

The October 18 Meeting

(7:30, Rm 112, Adm. Bldg., WTSU)

Program, we repeat, will be presented by the County Historian. The primary theme will be Dee S. Jobe, the almost forgotten Confederate scout whose exploits at least equalled those of Sam Davis.

Have you received a receipt lately? Attached to this announcement sheet is a receipt which indicates that you are a member in excellent good standing with the Historical Society. If you are experiencing some difficulty in finding it, you may need to see Dottie Matheny at our October 18 meeting. If you are unable to attend at that time, she is not averse to accepting such things via the U.S. Mails.

The Yankee soldier who had a ball: Elbert Watts entered the Union army as a one-year volunteer on August 31, 1864. A native of Geauga County, Ohio, he became attached to Company E, 177 Ohio Voluntary Infantry. His unit spent some time near Murfreesboro where it engaged the enemy during a threatened attack on Fortress Rosecrans. Later, the regiment moved to North Carolina and, near Goldsboro, during a brief skirmish, Private Watts was wounded in the right lung, the ball so deeply imbedded that it could not be removed. Subsequently, Watts was a semi-invalid and a periodic patient in Ohio hospitals. In 1887, after some years in the Nebraska Soldiers and Sailors Home he came to Rutherford County. During one of the old soldier's coughing spasms (1895) the ball was dislodged and ejected through his mouth. This occurred in 1895. Private Watts was seventy-one when he died in 1919.

He was the father of A. M. Watts, Manchester Road, and the grandfather of Allen and Howard Watts of Murfreesboro.

Hands across the county: Twelve brave and hardy members of our society joined with the Williamson County Historical Society for a tour of Triune on October 10. It was a nippy (climatically of course) afternoon but all twelve survived hardily and are alive and well, thank you. Rutherford County tour members were: George Kinnard and distaffer, Fred Brigance and distaffer, Walter King Hoover, Mrs. Buford Johnson, Mrs. Florence Davis, Ernie Johns, Prexy Henry Wray, Virginia Wilkinson, Mary Tankersley, and Dottie Matheny.

Bus was met at the junction of Highway 96 and Nolensville Road and the day was climaxed at the Triune Methodist Church with refreshments. Highpoints of interest were to Absalom Scales Home 1790, the Jordan Cemetery, the Newton Cannon Home (Circa 1800) and Cemetery (Newt almost because our fair city's namesake. It was, indeed, Cannonsburg for forty-five days until Captain William Lytle interceded), the Wilson Creek Primitive Baptist Church, the Josiah Fleming Home (1830), and the Triune Methodist Church (1849).

Our sincere thanks to our neighboring historians for their kindness and thoughtfulness.