

# SNIDOW FAMILY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2010

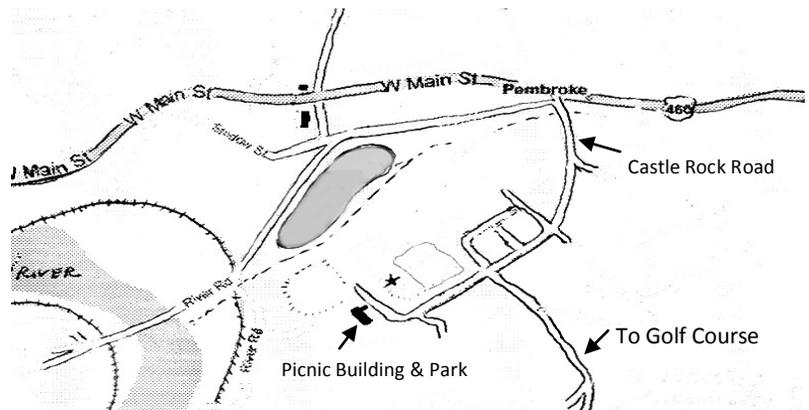
## SNIDOW REUNION PLANS FOR 2010

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, **August 7th**, to attend the 34th annual Snidow Family Reunion and Business meeting in Pembroke, Virginia. It was the decision of the Association members at the 2009 reunion to have a one day, picnic-style meeting this year.

The American Legion Building beside the Pembroke town park has been reserved for our use. There will be air-conditioned comfort or the open shade of the picnic shelter for eating and visiting with family as well as plenty of play area and playground facilities to attract and entertain the children. The map below will show directions to the building. The park and the building are open to the Association all day.

Lunch begins at **noon**. The meal will be pot-luck so each family is asked to bring a dish to share. The planning committee will provide the other essentials. Any family memorabilia you wish to bring for display is always appreciated and enjoyed by the group.

Directions: From Rt. 460, turn onto Castle Rock Road. At approximately .5 miles the road makes a sharp bend to the left. At this point the park fields and building can be seen straight ahead.



## NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ELECTED

New officers will be in place to conduct the business of the Association this year. Those elected last August are:

- President: **William E. Snidow**
- Vice-President: **Nathan Snidow**
- Secretary: **Barbara Clark**
- Treasurer: **Patricia Duncan**

**Jim Yarbrough** and **Jane Snidow** continue as Directors of the Association.



William E. Snidow

## AUGUST 2009–IN MEMORIAM -JUNE 2010



**Richard Edward Williams**

**Nov. 8, 1943-Aug16, 2009**

Son of Margaret Gertrude Snidow Williams

**Lawrence Wallace Adams**

**Nov. 9, 1921-Dec 17, 2009**

Husband of Faye Snidow Adams

**Edith O'Neal Snidow**

**March 27, 2010**

Wife of Albert Homer Snidow, Jr.

**James N. Peck**

**-Apr 1, 2010**

Husband of Betty Collins Adams,

Son-in-Law of Lucille Snidow Collins

**William Carroll Phlegar**

**Jul 15, 1946-Apr 27, 2010**

Son of Joe Snidow and Gertrude Collins Phlegar

Memorial Donations  
may be sent to:

**Patricia Duncan**

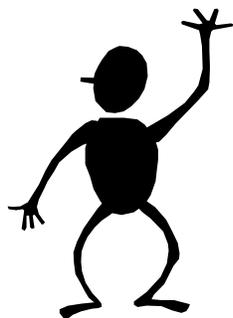
**3305 West 1st Ave**

**Belle, WV 25015**

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS AND HONORARIUMS

Thank you to **Nancy Pebley** for her donation to the Snidow Family Association general fund.

## Thanks



### Thank you

To **Sallie Lucas** for the many pictures taken at the 2009 Snidow Association meeting.

To **Rebecca Dyer** for her research on court records of Col. Christian Snidow as overseer of roads.

To **Don and Nancy Johnston** for countless journeys they made to Giles County to repair and restore Snidow cemeteries.

To **Vincent and Nancy Snidow** for their donation of the book, *Conrad Lewis Peters and Wife Clara Bow Snidow, Their Descendants and Their Ancestry*, compiled by O.E. Pesters

To **Betty Strauss** for serving as a director of the association for the past six years.

To **William E. Snidow** for heading the Snidow Association for the next two years.

To **Wanda Hypes** for being the Association Vice-President for the past three Years.

**SILVER DOLLAR AWARDS**



Elijah Jackson and Father, Scooter



Jane Snidow

The 2009 Silver Dollar Awards were given to Elijah Jackson, for youngest present, to Jane Snidow for traveling the farthest, and to William Snidow for being the oldest present.

**TRUSTEES ARE ELECTED**

Patricia Duncan, the remaining trustee of the Horseshoe Cemetery, presented a slate of additional names for election when the Snidow Association met in August, 2009. The following were elected and confirmed by the court on April 13, 2010,; **William E. Snidow, Donald B. Johnston, Douglas M. Collins, Steve Atkins, and Mabel C. Peters.**

This is the second set of trustees named by the Association since the it became the "society" responsible for the maintenance and preservation of the cemetery in 1985. In the original deed of 1923, the jobs of the trustees was specified as keeping the cemetery properly fenced and enclosed to stock and trespass by animals, free from growth of weeds or noxious shrubs and to clean the cemetery at least twice a year.

**Don and Nancy Johnston Honored**

The Snidow Association presented Don and Nancy Johnston with a plaque in recognition for the extreme contributions they have made in stabilizing and repairing the headstones in several of the Snidow cemeteries in Giles County. Don and Nancy have made, and continue to make, numerous trips from Maryland bringing with them equipment and supplies for their work. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and have given a well-kept look to our family cemeteries.



Pictured at right: Don and Nancy Johnston, Suzanne Ruark

**2009 REUNION EVENTS**



April Lucas places a rose in memory of Mary Morrison



Above, Bill Green, Betty Ogdon and Roma Collins tell the group something unique about themselves during a get acquainted session. Dale Collins listens.



Nancy Moore( left) examines a door prize she received. Patricia Duncan (right) Association Treasurer gave a report on the Association finances.

## NOTES ABOUT COL. CHRISTIAN SNIDOW

*Contributed by Mabel Peters*



Original Tombstone of Col. Christian Snidow  
Horseshoe Cemetery, Pembroke, Va.

Tidbits about the life of Col. Christian Snidow appear in numerous places and when put together make a story of his life exceptionally interesting. We can gather a good bit about his character from the history gathered from court and war records. But.. What did he look like? One granddaughter wrote that “he weighted over 300 pounds – drank grog- always put brandy into water he drank to kill the bad effects of the limestone water.”<sup>1</sup> A grandson noted that he was tall and had light colored hair and eyes.

There is no doubt that he was admired and respected not only by his children but also by those with whom he worked. This is reflected in his obituary as well as the epitaph on his original tombstone.<sup>2</sup> In his memory, members of the court in Giles County, Virginia, were required to wear a black arm band for thirty days following his death.

He was a trusted public servant as seen from his service record. He was commissioned to be one of the first justices of peace for Giles County upon its formation in 1806. He served as a sheriff, held several positions in the Montgomery County Militia during and following the Revolutionary War, and was a representative to General Assembly as well as being an overseer of roads.

**Rebecca Dyer**, a Snidow cousin, compiled four pages of his road assignments for our archives.<sup>3</sup> He was appointed to inspect, upkeep, and collect fees for their maintenance. We count thirteen different roads in his charge from 1790-96. When put together, they stretch from the Botetourt County line across Giles to the top of Peters Mountain in West Virginia. In 1792, an act was passed to establish the original town of Christiansburg, Virginia. In the same act, he was named a trustee of the town.

He had some enemies. One time, while doing guard duty in Captain Lucas’s company, he was assaulted by Hezekiah Philips and Henry Lybrook. They were arrested and taken to court.

We even find notes about him in the records of historians who visited Giles County. In 1836, He informed Samuel Kercheval, noted historian from the Valley of Virginia, that he remembered Mountain Lake from 1776 and it had not increased in length but had risen. And, when the lake “was first known to the white people, vast numbers of buffaloes, elks, and deer resorted to it, and drank freely of its waters; from which circumstances it acquired the name “Salt Pond.”<sup>4</sup>

In 1776, all males over age 16 were required to sign an oath of allegiance to the state. Col. Christian did not or would not do this. In fact, none of Capt. Thomas Burk’s company would sign. Apparently there were conditions in the oath to which they did not agree. Tensions became greater and conflicts arose between neighbors over the issue. Those who didn’t sign were considered Tories and were prosecuted. As a result of these trials, a group of men from the New River Valley, including Col. Christian and Philip Snidow, posted a £1000 bond that stated their intention to be peaceful, law abiding citizens.<sup>5</sup> Perhaps one day someone with a gift for writing will accumulate these tidbits and put them in a book about his life.

1. O. E. Peters, *Conrad Peters and Wife Clara Snidow, Their Descendants and Their Ancestry*. P. 201

2. Snidow Newsletters: Vol. 27. P. 3 Vol. 28, p.3

3. Montgomery County Order Books # 4-15

4. Patricia Givens Johnson, *Mountain Lake Resort, 1751-1900*

5. Mary Kegley, *Early Adventures on Western Waters, Vol. 1, Page 151; Snidow Newsletter Vol.*

## ON THE WEB

At a recent workshop, Mary Kegley, a noted genealogist from southwest Virginia, mentioned that ancestor research now ranks with coin and stamp collecting as a hobby. It is addictive! However, she cautioned about accepting without question information gathered from family trees on the internet because mistakes are made and are often perpetuated through copying.

We are fortunate to have **Jane Snidow**, who maintains the Snidow website at [www.snidow.net](http://www.snidow.net). We know of two other internet sites that feature the Snidow Family and recommend viewing. *The Snidow and Phlegar Families of the New River Valley* is hosted by **Stephen Kaufman**. The easiest way to connect to his site is through the link at the bottom of the Snidow home page. **Twyla Edwards** is webmaster for the Prillaman family and, of course, includes the Snidows. This may be seen at [www.prillamanfamily.org](http://www.prillamanfamily.org).

Jane's Snidow web page produces some interesting questions concerning the family. To share with you, here are some examples of e-mail that was received.

### From Florida:

*"Hello! I have a table that someone put out on the curb for the trash. I saw and fell in love with it! It was exactly what I need for my entryway. All that aside I was wondering if maybe you could help me; under the table is a old looking sticker that says SNI-MAC No. 320 SNIDOW-McWANE FURNITURE CO. INC. Lynchburg, Virginia. What I'm trying to find out info about the table and the info on the sticker. ..."*

### From Texas:

*"hello,,  
i just acquired a antique tobacco humidor that had a note saying it had belonged to a judge snidow from pearisburg and was hoping to get some info on the person. it is a beautiful piece and i am surprised that the family let it go.  
thanks "*

### From Chesapeake area Virginia:

*"...Long story.... There is a headstone in horseshoe cemetery that has "wife of Pearl Mattox". I mentioned to her (Mother) that I would try to get a picture for her and send it via email. The problem is, I can't find a location of the cemetery on the internet. Many cemeteries that are not currently used are hard to find. Many people didn't know where Lybrook was. I have found two cemeteries named Snidow but not a Horseshoe.*

*Could you give me directions to the cemetery? I live in Chesapeake but am fairly familiar with the area. We usually visit at least once a year."*

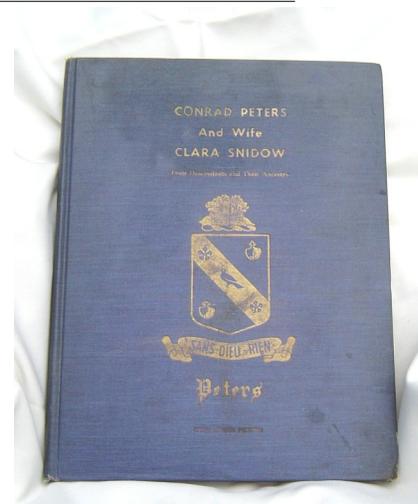
**Compilers note:** *We think the furniture from Lynchburg is related to the Clifton L Snidow family. The humidor may have belonged to William Bane Snidow. The picture of the tombstone and directions to the Horseshoe Cemetery we were able to supply.*

### Book Donation:

Vince and Nancy Snidow donated a copy of the book, *Conrad Peters and Wife Clara Bow Snidow* compiled by O. E. Peters, to the Snidow Association for the family archives collection. A publishing date was not found in the book but we think it is no longer available. Ruth Blevins is keeping this book for the Association files.

Clara Bow Snidow was the daughter of Col. Christian Snidow so a section of the book is about the Snidow's and Clara's descendents. What makes the book especially noteworthy is the fact that Brackett H. Snidow has made handwritten comments and corrections throughout the book.

Brackett, the son of William Luther and Sue Abingdon Snidow, was born, raised and built his home on the ancestral property. *Continued on p. 6*



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SNIDOW FAMILY  
ASSOCIATION

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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

WWW.SNIDOW.NET

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Continued from P. 5

His grandmother, Martha Walker Snidow, was Col. Snidow's Granddaughter.

In this book ( and other sources) the building shown below is said to be the home of Col. Christian Snidow. Brackett writes with personal knowledge that this is not the home but a cellar which stood in the yard



**Reunion Aug. 7, 2010**

Each year, a number of the newsletters are returned due to an undeliverable mailing address. We know it is hard to remember to make changes for mail that arrives just once a year. We have saved most of those returned so if anyone is missing a copy from the past five years or knows of someone to be added or re-added to the list, please let us know.