- Arkansas History, University of Arkansas Press and was included in the meeting.

Diann presented the MMM curriculum presently used in several Carroll County School Districts along with an example curriculum guide developed by Burr Fancher to the workshop. It was accepted as a base for topics to be included in the new textbook. The committee believed that the Mountain Meadows issue should be included in the new textbook. The committee was very impressed with the material presented by Diann and the extensive detailed curriculum material available in the Carroll County classrooms.

### Historical Tidbits

I have recently obtained this 1859 letter written by Dr. Jacob Forney as he was gathering up the surviving children from the massacre. Many of the children did not know their family names at that point in time. I have attempted to match Dr. Forney's description with actual survivor names. My inserts are shown in italics.

Weekly Stockton Democrat  
San Joaquin County, California  
Sunday, 5 June 1859

THE MOUNTAIN MEADOWS MASSACRE – The surviving children. Doctor Forney, Indian Agent, had arrived at Salt Lake City, having in his custody 16 children, the survivors of the

Mountain Meadow massacre. The Doctor has written a long letter which appears in the "Valley Tan," describing his visit to the Paiute Indians, whom he represents to be in a very destitute condition. 13 of the children were got at Santa Clara and 3 in Cedar City. The following, says Doctor Forney, is all I have been able to collect of the history of these unfortunate, fatherless, motherless and penniless children:

John Calvin, now 7 or 8 years old; does not remember his name; says his family lived at Horse Head, Johnson County, Arkansas. (*John Calvin Miller*)

Ambrose Mirona, about 7 years, and William Taggit, 4<sup>1/2</sup> years, brothers. The Tackitts also lived in Johnson County. (*Emberson Milum and William Tackitt*)

Prudence Angeline, 6 years, and Annie, about 3 years, these 2 are said to be sisters. (*Prudence Angeline and Georgianna Dunlap*)

Rebecca, 9 years, Louisa, 5 years, and Sarah, 3<sup>1/2</sup> years from Dunlap. (*Rebecca, Louisa, and Sarah Dunlap*)

Betsey, 6 years, and Annie, 3 years; said to be sisters; these know nothing of their family or residence. (*Martha Elizabeth and Sarah Frances Baker*)

Charles Francher, 7 or 8 years, and his sister Annie, 3<sup>1/2</sup> years. (*Kit Carson and Triphena Fancher*)

Sophronia or Mary Huff, 6 years old, and Elisha W. Huff (*Saphrona Huff and probably Joseph Miller*)

A boy, no account of him; those among whom he lived call him William. (*William Twitty Baker*)

Frances Hawn or Horn, 4<sup>1/2</sup> years old. (*probably Mary Miller*)

I have come to the conclusion, after different conversations with these children, that most of them came from Johnson County, Arkansas. Most of them told me that they have grandfathers and grandmothers in the States.

Mr. Hamblin has good reasons for believing that a boy about 4 years of age, and belonging to the party in question, is among the Navajo Indians, at or near the Colorado River. (*probably Felix Marion Jones*) I will keep the children under my immediate supervision until the person appointed to take them to Fort Smith arrives.

(from elsewhere in paper)

This done, we proceeded to the residence of the man Hamblin, a Mormon, in whose possession the children were. We found them in a most wretched condition, half starved, half naked, filthy, infested with vermin, and their eyes diseased from the cruel neglect to which they had been exposed.

After 3 days in Santa Clara, where clothing was made for the children, we returned with Hamblin and 10 of the children to Cedar City, there obtained 2 more, and another at Paint Creek. When we passed through Beaver City, some of the Mormon men hooted at the children, and called them the survivors of Sebastopol and Waterloo.

Among the children are some who retain a very vivid impression of much connected to the massacre. A very intelligent little girl, named Becky Dunlap, pointed out to me at Santa Clara, an Englishman named Tellus, whom she says she saw murder her father. She also states that Hamblin's Indian boy killed her 2 sisters. Both she and a boy named Miram recognized dresses and a part of the jewelry belonging to their mothers, worn by the wives of John D. Lee, the Mormon Bishop of Harmony. The boy, Miram, identified his father's oxen, which are now owned by Lee.

The 2 oldest boys told me that after they were in the corral, from whence the water had been cut off, Bishop Hight, of Cedar City, came into the corral, and told the emigrants that the Indians did not want anything but their cattle, and that if they would lay down their arms their lives would be spared. They did so, and started to go to Santa Clara, when they were attacked by a mixed party of whites and Indians, and all killed except the children. The boy Miram stated, that after the massacre

was over, he saw the Bishop of Coal Creek washing the paint from his face, which he had used to disguise himself as an Indian.

### Crossword Puzzle

A crossword puzzle was included in the February newsletter. Only one member e-mailed me for the answers. He wins the "Lemon Zest." Obviously, my puzzle building needs further work. The answers to my creative endeavor are shown below. Only by universal request will I attempt to build another crossword puzzle.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
H	A	M	B	L	I	N		D	E	S	E	R	E	T
15										16				
A	G	I	L	I	T	Y		E		A	N			A
		17						18						
I		T	O	E				C	O	L	D			C
		19			20	21						22		
G		C	O		P	R		O		I		R	O	K
		23			24									
H		H	D		E	I		Y		N		A		I
25	26			27			28		29					
T	H	E		D	E	M	S		Z	E	A	L	O	T
	30		31				32							
	O	L	D	E	R		P	S	I			L		T
33						34					35			
F	E	L	I	X		B	A	L	O	N	E	Y		
				36									37	
A				T	U	R	N	O	N		X		A	D
						38				39				
N				E		I	I	W		M	P			U
40	41	42	43			44			45					
C	R	I	E	R		D	S		P	A	I	D		N
46					47					48			49	
H	U	F	F		O	G	H			R	R		I	L
50			51	52				53	54					
E	D		T	I	R	E		B	A	K	E	R		A
55		56				57							58	
R	E	D		R		R	I	O	T	E	D		U	P
								59				60		
		O		E				Y	E	T		P	S	

**Membership Application**  
**Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation, Inc.**  
**8002 Wind Rock Lane**  
**Harrison, AR 72601**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Connection to Mountain Meadows** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues: \$20 per family**  
**\$250 lifetime membership**

**PLEASE GIVE THIS TO A FRIEND AND HELP EXPAND OUR MEMBERSHIP**

**Note: This newsletter is printed in black and white to conserve resources for more important MMMF projects.**