# **Allred Family Newsletter**

Official Publication of the "Allred Family Organization, Inc. Mission Statement:

Identify and Unite the Allred Family through Gathering, Storing and Sharing Information



Summer 2013 Issue No. 95

# **Rocky Mountain Allred Reunion**

The Rocky Mountain Allred Organization invites you to join us for the 2013 RMA Allred Reunion. This is a special reunion for us because it marks the 25<sup>th</sup> year in a row that we have gathered, in Utah, to celebrate our Allred heritage.

The reunion will again be held in Spring City, at the City Offices (formerly the 'Old School') right off of Center Street. Spring City is located off of Hwy 89, just south of Mount Pleasant, and about 11 miles north of Manti. Originally called Allred Settlement, Spring City was first settled in the mid 1852 by our Allred ancestors. Many buildings in the city have historical importance and, in fact, the entire city is on the National Historical Register. Many of the old houses and buildings have been restored and renovated and the RMA has a 'walking tour' available to help guide you to many of these interesting locations.

We will be gathering around the fire pit (located in the southwest corner of the Old School grounds) on Friday night sometime near 6:00 p.m. and will supply hot dogs and marshmallows and a little fire, for those who arrive the night before the reunion. If you have self-contained camp trailers or motor homes you can park around the perimeter of the Old School grounds and there is space to set up tents on the grass near the fire pit. In addition there are several motels and 'bed and breakfasts' in the area, if your 'inner pioneer' is looking for a soft bed.

Reunion activities begin Saturday morning in the main Spring City office building. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and will last until Noon. Leave yourself some time after registering to take in some of the many items of interest that will be available in the main room. These include projects and books (some complete and some being worked on) plus lots of other family information gathered and displayed by your cousins.

Many interesting family related items will also be offered for sale. The proceeds of these items help pay the expenses of the reunion and support some of our Allred research efforts. So come early and say hello while you are at it, learn a little and maybe buy a thing or two.

At 10:00 a.m. we begin our business meeting and cover in more detail the various projects, genealogy breakthroughs, books, and other interesting developments in the Allred family. We have invited several family members to talk about the projects or books they are working on and would like to invite any of you who would like to take a few minutes and share what you are working on to do so, as well. The business meeting will last until about 11:45am, at which point we will break for lunch. Lunch consists of homemade BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, chips, beans, a drink and desert will once again be available for the reasonable price of \$5 for those over 12 years old, and \$3 for the younger folks.

After lunch we will have more information sharing and will have an auction to help raise funds to help with research and reunions. If any of you have items you believe would be of interest to family members and are willing to donate them we would be very grateful.

Activities are available for the kids in the family so please don't forget to bring them along. We will have games and activities for them to enjoy, and they always have a good time.

So whether you have never attended one of these Reunions, or you are a veteran, we really would love to see you there. If you have any questions, please contact me or Larry Allred. Our contact information is: Bob Olson 801-682-2247, bobbyo1952@msn.com or Larry Allred, 801-558-6753, larrycallred@msn.com.

For places to stay in Spring City and nearby go to http://sanpetecounty.org/pages/lodging for local lodging and information. Also, campers and recreational rehicles may park around the City Park. Restrooms, but no showers are available.

www.Allredfamily.org

# Moses Thatcher Allred: Mr. Theater and the Stage of Life

by Gordon T. Allred

M. Thatcher Allred was born July 27, 1896, in Afton, Wyoming, son of Byron Harvey Jr. and Charlotte Susanna Pead Allred. As a young boy he was filled with wonderment over the magnificence of those pastoral surroundings and what seemed to him the remarkable "newness" of it all.

When he was about six years old his family left their home there in beautiful Star Valley for a long and arduous journey by train to Colonia Jaurez in Mexico where his father and grandfather, Byron Harvey Sr., continued the practice of plural marriage although the their Church had abandoned that practice in 1890. Life was harsh in "The Colonies", as they were known in certain quarters, and eventually the family returned to the states living in Blackfoot, Idaho, where Thatcher's father operated a farm and dry goods outlet.

It was there in Blackfoot that Thatcher and two of his older brothers were struck by lightning and nearly killed while excavating a potato cellar into a dry bank of the Snake River.

The two great work horses were killed instantly, and the three young Allreds were knocked unconscious and temporarily paralyzed. Fortunately, all of them recovered with no serious after effects and lived into their eighties.

At age twenty one, while attending Utah State University (then known as the Agricultural College or A. C.), Thatcher glimpsed a charming young woman of only seventeen in the school library. This was his first encounter with Pearl Oberhansly, and he remembered vividly throughout his life how she

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looked – the clothes she was wearing, her profile against the window beyond, and the light in her eyes – as she bent over a table across the room to collect her books. It was literally a case of love at first sight, and at that very moment Thatcher knew without question that he had discovered his personal darling.

The romantic courtship, lasted for some time, however, but was kept alive through daily love letters during his service as a lieutenant in the army following World War I and frequent shifts in military stations throughout California and Texas.

They were married June 9, 1923, in Bozeman, Montana, later moving to Three Forks where Thatcher served as Superintendent of Schools and where their daughter Joan was born.

From 1929 to 1930 they lived in Afton, home of Thatcher's birth, where he was principal of the Afton Wyoming High School.

The following year Thatcher obtained his masters degree in speech and drama from the University of Iowa and their son Gordon was born. In 1931 they moved to Ogden, Utah. There both Thatcher and Pearl were hired shortly afterward to teach at Weber Jr. College, living on the old campus not far above town. Pearl taught English and Thatcher served as Chairman of The Speech and Drama Department. It was a role that fit him well for he was an exceptionally handsome young man—tall and athletic with black wavy hair and a courtly bearing—traits that often fluttered the hearts of the young coeds. Five years later they moved to a larger home nearby where their daughter Carolyn Charlotte (better known as Penny) was born.

Thatcher's career as Department Chair continued for many years, and he became admiringly known to his friends and colleagues as "Mr. Theater". During his thirty-five years at Weber he directed some sixty major plays and established the Ogden Community Theater which included thespians from both the college and the Ogden area.

His directing often kept him and cast members up past midnight, sometimes into the early hours of the morning, and he became known to all involved as a great perfectionist (perhaps too great for some!). Thatcher's daughter in law, then Sharon Wallace and later Gordon's wife, starred in several of his productions and has commented frequently upon his talent and sensitivity. Members of his family were always reminded that first night was at hand as various of the home furnishings vanished to magically reappear on the old Moench Building stage with the parting of its dark blue velvet curtains.

Thatcher also taught numerous speech and English literature courses over the years, and his eloquence with the spoken word remains unrivaled throughout the area to this day. Years after his passing, in fact, former students still marvel over that gift, commenting enthusiastically regarding his impact on their lives.

He was president of the Weber State Faculty Association for two terms and Chair of The Fine Arts Building Committee. Weber became a four-year college shortly before his retirement, and following his passing, the M. Thatcher Allred Theater on the Weber campus was named in his honor. He also directed and narrated several of Ogden's famed All Faces West productions featuring operatic star Igor Gorin in the role of Brigham Young. In 1972 Thatcher received the Distinguished Service Award from the Utah Academy of Arts Letters and Sciences and was posthumously inducted into the Utah Pioneer Theater Hall of Fame.

Shortly after Pearl's death from a heart attack, he sold the family home on upper Lake Street, rented an apartment, and eventually built one for himself downstairs at the home of his son Gordon at 2006 Polk–often known by the family as Polk's End. He was a talented pool player and took great pleasure in donning a red vest and assembling his special, portable cue stick for impressive demonstrations in the family recreation room. His grandsons especially enjoyed playing with him and observing how the skepticism and amusement of their pals rapidly transformed to respect and wonderment once he went to work.

Thatcher never recovered fully from the loss of Pearl, always his Pearl of Pearls, and underwent considerable depression during his final years.



Moses Thatcher Allred age 25

Throughout it all, however, he continued to grow in love, compassion, and wisdom, never losing his unique sense of humor.

He was a raconteur par excellence, and nothing was more fascinating or entertaining than hearing him relate tales of his boyhood, especially in concert with his brothers Elwood, Lothair, and Harold.

He died on September 23, 1978, at the McKay-Dee Hospital following an automobile accident. Throughout his remaining two days in intensive care he was comatose, but his family continued to pray aloud in his presence and talk of all he meant to them, their joyful times together, and the reality and nearness of the life to come. Toward the end, holding his father's hand, Gordon spoke emotionally of their great and abiding love for each other, and at that very moment Thatcher's dying hand gripped his own with astonishing warmth and power for perhaps ten seconds.

Shortly thereafter, he was passing to the other side, and those family members present, all very spontaneously, gave him a standing ovation. To anyone unfamiliar with his background or the mood

#### **Moses Thatcher Allred**

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at the moment, such a response might have seemed rather strange. To those who applauded, however, it was eminently appropriate. Moses Thatcher Allred had just completed his grand performance upon the Stage of Life, and that performance was duly acknowledged.

As his loved ones gazed down upon his countenance, the years seemed to be falling away as though, paradoxically, death itself had begun to return his youth. His presence there in that room was profoundly vibrant – and the presence of the Holy Spirit itself almost palpable.

Gordon T. Allred, author of the preceding article, is the second of three Allred generations at what is now Weber State University: his aforesaid father Moses Thatcher, Gordon his son, and grandson Anthony (Tony) Allred. All three bear the middle name of Thatcher and have been full professors in their respective specialties.

Gordon holds a Ph.D. in creative writing and modern literature and upon retiring after forty-eight years at Weber received that institution's Honorary Doctorate of Humanities. He is a widely published author and has received numerous honors for his teaching and writing. Among them also are the following: Weber State Presidential Distinguished Professor Award, Outstanding Professor Weber State Students, Ogden Mayor's Award for Literature, Sigma Delta Chi Award for Kamikaze (former best seller on life of a Japanese suicide pilot), First Place Utah Fine Arts Contest for novel Starfire, and Utah Author of The Year Award.

### **Note from Cousin Steve**

My name is Steven J. Alred. I live in Panama City, Florida. My family of Allreds, Alreads and Alreds came out of South Georgia in the counties of Thomas and Grady. The start of the family in this area seems to come from South Carolina with Allen Allred who was born in 1813. Allen's son, Andrew J. Alred, is my great grandfather. Allen is as far back as I have been able to go.

I just thought, I would write this note to let you know about this branch of the family. I did not see it on your site. I hope we can share information in the future. I look forward to hearing from any other Alreds, Allreds interested in this branch of the family in South Georgia.

Your cousin.

Steve

Steve@stevealred.com

# **Articles and Photographs Are Welcome for the AFO Newsletter**

Information, articles, and photographs are needed for the Allred Family Organization Newsletter. Information may be submitted online or via mail.

Please submit to: Alice Allred Pottmyer, Editor AFO Newsletter 5540 32nd Street North Arlington VA 22207 or pottmyera@aol.com

#### AFO is on Facebook

We're now on Facebook! Come join the "Allred Family Organization" group, where we will share information on upcoming events, projects we're working on, photos, stories, and much more.

Spread the word to your children, grandchildren, and other family members. We're hoping to bridge the generations and get everyone interested in sharing family history, from ages 9 to 99! If you have questions, please contact the group administrator, Karisa Walker at fourinohio@att.net.

Almost daily there are questions and comments on Allreds.

## Settle/Suttle Allred

by Michael Marshall Michaell, Lee J. Nettie, Thomas C. Suttle T., Jessee

I am passing along some Allred information with the thought that some of this might be useful in the newsletter. The Settle (also spelled Suttle in some records) Allred is my ancestor. Murphy is his brother and both are sons of Jesse Allred (02/08/1783 - 11/11/1844) and his wife, Ailsey York. Hiram Vestal Allred Sr. (04/08/1821 - 05/02/1914) was the son of Thomas Allred born 1779.

In any event, I was looking through some old notes of mine and found a letter dated February 21, 1991, from a lady named Agnes Wells of Mount Airy, North Carolina, whom I hired to do some Allred research for me way back then. Among other things, it contained a typed transcription of an article that appeared in the June 1, 1916, issue of the *Mount Airy News* and titled, "The Early History of Mount Airy," by Hon. S.P. Graves. The article contains this information:

"S.T. Allred, better known among the old residents as "Sut" Allred, conducted a grocery and "soft drinks" establishment where the Gwyn Drug Store now stands and had his residence just to the southeast of the store, about the location of the Post Office. Murphy Allred lived where the Central Hotel stands and conducted a store in the corner of his yard to the east of his house."

Now, in the letter from Agnes, she writes the following: "Settle Allred, in a county that was largely farmers, was a businessman who ran a grocery and soft drinks store on Main St. That takes a lot of reading, writing and arithmetic. We find Murphy and Hiram [Allred] also living in town, 'tho Hiram's granddaughter said his family were farmers and he did buy a farm and move out of town later. So the three Allreds who were here seemed to have common interests . . . Settle married a Belton and if she turns out to be Ewell Belton's daughter, Ewell was also a businessman . . ."

"Last night I was thinking about all this and re-reading the news article and I think I remember you saying that Settle lived on the post office site. I knew that couldn't be the site today. Then the article of 1916 says he had his store "where Gwny Drug store now stands and his residence just to the southeast of the store, about the location of the Post Office." I consulted a map of 1916... and I knew where the Hotel Central had been and was later the site of a service station called Central Service. Across the street on the map is an unnamed drug store and a few doors down is the post office."

"I talked with Marie Shelton again and have some copies on her telephone conversation [which took place February 9, 1991]. Marie read part of a letter dated 1856 to Hiram Vestal Allred of Mt. Airy from his sister Damaris and her husband Samuel Nelson. The letter was from Fort Mills, NC [note—there is a Fort Mills, SC, very near Charlotte, NC, but none in NC] and mentions that Hiram had written to Seymore (no relationship given) and someone? She did not give him the letters. She also said the letter mentions "Pa" and says "your mother has been sick, but is better"....Marie said her mother told her Hiram had a brother who went to Salt Lake City, Utah, and had more than one wife. He wrote Hiram telling him he did not want to have to give up one of his wives, he loved them both. Hiram threw the letter in the fire." The date of this letter is unknown.

#### Randolph County 2013 Allred Reunion

The Randolph County 2013 Allred Reunion will be held on September 14, 2013, at Grays Chapel United Methodist Church. We are currently finalizing plans for the programs and activities to be held that day. The schedule of events will appear in the Issue, No. 96, of the AFO newsletter and will be posted on our Web site as soon as they are finalized. You may contact Gina Morton Smith at ginamortonsmith@yahoo.com For hotel and campground information check this Web site: www.chamber.asheboro.com. Then go to Membership Directory to view Campgrounds and RV parks or hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts for further information on staying in Asheboro or other places in Randolph County.

#### Allreds and the American Revolution

This information was originally published in the Winter Issue, No. 69, of 2006. Since that time, there have been corrections as well as new information. This is a significant research peace on four Allred brothers who participated in a militia unit during the American Reunion. Also, other Allreds were in other skirmishes with the Tories on various occasions. This is why this is being presented again.

Several Allred family researchers were aware that Allreds participated in the American Revolution in the Carolinas. The pension application for Elias Allred, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred, was found in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

In another pension application for Abraham Elliot, Eli Allred, younger brother of both Elias and William Allred, said that his brother, William, had participated with a neighbor, Abraham Elliot, in a skirmish near Salisbury, North Carolina.

However, written records of their unit, other than that of Elias Allred, in his pension application, were not found. The militia unit Captain John Luttrell, was killed in Tory activity in September 1781. A typed transcript of information and a roster by the Captain John Hinds were in the Randolph Room of the Randolph County, North Carolina, Public Library in Asheboro. However, some of the names may not have been transcribed properly.

In the late 1790s, Captain Hinds, a Justice of the Peace in Randolph County, moved into eastern Tennessee near Knoxville. A relative of Hinds placed his papers in the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library System, Tennessee.

A search of his papers produced a handwritten roster. It

contained the names of four Allred men. The roster is reproduced on page 14. It lists James Alred, William Alred, Elias Alred and John Alred.

James, William, Elias and John were the four oldest sons of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred. John Allred, their cousin, was the son of William Allred, also known as the "original William." He and his father were involved with resisting the Tory movement in Randolph County and may have been at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in March of 1781. See page 9 for an account of one of their accounts with the Tories.

Most of this issue is devoted to the Patriot cause of these four men. Included is the pension application for Elias Allred on page 11-12. Elias Allred mentions the skirmish on the Yadkin River and also mentions that after his three-month militia service, he was often called upon under the same officers to serve for several days. There was considerable Tory activity in central North Carolina where Randolph County is located.

Also included is information on the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution, what the history books said about the Yadkin skirmish and quotes from letters to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson that mention the skirmish.

Alice Allred Pottmyer

## **American Revolution: Southern Campaign**

The American Revolution was at a stalemate. In 1780 after five years of fighting, Lord Charles Cornwallis, commander of the British Army, decided to take the campaign south. There were Loyalists near the coast and supplies were good. Cornwallis expected an easy victory.

He quickly retook Charleston, South Carolina. A few months later, he seriously defeated the Americans forces under General Horatio Gates at Camden, South Carolina. Major General Nathanael Greene was the Revolutionary War general responsible for recapturing the lower South from British control. He is considered by most to be the best strategist of the American Revolution and one of the greatest military minds the United States has ever produced.

On October 14, 1780, Greene succeeded General Horatio Gates as Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Army, and took command at Charlotte, North Carolina, on December 2. The army was weak and badly equipped and was opposed by a superior force under Cornwallis. Greene decided to divide his own troops, thus forcing the division of the British as well, and creating the possibility of a

strategic interplay of forces. This strategy led to General Daniel Morgan's victory at Cowpens on January 17, 1781, and to the battle at Guilford Court House, North Carolina (March 15, 1781), after having weakened the British troops by continual movements, and drawn in reinforcements for his own army, Greene was defeated, but inflicted a great loss of men to Cornwallis.

Three days after this battle, Cornwallis withdrew toward Wilmington. Greene's generalship and judgment were again illustrated in the next few weeks, in which he allowed Cornwallis to march north to Virginia and Greene turned swiftly to the reconquest of the inner country of South Carolina. This he achieved by the end of June, in spite of a reverse sustained at Lord Rawdon's hands at Hobkirk's Hill (2 miles north of Camden) on April 25. This action forced the British to the coast.

Greene then gave his forces a six weeks' rest on the High Hills of the Santee River, and on September 8, with 2,600 men, engaged the British under Lieutenant Colonel James Stuart at Eutaw Springs. Americans who fell in this battle were immortalized by American author Philip

)Freneau in his 1781 poem "To the Memory of Brave Americans." The battle, although tactically a draw, so weakened the British that they withdrew to Charleston, where Greene penned them during the remaining months of the war.

Greene's Southern campaign showed remarkable strategic features. He excelled in dividing, eluding and tiring his opponent by long marches, and in actual conflict forcing him to pay heavily for a temporary advantage a price that he could not afford. He was greatly assisted by able subordinates, including the Polish engineer, Tadeusz Kooeciuszko, the brilliant cavalry captains, Henry ("Light-Horse Harry") Lee and William Washington, as well as, Thomas Sumter and Francis Marion.

Greene was able, and like other prominent generals on the American side, a self-trained soldier. He was second only to Washington among the officers of the American army in military ability, and the only general, other than Washington, to serve the entire eight years of the war.

Like Washington, he had the great gift of using small

means to the utmost advantage. His attitude towards the British was humane and even kindly: he even generously defended Gates, who had repeatedly intrigued against him, when Gates's conduct of the campaign in the South was criticized.

Immediately after taking command, he sent people to map the rivers and look for suitable crossings in the western areas of the Carolinas. This was used to the advantage of the Americans several times, including the skirmish at the Yadkin River where four Allred men were involved.

After the war was won, South Carolina and Georgia voted Greene liberal grants of lands and money, including an estate, Boone's Barony, south of Edisto in Bamberg County. This he sold to meet bills for the rations of his Southern army.

On his Georgia estate, Mulberry Grove, 14 miles above Savannah, he settled in 1785, after twice refusing the post of Secretary of War. He died there on June 19, 1786, of sunstroke.

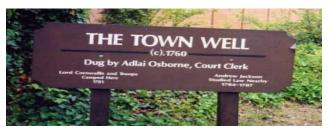
## Allred Virtual Trails Map shows Salisbury Town Well and Site of 1781 Skirmish

Allred Family Trails is online and ready to view! This trail was created by AFO researchers using the Virtual Trails software program. You will be required to register to view the Allred Family Trail map. This free one-time registration gives you access to the Allred Trail *and* is also valid when visiting www.virtualtrails.org.



The Salisbury Town Well is now covered. It was along the trade routes for early travellers.

HOW TO ACCESS THE ALLRED FAMILY TRAIL: Go to www.allredfamily.com. Click the link provided at the top of the AFO Home Page. Complete the registration form and activate your account by clicking the link in your confirmation email. Then return towww.allredfamily.com and this time instead of registering—log-in using your username and password. Special Note: The Google Earth plugin is required to see the Trail. This is a safe program and you will be given a link to down load it if it is not on your computer.



Marker by the town well indicates that the British Forces of Lord Cornwallis camped near it in 1781. Also, travelers along the route used the well. It is now located by the Rowan County Public Library.

#### Carolina Back Country Timeline: The American Revolution

#### Allred Involvement Noted

#### May 1771—Alamance, North Carolina

Prior to the revolution, backcountry farmers (known as Regulators because they wanted to regulate the unfair taxation policy) battled the British Royal Governor Tryon's Troops. Several Allreds were involved in this battle.

May 1780—Charleston, South Carolina

Fall of Charleston to the British.

#### May 1780—Bufford's Massacre, South Carolina

Retreating American troops slain by Col. Banastre Tarleton's troops earned him the nickname "Bloody Tarleton."

#### June 1780—Ramseur's Mill, North Carolina

Outnumbered almost 3 to 1, the Patriots routed the Loyalists, prior to Lord Cornwallis' move into North Carolina.

#### July 1780—Huck's Defeat, South Carolina

Patriots from both Carolinas surround and destroy 150 loyalists under Capt. Christian Huck. This victory, a major morale booster, sparked the beginning of the end of British fortunes in the Carolinas.

### August 1780—Hanging Rock South Carolina

On August 1, Maj. William R. Davie routed a British force, followed by Sumter's August 6 attack culminating in a draw.

#### August 1780—Camden, South Carolina

Decisive British victory under Lord Cornwallis. Preparations now made to move into North Carolina.

#### August 1780—Fishing Creek, South Carolina

"Bloody Tarleton" strikes again killing 150 patriots.

#### September 1780—Charlotte, North Carolina

Lord Cornwallis occupies Charlotte after heated skirmish with Patriots under Maj. Davie.

### October 1780—Kings Mountain, South Carolina

A decisive victory for Patriot forces over Major Patrick Ferguson. This battle was the first link in a chain of events that led to the final defeat of the British.

### November 1780—Fishdam Ford, South Carolina

Gen. Sumter's Patriots inflict heavy casualties on troops, 25 miles from British headquarters in Winnsboro.

November 1780—Blackstocks, South Carolina

#### Gen. Sumter's men defeat Col. Tarleton and his men. Gen. Sumter was wounded. December 1780—Charlotte, North Carolina

American General Nathanel Greene takes command of the Southern troops from General Horatio Gates.

#### January 1781—Cowpens, South Carolina

General Daniel Morgan brilliantly deployed the Patriot force at a regional livestock gathering area known as the "cow" pens. They soundly defeated the British under Col. Banastre Tarleton. This was Col. Tarleton's first major defeat.

#### February 1781—Trading Ford, North Carolina

On February 2-3, the Patriot forces under Gen. Greene, crossed the Yadkin River seven miles from Salisbury. Under cold and rainy conditions, 1,800 men and supplies crossed the river. About 150 North Carolina and Virginia riflemen were held back to engage the British Forces of Lord Cornwallis if they appeared. At dark, British forces appeared and were surprised by the Patriots. They "fired two rounds" and then got onto the remaining flat boats and canoes and crossed the river. The next morning, the river had risen two feet and was too high and swift to cross. Four Allred men were part of the North

Allred men were part of the North Carolina unit that engaged the British.

Monument to the American Forces under General Nathanael Greene near the February 2-3, 1781, crossing on the Yadkin River in



Davidson County, NC. It was placed there in 1929 by local citizens.

#### February 1781—Cowans' Ford, North Carolina

Lord Cornwallis' troops crossed at Cowan's Ford and the Patriots under Gen. Davidson tried to stop them. Davidson was killed and the Americans broke ranks and fled.

#### February 1781—Pyle's Defeat, North Carolina

Loyalist troops, enroute to join Lord Cornwallis' army in Hillsborough, met Patriot militia. The outnumbered Loyalists were massacred with more than 90 men killed.

### March 1781—Battle of Clapp's Mill, North Carolina

Col. Henry Lee (Lighthorse Harry Lee) and his men ambushed Col. Tarleton's cavalry. The skirmish resulted in 17 deaths for the British and eight for the Patriots.

### March 1781—Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina

A major battle between Gen. Greene and Lord Cornwallis. Americans withdrew and British claimed victory. However, Cornwallis lost more than one quarter of his army and could not remain in North Carolina as an occupying force.

#### May 22-June 18, 1781—Ninety Six, South Carolina

Longest battle of the American Revolution, ending when Gen. Greene withdrew Patriot forces shortly before arrival of British reinforcements to the fort.

### August 1781—House in the Horseshoe, North Carolina

Skirmish between Tories and Patriots who were camped at the house. Tories tried to set the house on fire. Patriots surrendered after casualties on both sides.

#### September 13, 1781—Cane Creek, North Carolina

Col. John Luttrell, was the colonel with the militia unit that served Randolph County, North Carolina, and surrounding areas. At least four Allred men were in his unit. He was active against the Tories. Col. Luttrell was killed at Cane Creek in an engagement with David Fanning, the Tory leader in that area. Luttrell died the next day, September 14. The battle was also known as Lindley's Mill. It took place in Alamance County. There is no indication the four Allred men were at Cane Creek/Lindley's Mill.

#### October 1781—Battle of Yorktown, Virginia

The British forces of Lord Cornwallis were defeated by the American forces led by General George Washington. Guilford Courthouse proved to be the highwater mark of British military operations in the Revolutionary War. Weakened in his campaign against Greene and pushed into the far west of the Piedmont area of the Carolinas, Cornwallis abandoned the Carolinas hoping for success in Virginia. At Yorktown, seven months after his victory at Guilford Courthouse,the British surrendered to the combined American and French forces under General George Washington October 19, 1781.

#### Randolph County, North Carolina: American Revolution

The Battle of Alamance in 1771 was the first battle of the American Revolution. It is often overlooked in history books and if mentioned, it is a few lines.

By 1766, North Carolina citizens began to organize against unfair taxation and the dishonesty of local officials responsible for collecting taxes. Taxes also had to be paid in hard money. Most marketing and trading of the time was done by barter. People had very little money of any kind.

The Regulator story is very much a part of the history of Randolph County even though it occured a few years before the county was established. Herman Husband, a Quaker and citizen of the Sandy Creek area of the county, distributed pamphlets and petitions for signature to take to the Royal Governor.

Beginning in 1766, the Regulators (those that wanted the unfair taxes regulated), petitioned the governor for meetings. Several Allreds were involved in the cause against the injustice. Governor William Tryon consistently refused to meet with any of the Regulator leaders.

By January of 1771, Governor Tryon decided to order his militia to put down the "rebellion" and in March he marched from New Bern to Hillsborough collecting troops along the way. When he learned that the Regulators were gathering near the Great Alamance Creek, he led his men in that direction. The Regulators were not prepared to fight. Most were unarmed, for they were writing yet

another petition and were hoping to confince the governor by their show of numbers.

However on May 16, 1771, the two groups were 25 yards apart and firing began. The Regulators lost an unknown number of men who are buried on the battleground.

Herman Husband and other leaders left the state. After the battle, the British Army marched to the properties of the leaders, including Herman Husband. His home, buildings and crops were all destroyed by fire. Neighbors of Herman Husband were John and Thomas Allred. William Allred's property was close by. More than likely their properties also suffered from the fires.

By mid-June, more than 3,000 Regulators either signed the Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown or moved into South Carolina or what is now Eastern Tennessee. Those leaving the state were approximately 1,600.

The Battle of Alamance and the unfair taxation was noted by Colonists in New England suffering from unfair taxation. The Boston Tea Party, the revolt against unfair taxes was in 1773. The Battle of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts was in 1775.

The Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and the Declaration of Independence was signed July 4, 1776. When Randolph County was formed in 1779 from Guilford County, the nation was already four years into the revolution.

#### Tory Activity in Randolph County and an Allred Response

Colonel David Fanning was loyal to the King of Engand and despised all men who sought to become independent of English sovereignty. He and his militia were active in Randolph County and the surrounding areas from the summer of 1781 through September 1782. Even though the victory at Yorktown, Virgina, was in October of 1781, the British continued their efforts in many parts of the country until 1782.

Randolph County was no exception. Fanning was born in North Carolina in 1754. He went to South Carolina after the beginning of the Revolution. He became a Tory in South Carolina and fought there until 1781 when he returned to North Carolina. His headquarters were in Randolph and Chatham Counties, in the Bush Creek—Deep River area. John and William Allred and the Tories The following is an incident that William Allred and his son, John, had with Colonel Fanning and some of his troops: When the Revolutionary war came, John Allred shouldered his flintlock rifle and fought for the freedom of the American colonies to the end of the war. As a resident of Randolph County, he enlisted in the spring of 1781 as a private and volunteer in the cavalry under Capt.

Thomas Doogan for the purpose of subduing and putting down one Colonel David Fanning, a Tory in the Royal Militia, who, with a band of outlaws, conducted a campaign of guerrilla warfare against the colonists in and around Randolph County, North Carolina, burning houses, pillaging and murdering, from 1775 to 1783. Allred served for approximately 12 months until the spring of 1782. His fighting against the British aroused the anger of Col. David Fanning, the leader of the Tories or British sympathizers, and he and his band of men went to the homestead in search of John, who happened to be at home. He saw them coming, snatched his gun and secreted himself in the attic. It so happened that they did not go up there to search for him. William Allred also saw them approaching, took up his gun and ran out northwest of the house and lay down behind a large rock. He could see Fanning and his men from his hiding place when they went out to his crib, later opened the crib door and let many barrels of corn run out, did the same at another log crib, then turned their horses loose in the lot to eat and trample the corn into the red mud. When they had

saddled their horses and rode towards the western part of the county. Fanning was eventually driven out of North Carolina. He fled to South Carolina and then to Florida. From there he fled with his family to New Brunswick, Canada. He died on the island of Nova Scotia in 1825.

Note: The property of William Allred is still a farm. His original log home where his son, John, hid is gone. However, the large rock William hid behind is visible on the property. Fortunately relatives of William and John Allred knew the story and recorded it. It is likely that similar incidents happened to the families of Thomas and John Allred because they and their families were active Patriots. Tory Colonel Fanning and his troops often burned and pillaged homes of Patriots.

SOURCES:(1) Family history recollections written by Rev. Brazilla Caswell Allred in 1922, and published in "The Searcher", Vol. VI, No. 2 (So. Calif. Genealogical Society, 1969). The Reverend was the brother of William Franklin Allred of Randolph County, North Carolina. (2) Certified Statement of Mary C. Allred Jones, dated 22 Apr 1929, found among the papers of Dora Belle Jones Cross on 16 Oct 1977.

eaten all they wanted them to have, they

# An American Revolution Skirmish for Four Allred Brothers

From December 80 through the end of February 1781, four Allred men were with their North Carolina Militia unit with the forces of General Nathanael Green near the Cheraw Hills in South Carolina. General Greene was commander of the American forces in the South.

Four of the men were the sons of Thomas Allred: James, William, Elias and John. The Calvary members furnished their own horses.

Colonel Banastre Tarleton, defeated at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina, January 15, 1781, was heading north and chasing the Americans under the command of General Daniel Morgan that had just defeated them. During the Battle of Cowpens, Lord Charles Cornwallis and his forces were 25 miles behind Tarleton's forces. The Tarleton and Cornwallis forces had joined together as they advanced northward into North Carolina in pursuit of the Americans.

After the victory of Cowpens, Gen. Greene began marching his Army to join with the forces of General Daniel Morgan. Gen. Greene sent the Calvary Militia unit from North Carolina ahead because the horse unit could move faster. They followed the Pedee River north to Salisbury. General Greene, with his army followed. The Calvary militia made a rapid march to meet with and assist Morgan. The Morgan forces were "retreating from Wallis." In Salisbury, the North Carolina Cavalry Militia unit found Morgan with his army marching through town. It was cold and rainy and was miserable for all concerned. On February 1, 1781, the Americans marched through Salisbury, North Carolina, and headed seven miles north to the Trading Ford, a crossing place on the Yadkin River. The Americans gathered all the flat boats they could and began crossing the 1,800 men and supplies, etc. They crossed for two days.

On February 2, 1781, Gen. Morgan sent the North Carolina Company of Calvary with about 100 of his riflemen from Virginia to guard the river crossing until the main army could be ferried across the Yadkin River.

On February 3, Cornwallis himself arrived in Salisbury and discovered the Americans were almost across the river. He sent a contingent to stop what they could. It was nearly midnight and still raining. The British were not in familiar territory. About 100 Virginia rifleman and about 50 North Carolina Militiamen (including the four Allred men) were hiding in the bushes and behind trees to fire upon the British. According to the pension application of Elias Allred, "we fired two rounds" and then got on the flat boats to the other side of the Yadkin. The date of this skirmish was very late on February 3, 1781.

The British decided to cross in the morning. Because of the heavy rains, the river rose two feet over night. The current was very strong and the river was full of big trees and other debris. It was then too dangerous to cross. The British headed west along the river. They were able to cross in five or six days.

However, the three month militia term for the Allreds and their unit was up. They returned to Randolph County (about 50 miles away).

The Americans were able to travel across North Carolina even though they were closely followed by the British and then regroup, re-supply and recruit just over the Dan River in Virginia.

The two forces met at Guilford Courthouse on March 15, 1781, and fought. The British won the first day, but they lost 504 men in the fighting. Cornwallis decided not to fight the next day because he "could not afford any more victories like that." He marched his forces eastward toward Wilmington, North Carolina. They spent two days at Bell's Mill in Randolph County near the Deep River in an attempt to rest and re-supply.

In the fall of 1781, the Cornwallis forces arrived in Yorktown, Virginia, and planned to get on British ships. However, the French Navy was in the Chesapeake Bay and the Continental Army and Militia were behind him on land. The British surrendered October 19, 1781.

Both James and William Allred died before the pension act was passed by Congress in 1832. William died in 1824 in Bedford County, Tennessee. Fortunately, Elias lived long enough to file a pension. Neither of his older brothers nor his cousin, John, are named in his application. However, Elias provides us with a wealth of information about their unit.

Another neighbor, Abraham Eliot, filed a pension. In one of his affidavits, Eli Allred (much younger brother of William, James, Elias and John) said that his brother, William, was in a small skirmish with Eliot near Salisbury. The skirmish on the Yadkin River was important more for what didn't happen than for what did. General Greene had planned to reunite his forces in Salisbury and then face Cornwallis there. However, the rapid pace of the pursuing British foiled his plan. An engagement with less than the full American army could have been disastrous, especially if the Americans had been caught with their back to the Yadkin River, or with a force fragmented while the crossing was occurring. The successful crossing of the Yadkin afforded him time to reach Virginia where he was able to re-supply his men and face Cornwallis in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina

In his pension application, Elias Allred, see pages x-x, said that after his discharge he substituted another three months for another man. After that Elias Allred returned home to Randolph County. He again served the same captain and was frequently called on and was out sometimes two or three days at a time.

More than likely the other three Allred men were also called upon for this type of service. Randolph County had a number of Tories that were terrorizing the area.

## **Elias Allred Pension Application**

Elias Allred, third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred, filed a pension request for his service in the North Carolina Militia during the American Revolution. The application describes his tour of duty as well as providing other clues about the Allred family.

The transcription of the handwritten pension application by Dawnell H. Griffin is below. The description by Elias is consistent with the history books about the skirmish on the Yadkin River.

Pension Record of Elias Allred National Archives Washington, D.C. S16307 Pen

[FHL MF #970,047] Elias Allred, Senr. Hall County, Georgia

Certificate of Pension issued the 13th day of Nov. 33 Arrears to the 4th of Sept 1833 56.25 Coms, allowance ending 4 mar 34 11.25 \$67.50

Recorded by Math: Rece Book E. Vol. 6 page 85

#### State of Georgia

County of Hall on this the 7th day of June Eighteen hundred and thirty three personally appeared before John Bates, John M Mcapee & Wiley E. Wood Justices of the inferior Court of Said County Elias Allred Senr. a resident of Hall County & State of Georgia aged seventy five years the 6th day of May last agreeable to a record of his age kept by his parents who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision (made by the act of congress passed June 7 1832) That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted into the service of the United States about the first of December in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty for a three month tour of duty under Capt. John Hinds who command a Company of Horse (deponent furnishing his own horse) and was attached to Col. John Lettrells Regiment Majr. Gholston also belonged to second Regiment and was marched to where General Greens army were Stationed near the Cheraw Hills in the State of South Carolina from thence we marched up Pedee River to Salisbury in North Carolina leaving Genl. Green with his army to follow We made a rapid march to meet with and assist Col. Morgan who was retreating from Wallis (after having defeated Tarlton at the Cowpens) when we reached Salisbury we found Col. Morgan With his army marching through town. who placed the company of cavelry to I belonged together with about eighty of his riflemen to guard until the main army could be ferried across the Yadkin River, but just about the time the last baggage waggon got on bord the Flat a party of Wallis' men said to be about one thousand came upon us we fired two rounds and retreated and on the next day joined Col. Littrel marched to the Barrachs and in two or three days was discharged the time for which I was drafted having expired.

Just a few days after getting my discharge I was substituted in place of a man by the name of John Sitten for a three months tour of duty in the Cavalry again and under the same officers and was marched to & fro through the State of North Carolina keeping down the Tories and was in one pretty smart skirmish with the Tories which was command by a Col. Fanning a noted Tory. I think this tour of duty was command about the first April 1781 having served out this tour of duty. I with several others of the same company agreed to stand as what was termed minute men subject to the call of the same Captain and was frequently called on and was out sometimes two or three days at a time. I have no documentary evidence and know of no person by whom I can prove any service except John Duncan whose affadavit is annexed. I hereby relinquish any claim to a pension or annuity except the present Declaration his name is not on the pension of rolls of agency of any State.

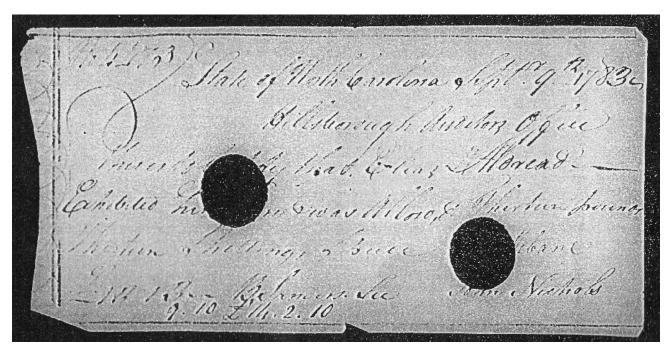
- I was born the State of North Carolina but am not positive which in Randolph or Orange County on the 6th day of May 1758
- 2nd I have no record of my age though have seen one made in Book kept by my father which is worn out or lost
- 3rd I was living in Randolph County North Carolina when called into service. I remained in the State of North Carolina until the year 1815 then removed to the State of South Carolina Pendleton District. remained there until the year 1827. then removed to Hall County State of Georgia where I now live.
- 4th I was drafted into the first tour of duty and the Second I substituted
- 5th I recollect to have seen Green a Capt Skinner and a Genrl Stephens from Virginia but cannot say whether Genl. Stephens was a regular officer or not

- 6th I received a discharge from Capt Heins for first tour of duty which is lost
- 7th John E. Brown James Russel Esqr Simon Terrell & the Reverend sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Elias Allred his mark John Bates TGC

The pension of Elias Allred was approved as follows: Subscribed on the Roll of Georgia the rate of 22 Dollars 50 Cents per annum Commence on the 4th day of March 1831

#### **Comments on Points Elias Allred Made in his Pension Application**

- **No. 1**. Elias was not certain whether he was born in Orange or Randolph County in 1758. He was born in Orange County and by 1775, the area was Guilford County and by 1779 the same area was Randolph County. It was Randolph County when he served in the militia.
- No. 2. His father was Thomas Allred that kept a book of family records. It was more than likely the family Bible.
- No. 3. Elias moved to Hall County in Northeast Georgia. He died and is buried in Lula, Hall County.
- No. 4. During his second tour of duty, he substituted for his brother-in-law John Sitten.
- **No. 5.** Green refers to General Nathanael Greene, commander of the Southern Forces under General George Washington.
- **No. 6.** He was discharged by Capt. Hinds. There are various versions of the spelling of his last name, but the family had standardized it as Hinds.
- **No. 7.** Note that Elias signed the pension application with a mark.



Pay voucher of Elias Allred

#### The Officers the Allred Men Served Under

Information is available about two of the officers of the North Carolina Horse Militia Unit that four Allred men and their neighbors served under. They are Col. John Luttrell and Capt. John Hinds.

#### Colonel John Luttrell of North Carolina

"He was ultimately swept into the Revolution, was active against the Tories, and met death at their hands. He was shot through the body at Cane Creek, North Carolina, September 13, 1781, in an engagement with the notorious David Fanning, the Tory partisan leader and died the following day." (Draper)

Footnote regarding Col. John Luttrell, of *The Transylvania Company*, pg. 39, Boonesborough, George W. Ranck, 1901.

The battle was also known as Lindley's Mill, Cane Creek or Hillsboro, in Alamance County, North Carolina, September 13, 1781.

#### **Captain John Hinds**

John Hinds was born about 1745 in Morris County, New Jersey. By 1775 he and his wife, Abigail, were living in that part of Guilford County that is now Randolph County where he was elected a Justice of the Peace in 1779 at the home of Abram Reese. Later Elias Allred, who served under Capt. Hinds, purchased the Reese home. In 1779, he was also appointed adjutant of the southern part of Randolph County by Col. James Martin. In 1781/ 82, Hinds commanded a company of horseman in Col. Luttrell's regiment and he raised a company under Col. J.W. Collier to protect families from the deprivations of the Tories in the area. According to Caruthers' volume The Old North State in 1776, Col. John W. Collier lived about three miles southwest from Bell's Mill which was located near the mouth of Muddy Creek and the west end of Deep River. Following the Revolution, Hinds moved to Knox County, Tennessee, where he died some time between 14 Sep 1810 when he made his will, and January 1811 when it was proved.

It appears Capt. Hinds fought at the battle of Guilford Courthouse where his brother, Simeon, was killed while serving under him. The papers of Captain Hinds were in possession of his family members for several years. They are now part of the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library System, Tennessee. The following are some of the lists of rosters kept by Captain Hinds.

List of the Co[mpany] which served under Capt. John Hinds in Randolph Co. in 1781 by order of Co[l]. Collier John Hinds, Captain, William Benge, W.W. York, Lieut. Richard Dafforn, Abraham Casterlin, Micheal Coffarn, Jesse Stroud, James Cowan, Phillip Seglar, David Browder, Elias Wilborn, James Morgan, Y.C. Croft,

Henry Civet, "All of which have served their time and received discharge for such Service"

'All whose names are inserted here have served agreeable to the Militia [?] and have discharged and received discharges for such service."

William Billingsley, William McMaster, Robert Shenaker, Benjamine Robertson, Joshua Wright, George Hopper, John Diffe, Abraham Elliot, Joseph Hinds, Edward Hendrickson, Benjamine Williams, Caleb Wilborn, Robert? Hendrix, Jacob Hendrix, Robert Duncan.

#### Allreds on the Roster

"List of Capt. John Hinds Co. that completed a Tour of duty in the Regiment of horsemen, commanded by Co. Luttrell by order of the Board of War in the year 1780, form 27, and expired in Feb. 27, 1781.

\*Two names not legible because of a hole in the original copy. See the opposite page 9 for the copy written by Capt. John Hinds.

#### The Allred Men

**Lieut John Allred** was the fourth son of Thomas Allred. **Wm. Allred, Sergt.**, was the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

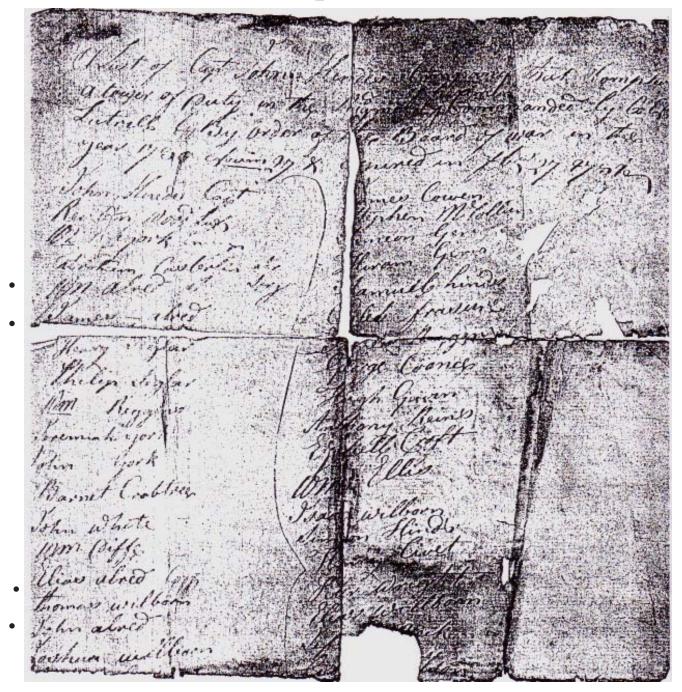
**James Allred**, was the first son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

**Elias Allred**, was the third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

Thomas Allred, the father, of James, William, Elias, and John, served as a Regulator served with his brothers William and John in the early 1770s. This was a movement to regulate the tax collectors. These men usually came a few times a year instead of one time and this put a heavy burden on the citizens.

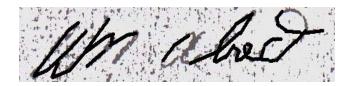
About ten years after the Regulator movement where their father and uncles were involved, the four Allred brothers served together during their three month militia duty. Plus they were often called upon to fight against Tory activity in their area of central North Carolina during the American Revolution and also after the Patriot victory at Yorktown, Virginia, in October 19, 1781.

## List of Capt. John Hinds



The papers of Captain John Hinds are from the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Colletion, Knox County Public Library System, Tennessee.

Enlargement of the name of Wm Alred on the List of the Company of Capt John Hinds written by Capt. Hinds. Note above, the names of Wm Alred, James Alred, Elias Alred and John Alred. The roster was written by Capt. John Hinds or his clerk.



# What the History Books Say About the Skirmish at Trading Ford on the Yadkin River

#### Report of the British Lt. Col Banastre Tarleton

From A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781, in the Southern Provinces of North America by Lieutenant-Colonel [Banastre]Tarleton

Commandant of the Late British-Legion. London: Printed to T. Cadell, in the Strand. M.DCC.LXXXVII. [1787] He [Earl Cornwallis] reached Salisbury on the 4th [actually it was February 3], where some emissaries informed him, that General [Daniel] Morgan was at the Trading Ford, but had not passed the river: Brigadiergeneral O'Hara was directed to march to that place, with the guards, the regiment of Bose [Hessians] and the cavalry. Owing to rain, darkness, and bad roads, the troops did not arrive at the Yadkin till near midnight. After a skirmish, it was discovered that Morgan's corps had crossed in the evening, leaving a detachment of riflemen to protect some wagons and stores belonging to country people, who were fleeing with their effects, to avoid the British army. General O'Hara having made a fruitless effort to get possession of the flats and large boats upon the river, took post with the infantry on the ground which commanded the ford and the ferry, and sent back the cavalry to Salisbury. A heavy rain swelled the Yadkin the succeeding day and night, and General Morgan remained on the eastern bank, facing the British troops.

Earl Cornwallis finding that he could not attempt the Trading Ford, on account of the advantageous position of the enemy and depth of the river, detached the cavalry, supported by the  $23_{rd}$  regiment, on the afternoon of the  $6_{th}$ , to reconnotire Grant's Creek, and the country beyond it.

#### The Cowpens-Guilford Courthouse Campaign, by Burke Davis, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, page 95.

On Feb. 3, after a hard morning's march through overflowing creeks and on miserable roads, Cornwallis reached Salisbury. It was still raining, and the weather was bitterly cold at night. Tories told the British that General Morgan was still crossing the Yadkin seven miles to the north, at Trading Ford, and General O'Hara was hurried off with a special command: the Guards, the Bose Regiment, and the cavalry. His orders were to prevent Morgan's crossing and to destroy captured baggage of the enemy.

The poor roads, rainfall, and darkness kept O'Hara on the march until midnight, when he reached the ford. Rifle fire broke out in the darkness, and the Guards were put into files and sent forward. The enemy disappeared, except for a few who were taken prisoner; these men gave O'Hara bad news: Morgan had already crossed the river, and Greene with him; the Americans had gone across on flatboats which had been gathered from up and down the river and were now on the far side, under a bluff which concealed the retreating army. The few wagons caught by the British belonged to the refugees, and the scattered rifle fire had come from a rear guard left to protect them. The last of the Americans had now gone to the north bank.

# The Rowan Story: 1753-1953, A Narrative History of Rowan County, North Carolina, by James S. Brawley, 1953, Salisbury, North Carolina, Rowan Printing Company, page 80.

The next day, February 3rd, Cornwallis arrived in town and sent General O'Hara ahead to intercept any of Morgan's army that might not have crossed the river. When O'Hara arrived at Trading Ford, it was getting dark. Morgan had passed his regulars and baggage over by that time, but there remained 150 militiamen and some wagons of Davidson's force from Cowan's Ford. Perceiving the approach of the British, the militia formed a half-mile from the ford near a branch, and there awaited O'hara. As the Americans were crouched low along the branch, the silhouettes of the English against the darkening sky offered the militia good targets. The Americans commenced firing when the enemy came within 60 yards and were in turn fired upon by the British who coolly formed their battle positions. The militiamen after giving a good account of themselves easily made good their retreat across the river in the darkness.

# More Sources on the Skirmish on the Yadkin and the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution

Randolph County, 1779-1979, published by the Randolph

County Historical Society, 201 Worth St., Asheboro, NC 27203, 1970.

Hugh F. Rankin, Greene and Cornwallis: The Campaign in the Carolinas. Raleigh: NC Divison of Archives & History, 1976

Phillips Russell, North Carolina in the Revolutionary War, Charlotte, NC: Heritage Printers, Inc. 1965
In addition to information on the Trading Ford and the 1781 skirmish on the Yadkin River, this Web site has links to other American Revolution information: www.tradingford.com

## Letters About the Skirmish to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson

# Major General Nathanael Greene to George Washington

Camp Guilford Court House [N.C.] Feb: 9th 1781.

Sir

Since I wrote your Excellency by Major Giles, Lord Cornwallis has been constantly in pursuit of the Light Infantry and the prisoners, and is now between the Shallow Ford upon the Yadkin and Salem, one of the Moravian towns; and still pushing into the country with great rapidity.

The moment I was informed of the movements of Lord Cornwallis I put the army in motion on Pedee and left it under the command of Brigr Gen/ [Isaac] Huger and set out to join the Light Infantry in order to collect the Militia and embarrass the enemy 'till we could effect a junction of our forces.

General [Daniel] Morgan after the defeat of Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] had very judiciously made forced marches up into the Country and happily crossed the Catawba the evening before a great rain, which prevented the enemy from following him for several days, during which time the prisoners were got over the Yadkin and on their march for Dan River, which I hope they have passed and are in Virg.

On my arrival at the L<sub>t</sub>. Infantry Camp I found them at Sherards [Sherrald's] Ford on the Catawba. The enemy were a little lower down the river at McCowan's [Cowan's] Ford, and the river still so high that they could not cross. We made the best disposition we could to stop them when the river should fall. But the fords were so numerous, and our force so small that we could not effect it. Gen/Davidson who had great influence among the Mecklenberg & Roan [Rowan County] Militia had made use of all the arguments in his power to get the Militia into the field, but without effect. They had been so much in service and their families so distressed that they were loth to leave home even on the most pressing occasion. The enemy crossed at McCowen's Ford where Geni Davidson was posted with the greatest part of the Militia who fell by the first discharge. The enemy made good their landing, and the Militia retreated. A place of rendezvous was appointed for the Militia to collect at, who were posted at the different fords up and down the river above 30 miles. Part of them halted at Mrs Tarrences [Torrence's] about seven miles short of the place of rendezvous, and were over taken by Tarlton & dispersed. I waited that night at the place appointed for the Militia to collect at, untill morning, but not a man appeared. The light Infantry continued their march to Salisbury and

crossed the Yadkin. But before we got over all the baggage and stores the enemy were at our heels. A pretty smart skirmish happened between a party of our riflemen and the advance of the enemy near the ford. We had secured all the boats, and the river was so high that the enemy could not follow us.

Citation: *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, ed. Major General Nathanael Greene to

Dennis Conrad et al. (Columbia, S.C.: Model Editions Partnership, 1999). Full texts of documents calendared in *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1994), Vol. 7, pp. 152-289. http://adh.sc.edu [Accessed May 20, 2006].

# Gen. Edward Stevens provided more details of the crossing and skirmish in a 8 February, 1781, letter to Gov. Thomas Jefferson

The Great Quantity of Rain that fell the night before raised the River in such a manner as made it difficult to Cross even in Boats. General Greene with a small Party of Horse was still at Salisbury, Pushing out the remainder of the Stores from that place to the Tradeing Ford which was effected that night, except some few old musketts which were unfit for service.... On the evening of the 3rd Inst. the enemy appeared at the River tho by this time we had Compleated Crossing all to a Waggon or Two and those they paid Pretty dear for, as there was a Party of Virginia Rifflemen of about a Hundred under the Command of Major [David] Campbell, and a small party of North Carolinia Militia Horse [about 50 men including James, William, Elias and John Allred] was formed in ambush to receive them with Orders to give them a fire or Two and then Disperse down the River and Cross in Canoes which they executed very well and with but a very Triffleing loss on their part. (Boyd, Jefferson Papers, 4: 561-62)

Joseph Graham, who served with the mounted militia that carried out the ambush, wrote in his memoirs that the militia lost two men killed; British losses were unknown, but "from the appearances of blood in different places, [were] believed to be ten or twelve." (Graham, *Graham*, pp. 300-301) According to Graham, the wagons that the British captured had been used by militiamen to haul their baggage from Cowan's Ford. Banastre Tarleton concurred, calling the captured items "waggons and stores belonging to country people." (Ibid., p. 301; Tarleton, *Campaigns*, p. 227)

## **Allred Obituaries**

## Harold Hearthy Allred 1923—2013

Harold Hearthy Allred, Siler City, North Carolina, passed away April 9, 2013, after several years of declining health. Born June 12, 1923, he was the fourth of seven children born to Jesse Booker Allred and wife Eva Hanks Clark of Siler City. Harold was a World War II Navy veteran who served as a PT boat engineer and gunner in the European Theatre. After the D-Day Invasion of France, Harold was assigned to the Pacific where he began training for an invasion of Japan. He was honorably discharged on February 1, 1946. He attended Wilmington College for a year where he took courses in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, then worked on the West Coast for a few years before returning to Siler City to work at Klopman Mills (later became Collins and Aikman). Harold married Rachel Hall on June 28, 1952. He was an active member of the Siler City Masonic Lodge, Shriners and American Legion. Harold was also a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Siler City. He enjoyed gardening, growing a variety of vegetables and fruits until his health began to fail. He especially loved growing gourds and had quite an artistic flare for turning them into animals and objects which delighted everyone. Harold was pre-deceased by his wife, Rachel, brothers Jesse Clark Allred (wife Geraldine Phillips), Robert Hershel "Bobby" Allred (wife Carole Booth), and sister Annie Rue Allred Fox (husband Donald "DG" Fox). He is survived by brothers George Henry Allred (wife Marie Councilman, deceased) of Bonlee, North Carolina, Jack Allred (wife JoAnn Paschal), sister Frances Allred Disharoon and several nieces and nephews. The funeral service was April 12, 2013, at the First Baptist Church of Siler City followed by burial at Oakwood Cemetery. Harold, Jesse Booker, George Scrotton, Emsley, Jesse

## Elwood Malcolm Allred 1926—2013

Elwood Malcom Allred, 86, died at his home April 11, 2013, in Logan, Utah. He was born October 11, 1926, in Provo, Utah, to Elwood Byron and Glendora Malcolm Allred. He grew up in Escalante, Utah; Mesa, Arizona, and Shelley and Burley, Idaho. After high school graduation in Burley, Malcolm joined the Navy and served on the USS Iowa and in occupation forces in Japan during World War II. He began his career as a teacher and principal at Craigmont, Idaho. He married Barbara Hall, daughter of Horace and Leona Hall, August 5, 1954. Their first home was in Cocolalla, Idaho, where son, Bruce, was born. They moved to Boise where sons, Kent and Douglas were born. He worked there as assistant superintendent of curriculum for the state of Idaho. In 1961, he accepted a position at Utah State University in the Department of Elementary Education where he retired as a professor in 1989. The last of their four sons, Gordon, was born in Logan. He served 22 years on the Logan City School and also as president

of the Bridgerland Applied Technology College Board. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was preceded in death by his son, Kent Everett Allred, his sister, Eldene and her husband Steve Stites, and a great-grandchild, Joseph Gordon Allred. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; three sons: Bruce and Marjorie Allred, Fruit Heights; Douglas and Linda Allred, North Logan, and Gordon and Irene Allred, Providence; 12 grandchildren, five great grandchildren, as well as his siblings, Byron and Dolores (deceased) Allred, Preston, Idaho; Richard and Gay Allred, Logan, and Priscilla and Dean Richins, Albion, Idaho. Funeral services were April 17, 2013, at the Hillcrest First Ward, Logan. Burial followed at the Logan City Cemetery with military honors. Elwood Malcolm, Elwood Byron, Byron Harvey Jr., Byron Harvey, William Moore, Isaac, William, Thomas.

## Laurene Allred Sowby 1937—2013

Laurene Allred Sowby died April 30, 2013, at her home due to lingering health conditions. She was born July 20, 1937, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Bryce and Loene Allred. She married Wendell Mark Sowby in 1954. Laurene was a proud South High Cub, where she was high school sweethearts with her eventual husband, and made lifelong friendships with those around her. As a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, she had the opportunity to serve; two favorite callings were as the Ward and Stake Primary President. She began volunteering for the Salt Lake Tribune Sub-for-Santa program, and especially enjoyed delivering treasures every Christmas Eve. After her children were grown, she also worked at the Salt Lake Tribune Information desk as a librarian in the pre-internet information age then later typed birth announcements and obituaries until 1994. Laurene was absolutely dedicated and devoted to her family...an attentive daughter, proud sister, thoughtful wife, enthusiastic mother, adoring grandmother, entertaining friend, and much more. It can truly be said that she loved nothing more than time with her family and close friends; she loved to "visit and catch up" with everyone, and could tell you countless stories or listen compassionately. Her great memory for faces allowed her to renew friendships often while dining or shopping. And she was a regular supporter at ball games, graduations, and piano recitals alike. She is survived by her daughter, Pam (Tyler) Housley; and sons, Ken (Dana) and John Sowby; brother, Bryce Dee (Gaylyn) Allred; sister-in-laws, Janet (Dennis) Vacarro and Charlene (Glenn) Larsen. She had seven grandchildren, two great-granddaughters, four nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, sister, Pamela, and husband. Her funeral service was at Valley View 8th Ward. Interment was at Wasatch Lawn. Laurene, Bryce, LeRoy, Thomas Butler Jr., Thomas Butler, Reuben Warren, James, William, Thomas

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The AFO publishes a quarterly newsletter containing the latest family research news, family stories, photos and reunion information. It is a great way to keep up with your Allred family.

Reston VA 20191

# President's Message

The warmer months June through September give us an opportunity to learn more about our Allred heritage and also meet new cousins. There are two Allred Reunions in various parts of the country to allow us this opportunity.

The first is Saturday, June 29, 2013, in historic Spring City, Utah. This reunion highlights the histories of those Allred families who went to the Rocky Mountain West.

Most Allreds in the United States have ties to Randolph County, North Carolina. The September 14, 2013, reunion is a good time to visit "home" and see the lands where your early ancestors lived. Randolph County is still rural and you can get a real feel for the area--basically as they saw it minus power lines and paved roads.

# **AFO Leadership**

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