



# Pearl Webb Cemetery Newsletter

Designed by Paul Sullivan

Volume V

## History & Facts

By: June Burks

### Dr. Powhaten Carrington Sutphin

Dr. Sutphin, along with his family, came to this area shortly after the Civil War, 1868. The family consisted of Dr. Sutphin, his wife, Martha Jane Lee Sutphin, and three of his children: James Lee Sutphin, Mary Branch Sutphin, and Robert Camm Sutphin. Two sons, who were born in Virginia, died at early ages and were buried there. These sons were Homer Sutphin and William Tell Sutphin. The family brought along with them two of their freed slaves, who loved the family and chose to make the trip to Kentucky with the Sutphins. Dr. Sutphin was of German ancestry and Martha Jane was of Dutch ancestry.

I first learned of Dr. Sutphin many years ago while having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Melloan of Hardyville. He was very knowledgeable about the early history of Hardyville and the surrounding areas. He enjoyed sharing this history and discussing it with anyone who shared his interest. I enjoyed listening and learning as much as he enjoyed talking about it.

Mr. Melloan believed that possibly one reason that Dr. Sutphin chose the small village of Hardyville was the fact that several of the early pioneers from Virginia had already settled here, purchased land, and started businesses. The Jackson Highway was a major

North-South highway. Highway 88, then known as the Munfordville-Greensburg Road intersected the Jackson Highway in Hardyville. Many new businesses were being established here. They also had the services of a stagecoach line coming through Hardyville. Mr. Frank Renfro and his wife Elizabeth (Betty) Burks Renfro operated the stagecoach stop and inn. Also, at the time of Dr. Sutphin's arrival, Dr. Thomas Wilson had already moved here. There were general stores, a blacksmith shop, churches, and schools already located here. This small village seemed to be a very progressive place to come to.

So the doctor soon bought a piece of ground and built a new home. His house still stands today. It is now rental property. It is adjacent to the Log Cabin Market in Hardyville.

For a little early background history on the doctor - He was born into a prominent, Virginia family, September 25, 1825 in Culpeper Co., VA. He was the son of James H. Sutphin and his wife, Katherine Thrailkill. Dr. Sutphin graduated from dental school in Philadelphia, PA shortly before his marriage to Martha Jane Lee in February 1849. Records show that the doctor was soon living in Bedford Co., VA, where he owned and was editor of the Bedford Democrat Newspaper, but later he sold this business, as well as, other properties in preparation for his moves. These were tumultuous times with the Civil War beginning to escalate.

Dr. Sutphin, after getting settled in Hardyville, soon got his dental practice started. This dental practice had begun in VA. His son James Lee was now growing up and taught school for a few years in Hart Co, but soon decided to follow his father in the dental work. After graduating, from dental school in Nashville, he came back to Hardyville and did his internship with his father. The two of them also traveled to the small village of Monroe and had a practice there.

Dr. P.C. Sutphin, soon after his arrival here, became very involved in the civic and religious life of the community. He was an "old school" Virginian of considerable literary taste and became a regular contributor to columns in the *Hart County Democrat*. He was first vice-president of the Hart County Medical Society from 1872-1873. The doctor, his wife, and two of their children were members of the Methodist Church. In politics, he was a Democrat with Prohibition tendencies. He was a candidate for the legislature in 1885. His talents and interests seemed endless. Hardyville was fortunate to have a man of his stature as one of their own.

His wife, Martha, preceded him in death. Martha was born in Amherst Co., VA and passed away July 19, 1911. The doctor died in Barren Co. three years later at the age of 89, on July 19, 1914, after having a long and full life.

Both are buried in Pearl Webb Cemetery, beside other members of their family.



## Pearl Webb Cemetery Newsletter – Page 2

The doctor's epitaph reads:

**"A man of great kindness & sympathy. A fine scholar and writer of splendid judgement and taste."**



Photo by: Jean Hedgepeth

**Note:** Information for this article was found in the files of the Hart County Historical Society Museum and from the book Hardyville: A Big Little Town, by Frances Moss.

**Request:** The Hart County Historical Society has been informed of some discrepancies found on some of the Sutphin stones in Pearl Webb Cemetery. We were informed by Mr. Robert Edison Sutphin, who was doing research, that there are some incorrect spelling and dates. The stones of two of the doctor's sons read: Robert Camm Sutphin 1859-1944 and Lee Sutphin 1853-1941. Mr. Sutphin states that the names should be spelled Sutphin and the dates should read: James Lee Sutphin Feb. 10, 1852 - July 16, 1936 and Robert Camm Sutphin's correct dates should be Feb. 12, 1866 - June 6, 1942. Camm died in Shively, KY.

The mystery is: Who purchased their stones, had them engraved, and placed them there, and when? Can anyone help? If so, please contact the museum 270-524-0101.

### Dr. James Lee Sutphin

Dr. James Lee Sutphin was the eldest son of Dr. P.C. Sutphin and his wife Martha Jane Lee Sutphin. He was born in Bedford Co., VA, Feb. 1852 and as a young man moved with his parents to Hardyville. After he finished his early education, he received a teaching certificate and taught in Hart County Schools for several years. He soon made a decision to follow his father in the dental profession. At the age of 24, he started dental school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. He graduated from the dental department in the class of 1882-1883.

After practicing with his father for a while, he went to Horse Cave and had a practice there. He later moved to Elizabethtown and enjoyed a good practice there for many years. He soon wanted to advance his education, so he went back to dental school and became qualified to be a dental surgeon.

Also, sometime before he moved from the area to Shelby Co., he lived in Canmer for a while. Mr. W.O. Buckner, 95, tells of his memory of his father taking him while a young man to Dr. Lee Sutphin's home on Gossip Hill in Canmer to have a bad tooth pulled. After his advanced study in dentistry, he moved to Shelby Co., KY and had a successful practice there. He died on July 16, 1936, but was brought home to Canmer

to be buried beside his parents in Pearl Webb Cemetery. He never married. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity. In politics, he was a Democrat.

### A Nice Piece of Canmer History by: Paul Sullivan

My mind is filled with very fond memories of my father, Eursie Lee Sullivan. For those of you who remember my dad, you probably remember him being a very talented public speaker who loved to share his memories & experiences from growing up in Canmer, Kentucky with anyone who would listen. I remember him reciting the following poem numerous times. However, I can't remember who he said the author of the poem was, but it was somebody he remembered from his early days of growing up in Canmer:

#### THE CANMER POEM

*Canmer is a beautiful little inland town. Not far from where John Morgan burned the bridge.*

*We've got good folk, plum on out to the Dividing Ridge. We let our neighbors lie down and take their nap, but when they awake they are sure to find, that CANMER is on the map.*

*- author unknown,  
As remembered being  
recited by Eursie Lee Sullivan.*



## More History & Facts

**Sarah Ann Elizabeth Weller  
My Gr-Gr-Gr-Grandmother  
By: Judy Lawler**

A beautiful old obelisk tombstone stands on the shaded hilltop of Pearl Webb Cemetery. This stone is that of my 3GGrandmother, Sarah Ann Elizabeth Weller. She was born in Nelson Co., Kentucky on 24 April 1820, the firstborn child of George D. Weller and Judith S. Hubbard.

Sarah's great-grandfather, Johannes Weller (172-1807), arrived in Philadelphia in 1743 from Westphalia, Germany. He later settled in Frederick Co., Maryland and was the founder of the town of Thurmont. Johannes was a Revolutionary War veteran who died before he could claim the land grant in Kentucky that he received for his military service. His wife, Catherine Ambrose Weller (1725-1804), moved to Kentucky in 1796 with some of her adult children to claim the land in Nelson Co.

Sarah's grandfather, Daniel P. Weller (1762-1807), was one of the twelve children to come to Kentucky with his mother. Daniel and his wife, Anna Margaret Firor (1766-1844), were the parents of nine children. Their sixth child, George D. Weller (1795-1862), was born in 1795 just before they left Frederick County,

Maryland. In 1818, George married Judith S. Hubbard (1800-1886) of Bardstown in Nelson County. Both George and Judith are buried in Bardstown. They were the parents of five children: Sarah Ann Elizabeth, Polly Ann, George David (married Mary Catherine Davis), Harvey Samuel and Burr H. Only Sarah Ann Elizabeth and George David later came to Hart County.

On 19 June 1838 in Nelson Co., Sarah married Rufus K. Lane (1815-1854), a native of East Tennessee. Sarah and Rufus were the parents of six children: Laura Ann Elizabeth, Harvey Bowling (married Mary Jane Weldon), Sidney B., Susan Elvira (married Daniel White Moss), Marion Wallace (Dollie) (1<sup>st</sup> married John H. Biggs, 2<sup>nd</sup> married Daniel Richardson, my gr-gr-grandparents), and David W. Lane. Rufus died of consumption when David was only two years old. On 7 October 1856, Sarah married Little Berry (L.B.) Carter (1797-1871). They had only one child, William M., who died when he was 13 months old.

Both of Sarah's husbands and her youngest child are buried in the Old Wood Farm Cemetery near Glen Lily on the old Buckner Farm. Although she is not buried with either of husbands, her beautiful tombstone has their names and

marriage dates engraved on it.

## From the Treasurer's Book

**By: Brenda Dudderar**

Well, congratulations to you for another generous year at Pearl Webb Cemetery. Contributions this year covered our expenses. If there is anything good about a draught, it is not having to mow so often. We only had to pay for 14 mowings in 2007. This is way down from a normal year.

We had two people to leave us money from their estates and we would encourage others to consider this practice.

Due to the work of several volunteers, we had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend for collecting donations. Believe it or not, this is an interesting job. If you would like to volunteer for 2008, please contact us. One couple gave a donation that weekend and stated they knew no one buried in Pearl Webb Cemetery, but was appreciative of how nice the cemetery was being kept.

**Don't forget our annual meeting Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hardyville Union Church. Everyone is encouraged to attend and help keep Pearl Webb Cemetery a beautiful place to honor our loved ones.**



## Reader's Comments

By: Larry Rogers

### Burial Plots For Sale?

From time to time, people on the Pearl Webb Cemetery Board are contacted by folks wanting to sell unused burial spaces on their family plots. This is to advise that people wishing to do this are responsible for making these transactions themselves. If you are interested in selling some plots, please contact me and I will be happy to start putting a list of "plots for sale" in the next newsletter. Plots usually sell for \$150.00 each. It would sure be nice if you sell a plot to donate at least some of the proceeds to the cemetery. You can contact me at the following information:

**Larry Rogers, Board Member**  
3298 North Jackson Hwy  
Canmer, KY 42722  
(270) 528-3818



Pearl Webb Cemetery  
website:

<http://www.so-ky.com/cem/hartcem/p/pearlwebb/index.htm>

Those who have been buried at Pearl Webb, since the last newsletter:

**Morris Dill**  
**Dewey Philpott**



### Pearl Webb Cemetery Board

**Larry Jagers, President**  
**Brenda Dudderar, Treasurer**  
**Peggy Sue Moss Avery, Sec.**  
**James E. Chaney**  
**Paul Sullivan**  
**Jean Hedgepeth**  
**Wyonia Devore**  
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**Roy Avery**  
**Larry Rogers**



**The Pearl Webb Cemetery Board would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.**

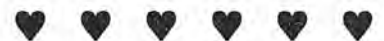
**We would also like to say thank you for all your donations and support throughout the year. Your help is greatly needed and appreciated. Please keep up the great work.**



Anyone desiring to contribute to the cemetery can do so by sending your tax deductible donation to:

**Pearl Webb Cemetery**  
**c/o Brenda Dudderar**  
**1945 N. Jackson Hwy**  
**Hardyville, KY 42746**

Also, anyone wishing to be added to our mailing list, please drop us a note. We look forward to hearing from you and working with you to keep the Pearl Webb Cemetery looking beautiful for future generations.



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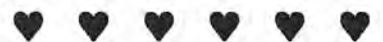
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