

- **Claiborne County Progress**

Nell Quesenbery Report

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THE PHILLIP COCKERHAM BENEFIT

By Nell Quesenbery

Have you been watching the Phillip Cockerham story unfold on the TV, radio and in the newspapers?

Phillip is 26 years old and lives in Campbell County. He has already undergone major surgery which removed a great portion of his colon. Now he needs a liver transplant, which will cost at least \$80,000.

Because a liver transplant is considered an experimental operation, hospitals must have assurance of payment. Medicaid does not pay for this type of operation.

Phillip's plight has touched the hearts of many people who are busy gathering the money needed for his operation. Recently, on TV, Phillip expressed his feelings of gratitude. He could hardly believe that people who didn't even know him would help and care this much.

All area CB Clubs plan a benefit break for Phillip Cockerham February 11 at the Recreation Center, LaFollette. Claiborne County has two CB Clubs, the Powell Valley CB Club and the Hillbilly CB Club.

"Hillbilly CB Club has helped a lot of people," said club secretary Susie Goins. "I've been secretary for four years. We have 16 members. Herbert Goins is our president and James Dyer is vice president."

Frank Yoakum, president of the PV CB Club, said his club is very hard working and has helped lots of people. The Powell Valley community building had through the years become very run down. Frank saw that it could become restored and asked that the Powell Valley CB Club be given control of the building. The club remodeled the building and now uses it for their meetings. The center is also used for many other civic affairs.

The following sketch is a history of the Powell Valley CB Club, written by the club's secretary, Mollie B. Hoskins.

THE HISTORY OF THE POWELL VALLEY CB CLUB

“On June 27, 1975, a small group on Speedwell residents met at the old Cawood School Building in Speedwell to form a CB club.

Of the starting members of June 27, 1975, we still have nine of those members. Our membership as of Jan. 1, 1984, stands at 20.

Ray Yoakum was our first president, June 1975 until June 1976. Since then, Frank Yoakum has been president, with the exception of the 1978-79 year, when Kubil Hopper was president.

We have had four vice presidents: Albert Alexander (1977-78); Frank Yoakum (1978-79); J.B. Bailey (1982-83), and Kubil Hopper (1979-82 and 1983 and is our present vice president.)

Alice Alexander was our treasurer from 1975-76; Ruby Yoakum then held the office until June 1983. Our present treasurer is Peggy Lambert.

I have held the office of secretary from June 1975 until 1978, when Peggy Lambert was elected for secretary until June 1979. Then I was re-elected and still hold that office.

The club name was put before the members by J.B. Price (no longer a member) as the Powell Valley CB Club. Since we all lived in the Powell Valley area, what would be more appropriate? So Powell Valley CB Club we are.

You hear so much about cb'ers going here and there to breaks or jamborees. It's not all fun and games. Not just to win trophies.

There is a lot of work involved in setting up a break.

Our club was organized to help anyone we could that really needed help, if they have no insurance or other help, whether it be medical or personal needs. We have sometimes, rather than hold a break or a roadblock, taken money from our treasury and donated to someone in need. It isn't always possible to set up a break when needed.

We have held breaks or roadblocks for: Ralph Hopper; Speedwell Free Baptist Church Building Fund; Kellie Hopper; Lee Messer's widow; Clyde Ellison and family; Wayne Edwards; Johnny Pritchard; North Claiborne Co. Volunteer Fire Department; Doug Smith; James Russell Partin; Janet Overton and boys; family of Mike Graves; James "Hoss" Pierce; family of Keith Honaker; Cerebral Palsy for Claiborne County; and a member of the Peoples CB Club of Clinton, Tenn., Lone Ranger.

These are a few I remember off hand.

We have helped in roadblocks for Cerebral Palsy and have had breaks for them the last two years. Also, the radio-thons. This is for Cerebral Palsy of Claiborne County.

It takes time and a lot of hard work to put on a break. Then you pray a lot that the people in the area will come and support you in your good intended efforts.

We get "kicked in the teeth" sometimes by some non-well wishers because cb'ers do get talked about.

Our club has always done what we advertise and have only the best of members trying to help someone in need.

It is very rewarding to me, when it's all over, to say "well done" and a big thank you to those that do help. It's well worth the headaches and aching back and feet when you get a big smile and a thank you from those you may have helped.

But without the help of our local people and other CB clubs, some as far as Tignall, Georgia, and Ontario, Canada, we couldn't have done it.

And of course, we'd never have a good break if the merchants didn't donate prizes and/or food, or without the local radio stations and newspapers.

One thing we can't forget is our musicians that always help. Kubil Hopper and the Knockabouts; Doyle Smith and his boys; the Rourks and Lays of Sharps Chapel; Clinton CB Band and many, many more.

And, too, without our hard-working and loyal president, Frank Yoakum, who really keeps things rolling.

The girls in the kitchen - Peggy Lambert, Ruby Yoakum, Alice Alexander and Ina Yoakum.

And those that do the mini-raffles, J.B. Bailey and Roy Yoakum.

The other club members have usually been busy either baking cakes or getting door prizes. They are: Jimmy Alexander, Kathryn Bailey, Boyd Shelby and Robin Hopper; C.J. and Sheila Hopper; Jenny Hopper; Earl Lambert and Sonny Welch. It takes all the members to work to put on a good and "well worth the time break."

Hopefully, someone that has read this will remember the next time you hear of a benefit break and roadblock, you will go and support those giving or holding it, regardless of whether it be the Powell Valley CB Club, Tazewell's Hillbilly CB Club or Middleboro's Pinnacle CB and React Club.

We are, at this writing, working on a benefit break February 11 in LaFollette for Phillip Cockerham, who needs a liver transplant. We are praying this will be our biggest.

If you have never attended a benefit break, make it a point to go to one. There is always something for everyone. Cake walks, mini-raffles, door prizes, auctions and always good food. Never any alcoholic beverages at our breaks. A final note: If you don't have your live entertainment, you can't have and hold a crowd. Hope to see you at our next break. Secretary of Powell Valley CB Club Mollie B. Hoskins, Route 2, Box 27, Speedwell, Tenn. 37870 - 1-615-562-5002.

Happy birthday to my son, Dennis J. Quesenbery, Rhoda Selvey, Bobbie Jennings, Danny Callebs, Mae Walker and Niki Breeding.

Get well wishes to Jean Phelps, Joe Bunch and Alice Wells.

Sympathies to the families of Susie Shoffner, Joe Dan Vannoy, Imogene Rose and Charlie Brown.

New births on January 23, 1984: Bonnie Brogan became a grandmother and great-grandmother within six hours. The first child was Judy Camile Brogan, born to Junior and Judy Brogan. Then came John Dean Manning, born to Mr. and Mrs. Dean Manning. Robert Bradford Cheatham, October 6, 1983, is the new son of Bobby and Blenda Sue Cheatham.

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Ben and Virginia (Quesenbery) Phelps. Ben and Jenny have six children, six grandchildren, seven step-grandchildren and three step-great-grandchildren. Jenny is Jack's oldest sister. We hope that she and Ben have many more happy years together.

Many people called me about my story about the old Lone Mountain School. Ruth Burke wrote that she was overjoyed with both the story and letters that she received. Grant Meyers was listed as Grant Munsey in the story. Bertha Whitehead said that Tine, Bonnie and Georgie Williams also attended school in 1928-29. Mae Rosenbalm said Henry Rosenbalm was a student during 1931-32. Mae also said Henry's grandfather, Hamilton Rosenbalm, was in the Civil War. Mae believes her grandfather was Will Ramsey that appeared on C.A. Marcum's list, Co. A, 2nd East Tennessee Cavalry.

Mrs. Arvalee Sweet, the former Bessie Johnson of Lone Mountain, called, saying that she was school chums with my mother and Ruth Beeler Burke. Bessie said she was named for my grandmother, Bessie Yoakum. Bessie Johnson Sweet has six married children living in Claiborne County. Bessie Sweet called my mother, both pleasing and surprising her.

Recently, I visited my old neighbor, Doshie Lee Caskey, at Regency Village and met her good friend, Sudie Goins, that also lives in the village.

Haynes Chumley called after reading my article, "The Last Hog Killing." He wondered if it was my dad, Denny Marchio, that he had worked with in the CCC's. It wasn't. Dad went in

around 1933. Haynes went in about 1940. Haynes was stationed in Norris, Tennessee. He worked in Forestry. Pine seedlings were raised until the young trees were old enough to be replanted in places that would hold soil and produce lumber. If you see tall pines about two foot in diameter planted in rows along the highways, these may be trees that Haynes Chumley planted.

National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the CCC's. Anyone interested in this organization, can write to NACCA, Lochmann's Plaza, 7245 Arlington Blvd., Suite 318, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Hollywood is shooting "Cold Fire" near Jellico, Tennessee, and they are acting very serious about Mrs. Larry Stanifer's screen test. Good luck, Cissy Payne Stanifer.

Happy Valentine's Day, everyone!