

CHASTAIN

CHATTER

Number 059

March 17, 2018

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1. Dear Chastain Cousins

In this issue of ***Chastain Chatter***, I am including a very special letter. The letter is not to or from a Chastain descendant, but it is still a part of my family history in that it was written to my great great uncle (on my grandmother's side) about my third cousin twice removed.

This letter was written by a man who served in the Union during the War Between the States – to the father of a man who served in the Confederate army during the War Between the States.

I'm including the letter to illustrate the value of old family letters, which is the topic of the Genealogy Tip section today. (And the value of such letters goes far beyond family history, as they help bring the human side of facts and statistics we may learn in our history classes.)

The trivia questions in **Section 3** of this issue come from the **Pierre Chastain** website (pierrechastain.com titled Huguenot Timeline.)

Section 5 holds an original poem written by Donna Dee Chastain, thought-provoking words. (I'd love to include more original poems, stories or essays if you've written anything you are willing to share.)

To contact me, send e-mails to karylcb@cs.com and karylcb@gmail.com.

Love and peace,

Karyl

(**Karyl Chastain Beal**, Spring Hill, Tennessee.)

If you want to know about the plans for the 2018 Chastain family reunion, check out **Section 7**. (If you want to download a copy of the reunion registration form, check out **Section 13**, the Appendix.)

In **Section 9**, you will find a letter from **Melissa Armendariz**, Clinical Research Coordinator at Emory University. (Those of you who attended the 2017 reunion in Louisville probably met Melissa since she helped Dr. Levy present the information about Alzheimers and Chastain research they had been doing.)

Melissa and Emory need our help again. She explains how we can help in her letter.

Also, please click the link in **Section 2** that will take you to the PDF version of ***Chastain Chatter***. There are graphics in the enhanced version that are not included in the e-mail newsletter, added by Ron Roberts for your reading pleasure.

I'd love to hear from you; I especially appreciate comments suggestions, questions, stories, information, etc. to include in future issues.

2. Announcements

a) Enhanced version of issue # 000 of the *Chastain Chatter*

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First timers: Congratulations, you did it!
Experienced **Chatterers**: Another boring task by now. :)

Navigation Tips:

Click on any Article Title in the Menu to go directly to that Article.

Links in this color go to **places in this document**.

This color link goes to your **web browser or email program**.

b) Old Family Letters

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You will find a copy of an old family letter in this issue of *Chastain Chatter* in [Section 8](#). If you have old family letters that you would like to share, please e-mail copies of the letters (with information about who they are to and from and an estimated date) to me. It would be an honor to include your old family letters with *Chastain Chatter* readers.

c) The Chestnut Tree, by Phillip L. Sublett

[MENU](#)

If anyone has an essay, article, family update, or family photo they'd like to share with the Chastain family in *The Chestnut Tree*, the PCFA magazine, e-mail it to editor **Phillip L. Sublett** at: Editor@PierreChastain.com.

Or mail to
Phillip L. Sublett,
P.O. Box 3450,
Stateline, NV 89449-3450

Any articles related to Chastain genealogy, Virginia Huguenot immigrants, or other topics of interest to the Chastain family, are welcome.

3. Trivia: Huguenot Timeline

[MENU](#)

1. In what year was the first substantial Huguenot settlement started. (This was the same year that a French trading station was settled at Sheepshead Bay, New York.)
 - a) 1776
 - b) 1700
 - c) 1653
 - d) 1602
 - e) 1540
2. In what year were Protestants massacred in 22 French towns and 14 members of Protestant Church at Meaux were burned at the stake because of their religious views?
 - a) 1825
 - b) 1492
 - c) 1712
 - d) 1545
 - e) 1778
3. What two major events happened in France in the year 1535?
 - a) There was an edict banning all heretics in France.
 - b) King Francis I of France was assassinated.
 - c) The first refugees left France because of religious persecution.
 - d) Pope Clement VII traveled to France to try to persuade everyone to accept the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - e) King Francis I issued a law saying all children were automatically Roman Catholic from birth.
4. What religious group was officially established in England in 1534?
 - a) Roman Catholics
 - b) Protestant
 - c) Jews
 - d) Hindus
 - e) Muslims
5. What was the name of the church given to the French Huguenots in London in 1550?
 - a) Christchurch
 - b) Church of Saint Francis of Assisi
 - c) Church of Saint Anthony's Hospital
 - d) Church of Westminster
 - e) Saint Michael and All Angels Church

4. Genealogy Tip: Old family letters

When I researched our family history, some of the most precious documents I found were old letters written by family members. When the letters are handwritten, they are even more special. They may give information, but they also tell stories, struggles, joys, and even secrets. They describe the family, and they may offer insight into the social history of the community in which the person lived.

In addition to family letters, sometimes letters published in newspapers and manuscript collections can also reveal more information or background of interest.

Suggestion: Make copies of all old family letters, but keep the originals in a place that is fire-proof and water-proof.

5. Humility

Humility

By Donna Dee Chastain

Humility's a subtle beast
He lives just south of Pride
Among the hills of Piety
Where Sensitivity died.

Humility's a subtle beast
You must not recognize
For if you do he disappears
Until you grow more wise.

6. Chastains in the News

MENU

Mother of 6 searches for answers after husband's murder in Hatfield

July 17, 1971 by Dann Cuellar, Channel 6 ABC, Pennsylvania

HATFIELD TWP., Pa. (WPVI) --
The anguished widow of a Montgomery County father of six is searching for answers after he was murdered during a neighborhood gathering at a Hatfield Township home.

"I don't know what's going on, but I need somebody's help, somebody please," said **Felicia Chasteen**.

Surrounded by her six children, Chasteen told Action News Wednesday it has been 5 days since her husband, 31-year-old **Jeremy Chasteen**, was shot to death, and she has no idea who may have killed him or why.

"My family has no husband, no father... and they're living their lives," she said, referring to others at the gathering who she believes may know who fired the fatal shot.

Jeremy Chasteen was shot and killed at a home in the 2400 block of East Orvilla Road Saturday night.

Even though there was a house full of people and his widow was present at the time, this remains a murder mystery.

The Chasteens and their children were at the Hatfield Township home of acquaintances, Whitney and Derrick Cosby, Saturday afternoon for a barbeque.

Later on, Jeremy wanted to leave, but Felicia was concerned because he had been drinking.

"He was going to drive intoxicated, and I told him no," Felicia said.

Felicia says she got out of the car and ended up back in the Cosby house.

"And then he came back in and said, 'Come on!' And they came and surrounded him, and I was facing the wall," Felicia told Action News. "And all I heard was a loud gun pop, and I turn around, and everybody was running."

She says her husband was dead on the floor with a gunshot wound to the head. Who shot him remains a mystery.

"I didn't see who did it," Felicia said. Then she addressed whoever was responsible: "You will pay, because I know, and God knows.... you will pay."

Action News went by the Cosby home, but nobody answered the door. We also called but no answer.

Meanwhile Chasteen's relatives say they will not rest until someone is charged. Jeremy's mother-in-law, Denise Slider said, "Somebody does need to come forward, because somebody out there knows who shot my son-in-law in his head for no reason at all. Somebody at that party knows the killer."

"I promise Jeremy and everything I love, I'm going to find out the truth," Felicia said.

The office of the Montgomery County District Attorney said the case remains an active investigation. The victim was the owner of First Luv Soul Food in the Frankford section of Philadelphia.

NOTE: On August 3, 2017, Derrick Cosby called police and told him that he had just shot a man. The man he had shot was **Jeremy Chasteen**. Cosby was arrested.

Student whose teacher fired weapon speaks out against arming teachers

By Lindsey Ellefson, the Philly Tribune, March 2, 2018 – CNN

A Georgia student whose teacher fired his weapon in class has jumped into the debate about whether educators should be armed, voicing her opposition in a widely shared tweet to the National Rifle Association this week.

Chondi Chastain's "favorite teacher" at Dalton High School, Randal Davidson, was arrested Wednesday after he barricaded himself in a classroom and fired a shot from a handgun out a window, police said. The incident came as President Donald Trump, the NRA and others suggested arming teachers to prevent tragedies such as the Feb. 14 massacre that left 17 dead at a Parkland, Fla., high school.

"I know that Mr. Davidson would never try to hurt anyone," Chastain told CNN. "I just fear if it was a different teacher, if more teachers have guns, this could have been a lot more tragic than it was."

No one was injured in the Dalton school shooting, but one student hurt an ankle as she ran, police said.

Chastain, 16, told Cuomo about the fear she and her classmates felt as they initially assumed their school was under attack. "We

were all just terrified and running for what we thought was our lives," she said.

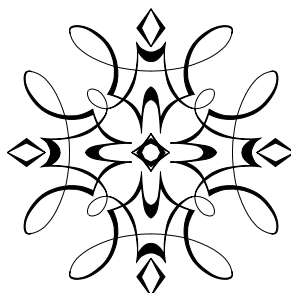
In her tweet, she described students "being trampled and screaming" during Wednesday's evacuation of the school north of Atlanta.

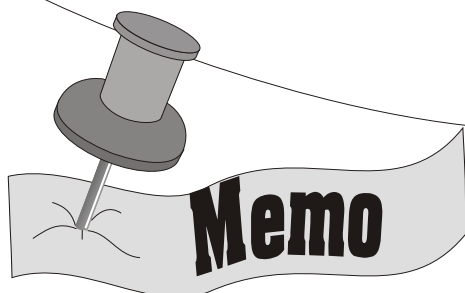
"I dare you to tell me arming teachers will make us safe," she said in the tweet to the NRA, which had more than 27,000 retweets as of Friday morning.

Chastain's Twitter comments come as the NRA finds itself at the forefront of a national debate about school shootings and the availability of semi-automatic weapons. Companies have been publicly distancing themselves from the lobbying organization, and Trump went so far Wednesday as to accuse some senators of being "afraid" of the NRA.

Joining the ranks of other teen activists speaking out about gun safety, Chastain offered a solution for those who want to see teachers armed.

"I think that maybe we should have more officers in the school," she said. — (CNN)





7. PCFA 2018 Reunion Update

Calling all Chastain descendants, family members, and others who are interested in the next **Pierre Chastain Family Association** reunion:

- Would you like to visit the farm where **Pierre Chastain** and his family settled when they came to America in 1700?
- Would you like to visit the church the **Pierre Chastain** family attended in the early 1700s?
- Would you like to “break bread” with others who descended from **Pierre Chastain** and one of his wives, either **Susanne Reynaud Chastain** or **Ann Soblet Chastain**?

Ron and Phyllis Mitchell are trying to work out details for us to do all of the above – and more - at the next PCFA reunion. They, along with **Tracy Langley**, are our “boots on the ground” people since they live near Manakin, Virginia where the 2018 reunion will be held.

The reunion will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, Richmond – Midlothian, Virginia. It is scheduled for the week-end of September 14th and 15th. doubletree3.hilton.com.

We have arranged to get a special discount room rate of \$119.00 per night. This special rate does not include breakfast. **When you call to make reservations, please be sure to indicate you are attending the Annual Pierre Chastain Family Reunion.**

There is a copy of the reunion registration form at the end of this issue of Chastain Chatter in the appendix, [Section 13](#). If you want to print a copy of the reunion registration form to mail in, you can download a printable version at: pierrechastain.com

For more information about the reunion, visit the 2018 Reunion page at: pierrechastain.com.

8. Civil War Letter from LaGrange Severance

The following letter was written to Mr. W. H. Rodgers of Brooks County, Georgia by a former Yankee soldier, and reflects the strong feeling of kindness and sympathy which in so many instances was manifested by soldiers on both sides of the Civil War. The soldier referred to in this letter was Sgt. Mitchell Adams Rodgers, and his older brother, Uriah J. Rodgers.

Augusta, Maine
August 1, 1866

Mr. Wm. H. Rodgers

My Dear Sir:

I will now do a duty which I have been prevented from doing before on account of a want of mail facilities.

I have been a soldier in the Federal Army; was at the battle of Cedar Creek, VA on the 19th of October, 1864, just at night of this day as we were advancing over ground lately gained. I came upon a soldier in gray uniform whose intelligent and expressive countenance so attracted my attention I could not resist the temptation to stop and learn something of him.

He was a sergeant in Co. "G" (I think), 26th Georgia regiment, and his name was Rodgers, but the first name I have forgotten. He was wounded in his left breast, and seemed conscious that he had but a short time to live. He told me he had a brother (older I think) lying dead but a few rods away.

He was calm, quiet, and resigned, and said he would feel no anger for those who had caused his wound, as they, like himself, felt

they were doing their duty. He seemed as quiet as though sleeping, suffering no pain. I gave him a drink of water, placed his blanket comfortably under his head, and pinned his name, regiment, and company upon it.

In answer to my inquiry whether he wished any word sent any friend or relative, if ever opportunity offered, he said, "If ever the war is over, and you can, write my father who lives in Quitman, Georgia and tell him where I died." He then gave me your address.

Reluctantly, I left him, feeling as though leaving a friend so strongly had his quiet demeanor and forgiving spirit impressed me. In those few minutes I had, I did not know whether he died or lived for I could never find the time to return to the spot, although wishing to do so, but often has my mind returned to that spot, surrounded by those scenes of duty which everywhere wet the eye in Shenandoah Valley, with the autumn sun sinking behind the mountains, and have felt at times when weary with the perplexities of life, almost envious of the quiet repose of the soldier.

It would gratify me to know if you receive this. Anything directed to Augusta, ME, care "Maine Farmer" will reach me.

I am, dear sir, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,
LaGrange Severance

NOTE: Research on LaGrange Severance of Maine indicate that after the war was over, he became a physician.

9. Emory Health Aging Study

MENU

Hello Chastain Family!

I have met / spoken to some of you, but for those who I have not had the pleasure of speaking to, let me introduce myself. My name is **Melissa Armendariz** and I am the research coordinator assisting **Drs. Levy and Wingo** with prospective research participants, specifically the one pertaining to your family. As always, we appreciate your continued help and participation with our research here at Emory!

The Emory Healthy Aging Study is the largest clinical research study targeting Atlanta ever conducted at Emory University. In an effort to further our scientific understanding of how we age as well as learn more about age-related diseases, the Emory Healthy Aging Study hopes to create a large database from info provided by participants over a long period of time.

Participating in the study is easy and only takes a few minutes. Anyone over the age of 18 is eligible to join and can do so by

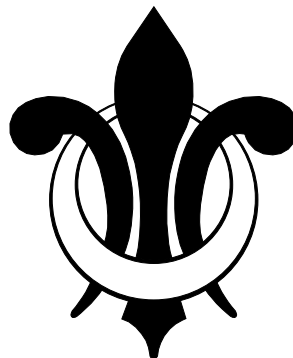
completing an online health history questionnaire. We ask participants to update their questionnaires once a year which serves as the building blocks for our database.

This ever-growing database not only provides insight into how our health changes as we age, but also serves to help identify candidates for our other age-related sub-studies.

For those who want to become more involved in the fight against Alzheimer's disease, we encourage joining the Emory Healthy Brain Study, a sub-study of the Emory Healthy Aging Study. In this study, eligible participants visit the Emory Brain Health Center once every two years for a series of tests and collection of biological samples.

The analysis of the data collected from these visits aims to identify biomarkers that will help us predict and ultimately treat Alzheimer's disease.

To learn more about our efforts and join the study, visit agingonthebrain.com.



10. Obituaries

[MENU](#)

Kyler Wade Schasteen-Boswell

From gardneredge.com – Kansas

Kyler Wade Schasteen-Boswell, infant son of Travis Wade Boswell and **Bridget Lee Schasteen** of Olathe, KS passed away on February 10, 2018. Kyler was born on February 8, 2018 at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri.

Kyler is survived by his Parents; Paternal Grandparents: Barry Brook and Rebecca Jane Boswell of Ft. Gibson, OK, Maternal Grandparents: **Rob and Brenda Sue Schasteen** of Overland Park, KS and Aunt and Uncle: Brooke Kelsey and **Kyle Alexander Schasteen-Smith**.

To honor Kyler, the light of our life, we ask anyone attending to wear bright colors to his Celebration of Life service.

Visitation will be held at 9:30 am, Saturday, February 17, 2018 at Bruce Funeral Home, Gardner, KS. A Celebration of Life will begin at 10:30 am, following the Visitation. Burial will take place at 2:30 pm at Evergreen Cemetery, Ft. Scott, KS.

11. Trivia Answer Key – Huguenot Timeline

[MENU](#)

1. In what year was the first substantial Huguenot settlement started. (This was the same year that a French trading station was settled at Sheepshead Bay, New York. It was called Angouleme at the time.)

e) 1540

2. In what year were Protestants massacred in 22 French towns and 14 members of the Protestant Church at Meaux were burned at the stake by Roman Catholics because of their religious views?

d) 1545

3. What two major events happened in France in the year 1535?

a) There was an edict banning all heretics in France.

c) The first refugees left France because of religious persecution.

4. What religious group was officially established in England in 1547?

b) Protestant

5. What was the name of the church given to the French Huguenots in London in 1550?

c) Church of Saint Anthony's Hospital

12. *Chastain Chatter* Publishing Information

The ***Chastain Chatter*** anchor site is www.chastain-chatter.com.

To submit articles, reports, stories, questions, announcements, etc., to the ***Chastain Chatter***, send a note to **Karyl Chastain Beal** at: karylcb@cs.com and karylcb@gmail.com.

Questions or comments about the ***Chastain Chatter*** .PDF file formatting, problems with links, or eye aches, please contact **Ron Roberts** at: strebor1995@gmail.com.

To submit articles, reports, research stories, questions, comments, etc., to the **PCFA Web Site**, send a note to **Ron Roberts** at Webmaster@PierreChastain.com.

