

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

# CLEMMONS FAMILY

## NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2002

### 1930 Census records released, with names

By THOMAS HARGROVE  
April 1, 2002

National Archives' microfilm reading room Monday, just seconds after federal officials cut a red, white and blue ribbon stretched across the doorway in a ceremony celebrating release of the 1930 census.

Charles Kincannon, newly confirmed director of the U.S. Census Bureau, smiled as he looked at about 40 other professional and amateur genealogists who had rushed into the room exactly at 8:45 a.m.

"All of this really is very interesting," Kincannon said. "You could fill a book just with the different stories of how people make use of these records."

Genealogists also stormed reading rooms at National Archives auxiliary offices in 13 other cities. The offices in Atlanta, Boston, Kansas City, Mo., Seattle and Fort Worth, Texas, opened at midnight at the request of researchers who didn't want to wait for regular business hours.

"This is an exciting day all across the  
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### 2005 – Two Hundred Years in Middle Tennessee

Samuel Thompson Clemmons and Martha Coggin and their eleven children arrived in Wilson County, the general area of Lebanon, in 1805 from the general area of Charlotte, North Carolina to take up their new life. At that time he was 54 and Martha was maybe a few years younger.

Their oldest son, Jephthah, was 31 and their youngest Susannah was five.

They had started out their life in the western part of North Carolina, and after the Revolutionary War in which Samuel had fought, they moved to the new state (1796) in what had one time been the extension of North Carolina, called Tennessee.

In 2005 we will celebrate 200 years as a family in Middle Tennessee. What shall we do? How will we mark that turning event? Let's make suggestions and form a committee to guide the celebration.

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#### Dates for Reunions

2003 – Saturday, July 5

2004 - Saturday, July 3

2005 - Saturday, July 2

country," said John Carlin, archivist of the United States. "Several of our operations opened a few hours ago to accommodate some anxious genealogists."

The 1930 census is big business. Two for-profit genealogical companies, both in Salt Lake City, have purchased complete sets of the microfilm records to turn the millions of records into easy-to-access computer files, a process they hope to complete within weeks.

Ultimately, millions of Americans will be using the 1930 census in some form to study family history. Professional historians will use the enumeration to study what life was like at the beginning of the Great Depression.

"The census is the only record or government process that is intended to document the entire nation," Carlin said. There is no other record in America that seeks to list every single resident, making the census an invaluable tool for family and political research.

Records are kept confidential for 72 years (once the average life expectancy) so that people won't be embarrassed by what enumerators write down about their families. When the 1920 census was released, some Americans discovered they were born out of wedlock and at least one learned that his mother's occupation was listed as "prostitute," census officials said.

The 1930 enumeration also includes intriguing tidbits of information, such as whether a household had a radio.

"At least 20 million Americans who were enumerated in 1930 are still alive. I don't think there will be any trouble letting

everyone know if they had a radio. But this (concern about privacy) is something to keep in mind," Kincannon said.

[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

[www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov)

(OR contact Thomas Hargrove at [HargroveT\(at\)shns.com](mailto:HargroveT(at)shns.com) or on the Web at <http://www.shns.com>.) Scripps-Howard News Service

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### IN THE FAMILY

Greetings from **Patsy Fain**, Gainsville, TX – Priscila Clemmons, g-g-g-g-g-grandmother; Obadiah Merritt, g-g-g-g-grandfather.

**Mary Winter Clemmons**, 79, died June 2, 2002. A lifetime resident of Lebanon, TN, she was the daughter of Ernest Clemmons and Ella McClain Clemmons. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Rhea Clemmons, and step-mother, Bertha Clemmons. Burial was at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Lebanon.

**Edna Hopkins Clemmons**, 85, died May 31, 2002 in Rutherford County. She was the daughter of Hollis and Anne Tomlinson Hopkins, and preceded in death by her husband Howard Grady Clemmons, son, Johnny Roy Clemmons and daughter Peggy Sue Clemmons. Burial was in Bartons Creek Cemetery.

Greetings from **William T. Clemmons** of Fairfield, IL. He sends the notice that Carl Moore, 63, son of John H. and Edna (Clemmons) Moore died April 19, 2002 with burial in Kerner, LA.

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**LOOKING FOR YOUR KIN??  
TWO WEBSITES FOR CLEMMONS FAMILY INFORMATION**

Two websites are available for those seeking information on the Clemmons Family:

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/c/l/e/Louise-E-Clemons/>  
AND <http://family.clemmonsconsulting.com/>

Both are a genealogical site for information on the Clemmons Family with

**LINKS**

Everton Publishers

Heritage Quest

Ancestry.com

Roots Web

Wilson County Depot

Clemmons Links

Geneology Link

GenForum-Clemons

GenForum-Clemmons

These sites are dedicated to the descendants of Samuel Thompson Clemmons. He was born 15 SEP 1751 somewhere in Virginia. He married Martha Coggin in 1774 in Anson Co. NC. She was born in the year 1755 in North Carolina. Between 1800 and 1805 they traveled to Wilson County, TN where he was given land for his participation in the Revolutionary War. Samuel died in September 1837.

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**2001 Clemmons Reunion**



**Edna "Ms. Shorty"  
Clemons**

Edna Earle Margraves Clemons, 82, of Waco passed away Sunday, March 24, 2002, at a local hospital. Services will be at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2002, at Wilkirson-Hatch-Bailey Chapel, 6101 Bosque Blvd. with the Rev. James Adams officiating. Burial will follow at Waco Memorial Park. The family wishes to invite friends and family to a time of remembrance from 6 to 8 p.m., on Tuesday at the funeral home Garden Room.

Mrs. Clemons was born in Blossom, Lamar County, Texas, on Dec. 31, 1919, and moved to Waco when she married Wendell "Shorty" Clemons in 1939. Edna and her husband opened Shorty's Hamburgers in 1941 and during the next 40 years she became known to her customers and friends as "Ms. Shorty." The cafe had various locations, including across the street from the courthouse on Washington Avenue, in Bellmead, and in north Waco. After her husband's death in 1984, Edna helped her daughter, Marilyn operate Shorty's in Bellmead, until she retired in 1986.

Edna was active in PTAs, Camp Fire Girls, and Meals on Wheels. She maintained a keen interest in local politics. Her

sports. She enjoyed fishing, gardening, bingo, and travel. But most of all she loved being "Annie" and "Grandma" to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Left with a lifetime of memories are her children, Elaine Clemons of Rowlett, Marilyn Spivey of Waco, Edith Gibson of Houston, and Gene Clemons and wife Cheryl of Naples, Fla.; grandchildren, Cathy Payne and husband Mike, Karen Woods and husband Rodger, Scott Lowrance, Jason Spivey and wife Melody, Mike Gibson, Steve Gibson, Laurel Josephson and husband Lee, Brenna Clemons, and Nicholas Clemons; great-grandchildren, Rachel and Melissa Payne, Erica and Emily Hefner, Christopher Courtney, Amber and Kailey Gibson, David and Jenna Josephson, and Ryan Spivey. She also leaves sister, Billie Tomlinson of Broken Bow, Okla.; brother, J. R. Margraves of Houston; sister-in-law and friend, Willie Dale Clemons; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

The family wishes to express gratitude to Dr. Thomas Lundeen for his compassion, Dr. Richard Kleiman for his 50 years of friendship and care of our family, Providence Hospital 3rd Floor South nurses and staff, Providence Hospice, Reverend James Adams for his spiritual guidance, Senior Citizens Ministries, and Meals on Wheels.

Pallbearers will be Mike Gibson, Jason Spivey, Scott Lowrance, Mike Payne, Robert Clemons, Brenna Clemons, and Nicholas Clemons.

Honorary pallbearers are Steve Gibson, Lee Josephson, Rodger Woods, Cecil Griffin, Larry Cope, Rick Cope, Ronny Margraves,