

## JOHN PARKER

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John Parker was born in Maryland in 1780. He married Rachel (last name unknown), born in Penn. in 1784. About 1822 they moved to what is now eastern Alabama where they were allowed to live and farm in Indian territory, for reasons unknown. In 1832, the Indians were driven out and the territory was divided into five counties with John and family living in Chambers County, Ala. John and family of five boys and three girls were still living there in 1840.

<sup>1842</sup>  
Sometime between ~~1841~~ and 1844, John chose to move his family west, stopping in Pope County, Arkansas. It is believed that some of his older boys and neighbors proceeded on to settle in Texas. However, John, with his wife Rachel, sons Joshua M. and Meredith W. and daughters, Louisa E. Jemima and Mary A. (born in Arkansas) remained in Pope County. *> wife & daughter*

In 1850, we find Joshua M., age 27, married to Nancy J. Vincent, age 23, (b. in Tenn.). This marriage took place Jan. 5, 1845. To this union several children were born and by 1860, Joshua's family included John Calvin, Meredith W., William Harrison, Thomas, Louis (Lewis) N., and George R.,

*of Meredith W. Parker - seven children*

and by 1862, Mary and 1864, Katy.

Since I am primarily concerned with my family history I will confine myself to my great-grandfather, John Calvin, born April 8, 1846. He worked on the farm until age 17, At this time the Civil War was in its last years and the Union Army occupied most of Arkansas. Being a young and adventurous boy, and I suppose hoping to see our nation become one nation undivided, John joined the Union Cavalry. He enrolled as a private in Co. C, 4th Regt. Ark. Cavalry, on Dec. 20, 1863 at Dardanelle, Ark., remaining on active duty until Jan. 30, 1865. Apparently he was considered very knowledgable of horses as he was used to assist in the purchasing of horses for the cavalry and he was allowed to furnish his own horse and equipment. John Calvin was very much like some of the Parkers of today in that he was often misplacing or losing things. His war record shows that he was charged with loss of haversack, canteen and other equipment.

John C. was discharged on June 30, 1865, and returned to Pope County to farm. On Feb. 22, 1871, he married Georgia Ann Ashmore and to this union 17 children were born. Several of these children died at an early age. The remaining children as of April 1, 1915, were: John A.L., Stephen J., Charles F., who was born Dec. 26, 1881, Mary L., George G., Cora A., Oda H., and Floyd F.

My grandfather, Charles F., was a farmer and salesman, later taking the Lord's way and becoming a minister. He married Pearl Othello Marshall of Prairie Grove, Ark. Of this union, three children remain alive today. They are Paul C., of San Jose, Calif., Jean Dunnington of Zuni, New Mexico, and my father, Robert Allen of New Mexico.

I have two brothers, Robert D., deceased, and Charles Thomas of Pocahontas, Ark. Charles T. has a large family of six and I have two daughters, Ramona Melissa and Jacqueline Ann.

In writing this, I know many errors probably exist and important facts have been omitted as I have never lived in Pope County and I have taken all my information from books, papers and records. By writing this it is hoped that any reader who has additional information will share it with me.

by Emery J. Parker

## JOSHUA M. PARKER

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Joshua M. Parker was a brother of our ancestor Meredith W. Parker

Joshua M. Parker, was born in Alabama in 1823. He and his wife, Nancy, moved to Pope County, Arkansas by 1845. In 1860, they had the following children: John C., age 14; Meredith W., age 12; Wm. H. Harrison, age 11; Thomas, age 5; Louis N., age 3; George R., age 2; and in 1870, there were two more: Mary, age 9; and Katy, age 7.

John C. Parker, was born in Arkansas in 1846, fought in the Civil War on the Union side, in Co. C, 4 Ark. Cav., from Pope County. He and his company had to swim the Arkansas river at Dardanelle to get away from the Confederate army. However, they later occupied Dardanelle. On the 22 of Feb.

1871, he married Georgia Ann Ashmore, who was born in Arkansas in 1855. She first appears in the home of Stephen Matthews, along with a brother and two sisters, in 1860. To this union was born 17 children, several of them dying young. Eleven of the children were: James J., John A. Logan; William R., Stephen S.; Jessie L.; Gilbert; Leocia; Cora, Odie; Ford and Floyd. John C. Parker, died Jan. 15, 1926.

On the 26th of Oct., 1893, John A. Logan Parker, called "Loge" married Lillie Bell Humphrey. He was a farmer and cattle dealer and died in 1945. He and Lillie had ten children: Homer, Lester, Schyley, Wayne, Pebble, Fern, Clayton; Woodrow; J.L., Jr.; and William.

Woodrow Parker, born in 1912, attended school at Crawford, in Russellville. He married in 1934, to Bonnie Henderson Jackson of Newton County, Arkansas and moved west to California with the Pope County migration during the great depression of the 1930's. He followed the plumbers trade. He and Bonnie were the parents of four children: Charles, Kathleen; Lucreta and Barbara. He married the second time to Marie McCormick in California and they had one son: Finous Wayne. In 1957, he came back to Pope County and married his childhood sweetheart Juanita Turnbow Cole, who was a descendent of an early Pope County family. After a few years in California, they moved back to Russellville, where he continued to follow the plumbers trade until his retirement in 1974.

Woodrow and Juanita are both members of the First Assembly of God Church in Russellville. He is a gifted fisherman and hunter having recently killed a 500 lb elk in Colorado. He has no children by his last marriage.

by Woodrow Parker

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## BILLY DON PARKER

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Billy Don Parker was the great-great-grandson of John Parker, who was born in Maryland in 1780. John married Rachel (last name unknown) who was born in 1784 in Pennsylvania. *✓ Rachel Shipley*

About 1822, they moved to what is now Eastern Alabama where for reasons unknown they were allowed to live and farm on Indian territory. In 1832, the Indians were driven from this area and the territory was divided into five counties with John and family of five sons and three daughters residing in Chambers County, Alabama in 1840. *1842*

About ~~1844~~ John and family migrated west and settled in Pope County, Arkansas. It is believed that three of his sons and one daughter and some neighbors that had migrated by wagon train from Alabama proceeded on to settle in Texas.

John and wife, Rachel and two sons Joshua and Meredith W. and daughters Louisa E., ~~Jemima and Mary A.~~, remained in Pope County. *✓ wife & daughters of Meredith W.*

Joshua M. Parker, born in Chambers County, Ala. in 1823, married Nancy J. Vincent who was born in Tennessee, Jan. 5, 1845. To this union was born John Calvin, Meredith W., William Harrison, Thomas, Lewis, George R., Mary and Katy.

John Calvin was born April 8, 1846 and grew up on the family farm in Center Valley Community. On Dec. 20, 1863, at the age of 17, he enlisted as a Pvt., assigned to Company C., 4th Regt. Arkansas Cavalry, of the Union Army at Dardanelle, Ark. He was knowledgeable of horses and assisted in the purchasing of horses for the Cavalry. He was allowed to furnish his own horse and equipment. He had to swim the Arkansas river and hid in the river, overnight, to escape the Confederate Army. He was discharged June 30, 1865 and returned to the family farm.

On February 22, 1871, John C., married Georgia Ann Ashmore. They were the parents of 17 children, several dying at an early age but those living to be grown were: James J., John A. Logan, William R., Stephen S., Jessie L., Gilbert, Leocia, Cora A., Oda H., Charles Ford, and Floyd F.

Leocia married Steve Braselton and is the only remaining child left at this time. She resides in Corpus Christi, Texas.

John Calvin Parker died January 15, 1926 and Georgia Ann Ashmore Parker died in 1941.

Floyd F. Parker, youngest son of John and Georgia Ann Ashmore Parker, was born Nov. 10, 1895. On Dec. 24, 1920, he married Bessie May Rogers, daughter of Lon and Mary Elizabeth Rowland Rogers, both descendents of pioneer families of Pope County. They were the parents of five children: Helen L., Boyce E., Mary Sue, Anna Dean and Billy Don.

Floyd F. Parker died Feb. 12, 1976 and Bessie May Rogers Parker, died Feb. 19, 1974.

Billy Don Parker was born Feb. 22, 1933 in Center Valley Community. He moved with his parents to San Jose, Calif., in 1941. They later returned to Russellville, Ark. where he finished Jr. High School before returning to San Jose. He is an avid sports fan and excellent in all sports in high school. In 1950, he played pro baseball for the Washington Senators farm system. He left pro ball to enlist in the U.S. Marines on July 16, 1951, in San Francisco, Calif. and served as Sgt. in the Korean War. He was discharged July 17, 1953. On Nov. 26, 1953, he married Ann Nappi and they moved to New York where he resided for thirteen years. A daughter, Donna Jean and a son, La Grande was born to this union. La Grande died at four months.

On Jan. 21, 1967, in Little Rock, Ark., he married Helen Masoner Burgess, descender of a pioneer Hot Springs County family. They have two sons, Billy Don Parker II, born Oct. 13, 1973 and John Christopher, born Aug. 21, 1977. He retired due to ill health and in March 1978, returned to Russellville, to make their home.

Billy Don has owned and operated upholstery and Interior Decorating stores in several states.

John Christopher, who was born in 1977 is the fourth generation, including John Calvin who was born in 1846 and served in the Civil War, from the pioneer of Pope County Joshua M. Parker. Floyd F., was the seventeenth child of John Calvin, and born in 1895. Billy Don was the last child of Floyd, born 1933. The four generations expand over period of 131 years.

by Mrs. Billy Don Parker