



Seniors

ADELAIDE ANGELL BUNKER

MT, AIRY, N. C.

B.S., Public School Music Philaretian

Phi Sergeant at Arms, 2; Marshal, 3; President, 4; MacDowell Music Club, 1, 2; World Fellowship Group, 1, 2; Needlework Guild, 2; Choir, 1, 3, 4; Treasurer, 2; Student Council, House Vice-President, 3; Mars Hill Summer School, 2; May Queen Attendant, 3; Nominating Committee, 4; Stunt, 1, 2; Committee, 3; Alliance Francaise, 1; Dean's List.



MARIAN LOUISE BYRD

DURHAM, N. C.

A.B., Education Astrotekton

Y. W. A., 1, 2, 3, 4; B. T. U., 1, 2, 3, 4; P. S. A., Council, 3, 4; Pianist, 4; B. T. U. Chaperon, 4; Choir, 1, 2; Glee Club, 4; Education Club, 3, 4; Needlework Guild, 1, 2; Stunt, 1; Alliance Francaise, 1; Wake Forest Summer School, 2, 3.

The 25th Annual Reunion of the Descendants of the Original Siamese Twins

July 26, 2014
First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
714 North Main Street
Mount Airy, North Carolina



Eng and Chang Bunker were born May 11, 1811 in Malong, Siam (Thailand) to Nok and Ti Eye. They died in 1874 at the age of 63. Other than being a medical miracle, they were more well known during their time than Abraham Lincoln and more famous throughout the world than singer Michael Jackson was today according to a May 15, 2011, article in the Charlotte News and Observer.

Program

11:00 a.m. Gather, Register, and Socialize

11:30 a.m. Lunch / Welcome Zack Blackmon Jr.

Miss Nong Endear will be performing a classical Thai Dance on stage prior to lunch and a Thai Folk Dance after lunch to celebrate this Reunion.

Blessing Gary York, Honorary Bunker

12:00-12:20 Eng and Chang - History Melvin Miles

12:20-12:40 Roll Call of Descendants (by family)

Eng & Sallie (Yates) Bunker

Katherine (1844-1871)

Julie (1845-1865)

Stephen (1846-1920)

James (1848-1921)

Patrick (1850-1938)

Rosalyn (1852-1852)

William (1855-1932)

Frederick (1857-1886)

Rosella (1859-1941)

Georginia (1863-1865)

Robert (1865-1951)

Chang & Adelaide (Yates) Bunker

Josephine (1844-1867)

Christopher (1845-1932)

Nancy (1847-1874)

Susan (1849-1922)

Victoria (1852-1896)

Louise (1855-1934)

Albert (1857-1949)

Jesse (1860-1969)

Lizzie (1861-1956)

Hattie (1863-1945)

12:40 Memorial – Recognition of Family Members who have passed since the last reunion . . . Sarah Bunker

12:45 Financial Report of Reunion Committee . .Zack Blackmon Jr.

12:50 Recognition of: Jesse Bunker Bryant

1) Descendant Traveling Greatest Distance to Attend Reunion

2) Youngest Descendant Attending Reunion

3) Descendants of Yates's Family

4) First Time Attendees

5) Oldest Descendant of Eng/Chang

Remarks by Elected Officials

Special Guest Remarks His Excellency Vijavat Isarabhakdi
Thailand Ambassador to the United States of America

Plans for Next Reunion (Last Weekend in July) / Wrap up and Closing

We hope you have enjoyed the 25th Annual Bunker Reunion.

Special thanks to all of those who assisted in making this Reunion a success and especially the Royal Thai Embassy for providing lunch.

This Reunion has become an event where new relationships are born and long lost cousins have been found. Additionally, researchers have used this occasion to meet and interview descendants of the Twins.

Please share your stories and experiences so that our remarkable heritage will be kept alive for future generations.

We also welcome the Yates Family who are related and connected to the Bunker Family.

Sunday, July 27, 2014, 11:00 AM
Church Service at First Baptist Church
714 N. Main St. Mount Airy, NC
All descendants are invited to attend.

Have a safe trip home. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

* Anyone wishing to have their name(s) added to the Reunion mailing list please contact Albert Blackmon at
albertblackmon@gmail.com or phone (336) 972-9049.

The Siamese Twins with their Wives and 18 of their 21 Children

Not pictured (Katherine, 1844-1871), (Rosalyn 1852-1852), (Georgina 1863-1865)



Two

Remarkable Lives



Eng and Chang, The Siamese Twins

"People would be apt to imagine that there would be something unpleasant in the exhibition of two human beings joined together, but such is not the case. On the contrary they must excite the most pleasurable sensations in all those who are capable in taking delight in beholding a perfect picture of innocence and happiness – for such is the appearance the two lads present. Each of their bodies is well formed and complete in all its parts. The hands and feet, in particular, are beautifully symmetrical. Nor would any one on looking at them imagine, whether walking, standing, or sitting, that they were anything more than two affectionate and happy brothers, with their arms around each other's neck.

The Museum has drawn from a wealth of resources to develop the story line for this exhibit. Because the Siamese Twins held world-wide interest for so many years, much was written about them. We are still learning of yet untapped resources.

In some instances information from different sources was contradictory. But to the best of our ability, we have verified the information presented in the exhibit. We have drawn from information contained in old newspaper articles, of which there are many; from magazines; from encyclopedias; medical journals; lectures; stories and recollections of descendents; the North Carolina Division of Archives and History; from Irving and Amy Wallace's book, "The Two" published in 1978, and now out of print; and from the dimensional and non-dimensional artifacts in the Museum Collection.

About the exhibit

The Mount Airy Museum of Regional History is pleased to announce the Grand Opening of a new and permanent exhibit
"Two Remarkable Lives"

*The story of Eng and Chang Bunker
The original Siamese Twins*

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*Researching the lives of Eng and Chang Bunker, the original Siamese Twins has taken me on a long and unforgettable journey. The journey, which lasted off and on, for a period of two years, will not be soon forgotten.*

*To reflect on the lives of these two human beings is a life-lesson; not simply about the subjects, but also about man's inhumanity to man, about greed, about mockery, about conscience and our need to reject those who are different.*

*But most importantly the remarkable lives of Eng and Chang stir the emotions to want to love more, to be more compassionate, to be more tolerant, and more forgiving.*

*All of the artifacts in this exhibit were given to the Museum by friends and family.*

- During the twin's tour of some American cities in 1829, they were examined by "a distinguished surgeon" of Philadelphia, who advised against separation.

They were 18 years old at the time, and the surgeon's report contains some interesting observations: "Their voices are disagreeable, coarse, and unmusical - apparently under the influence of their age of puberty. They are not observed to converse with each other often. By many this circumstance has been ascribed to an indifference to each other, supposed to arise from a feeling that they mutually interfered with each other's independence and comfort. This is not the case - it is simply they have no information to communicate to each other. Each being under precisely the same circumstances and having the same opportunities of becoming familiar with such events as are usually the subjects of ordinary conversation. Talking to each other therefore would be like an individual talking to himself."

- That they lived for 63 years, attached to one another, is truly amazing. That they had frequent disputes and sometimes resorted to physical violence against one another, should come as no surprise. Judge Jesse Graves of Mount Airy, a friend and counsel to the brothers, recorded several accounts of their being in court for affrays against one another.

- The twins had, since their youth, shown an interest in the opposite sex. Many young women were attracted to them, and Eng and Chang frequently fell in love. They had dark skin, shiny black hair and were always well-dressed. The following prose is from a September 15, 1831 note, in the Museum Collection, signed by Sophonia Robinson. She is believed to be the "Sophia" Irving Wallace writes about in his book, and describes as a member of London society, who fell in love with both twins. When she learned she could not marry both of them, she abandoned her pursuit. The note was given them on their departure for America in 1831.

Go youths beloved to distant glades  
New friends, new hopes, new joys to find  
Yet sometimes deign in other lands  
To think on her thou leav'st behind  
Thy love, thy fate dear youths to share  
May never be, in my happy lot;  
But thou may'st grant this humble prayer  
*Forget me not! Forget me not!*

## About the exhibit ----

*"Two Remarkable Lives", an exhibit on Eng and Chang Bunker, the Siamese Twins, is for all practical purposes, now complete. In reality, it may never be.*

*Several factors have had considerable bearing on the exhibit. Many descendents, said to be 1,000 plus, are still not comfortable talking about their roots. They have told us that for many years there was a degree of shame associated with being a descendent of the Siamese Twins. For others, there were "broken fences" that needed mending - suspicions as to who the rightful heirs were to some of the artifacts, and how and when they were obtained. In recent years, descendents of both Eng and Chang have held "united" family reunions, with a redeeming grace.*

*In the meantime, the telling of the story of the Siamese Twins, using the artifacts now in the Museum Collection was so compelling, it was decided we should move ahead with the exhibit and not wait until we have all of the artifacts we are hoping to add to the collection.*

*The first panel in the exhibit is a chronology of events surrounding the lives of Eng and Chang.*

*The four story panels in the front of the exhibit provide us an opportunity to examine their lives more closely. In the first panel we learn something of the medical phenomena of their being conjoined. From the second and third panels we are able to capture an image of the twins as individuals and to learn that their condition did not prevent them from maintaining their own family unit. And from the fourth panel we learn that the cloak of curiosity that surrounded them in life, followed them even unto death.*

*All of the artifacts in the exhibit have been given to the Museum by family members.*

Gus Rich was a tinsmith who had moved from Salem to Mount Airy in 1871. In a letter to his father, Jacob, Gus gives a vivid description of what he said was his greatest job during his three years in Mount Airy. In his own words:

*January 19, 1874*

*Dear Father Jacob,*

*I write you a few lines this morning; I suspect you heard the Siamese Twins are dead. I got an order late Saturday evening for a large tin coffin. I made it. I worked nearly all night, finished it about noon yesterday. Cut out yesterday afternoon and soldered them up. It was a sight the people that was there. It was a long time before I could get my foot in at the door, so crowded. It was like a camp meeting so many people, horses and carriages. It was most night before I got through soldering them up. They are not going to bury them but keep them in the house. I expect they are afraid somebody would steal them. The Siamese Twins is the greatest human curiosity in the world & who ever thought I would be the man to solder them up. I had to cut into 34 big sheets of tin to make the coffin. I have a notion to charge \$20 do you think that would be about right? Their death was sudden & unexpected - on Friday night late yet they were unusually cheerful & went to bed all right. A little before day on Saturday morning Eng found his brother dead. He called for the family to get up, said he felt himself failing complaining*

*of pains in his limbs & died about two hours after the other one. Chang the smallest one died first had something like palsy about a year ago & I believe he got it again & died with it & soon as he was dead the disease passed right into the other one. All the doctors went out Saturday morning prepared to cut them apart, but they were both dead when they got there. I heard somebody say that Chang had always been accustomed to liquor, but had not used any for a few days & perhaps caused a reaction. They had intended going out showing had they lived. I wrote a letter to Edward Blum & he will probably put something in the paper about it. They were both real business men & had large families. I hope this will find you, Leander doing well. I have good deal of work just now, but we will come just as soon as we can fix things. Mary sends much love also respects to Martha. The Siamese twins were nicely dressed in black with slippers on I helped lift them in their coffin it was a strange sight. I must close with our best love I remain,*

*Affectionately  
Augustus*

*It was a sight to see the people that came in my house to see me make the coffin. It was the greatest job I ever done. I send you a sheet of sheer iron by Beeche's wagon. You must go o'er soon. I send you a drop of solder that dropped on the coffin as I was soldering them up yesterday.*



# The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of the Descendants of the Original Siamese Twins

July 29, 2017

First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

714 North Main Street

Mount Airy, North Carolina



Eng's Homeplace, White Plains, NC



Chang's Homeplace, White Plains, NC

Eng and Chang Bunker were born May 11, 1811 in Maeklong, Siam (Thailand) to Nok and Ti Eye. They died in 1874 at the age of 62. Other than being a medical miracle, they were more well known during their time than Abraham Lincoln and according to Cynthia Wu (author and cultural scholar) the most well traveled celebrities of their time.

Remarks by . . . . . Mt Airy Elected Official(s)  
Special Guest Remarks. . . . . His Excellency Pisan Manawapat  
Thailand Ambassador to the United States of America

Plans for Next Reunion / Wrap up / Socialize

*Our reunion traditionally occurs on the last Saturday in July*

**2:30** Tour of Bunker Family Sites. . . . . Melvin Miles

***We hope you have enjoyed the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Bunker Reunion.***

Special thanks to all of those who assisted in making this Reunion a success and especially the Royal Thai Embassy for providing lunch.

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Please share your stories and experiences so that our remarkable heritage will be kept alive for future generations.

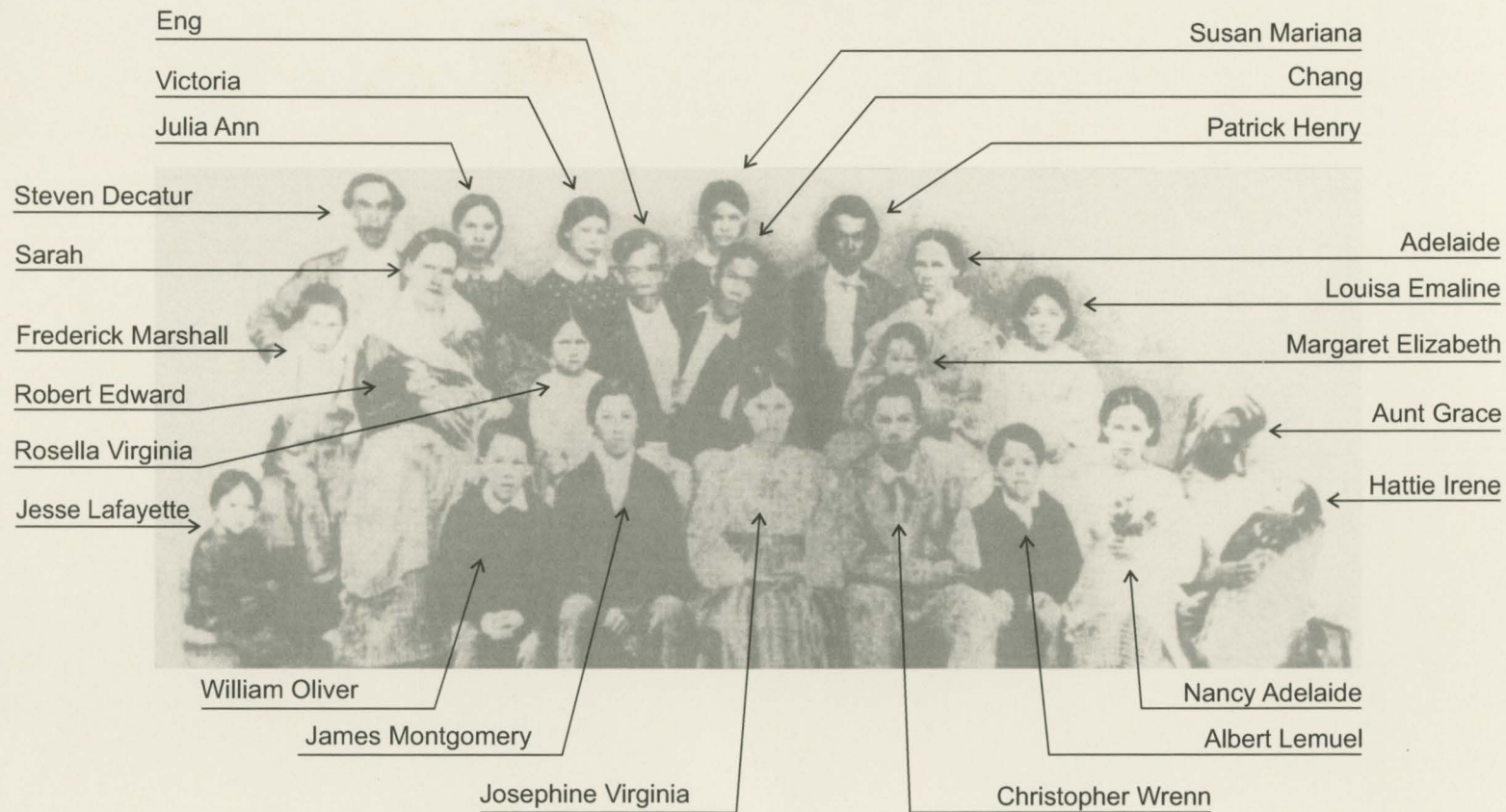
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Have a safe trip home. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

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albertblackmon@gmail.com or phone (336) 972-9049.

# The Siamese Twins with their Wives and 18 of their 21 Children

Not pictured (Katherine, 1844-1871), (Rosalyn 1852-1852), (Georgina 1863-1865)



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Eng's





As one walks from the car park area to the front door, there is an enormous rose bush to the right which is called "Grandma Bunker's rose," according to Kester Sink, who believes it was planted by Adelaide Bunker, Chang Bunker's wife. It is a "Burr Rose" (*Rosa Roxburghii*), also known as Chestnut Rose or Chinquapin Rose, and indeed the buds are covered in prickly, sharp needles that create a burr. And Rosie Sink is not the first person to grow roses on the property. As one walks from the car park area to the front door, there is an enormous rose bush to the right which is called "Grandma Bunker's rose," according to Kester Sink, who believes it was planted by Adelaide Bunker, Chang Bunker's wife. It is a "Burr Rose" (*Rosa Roxburghii*), also known as Chestnut Rose or Chinquapin Rose, and indeed the buds are covered in prickly, sharp needles that create a burr.



## **THE 21 CHILDREN OF ENG AND CHANG**

- E Katherine "Kate" Macellus Bunker, b. February 10, 1844 - d. 1871. She was born in Traphill, NC, Wilkes County. There are no records available to indicate that she might be buried at White Plains Baptist Church. So it is believed that she is buried on the Bunker property--probably the Slave Cemetery.**
- C Josephine Virginia Bunker, b. February 16, 1844 - d. August 16, 1867. She was born in Traphill, NC. There are no records available to indicate that she might be buried at White Plains Baptist Church. So it is believed that she is buried on the Bunker property--probably the Slave Cemetery.**
- E Julie Ann Bunker, b. March 31, 1845 - d. February 27, 1865. She was born in Traphill, NC, Wilkes County. There are no records available to indicate that she might be buried at White Plains Baptist Church. So it is believed that she is buried on the Bunker property--probably the Slave Cemetery**
- C Christopher Wrenn Bunker, b. April 08, 1845 - d. April 02, 1932. He was born in Traphill, NC, Wilkes County. He was married to Mary E. Haynes and had one child. He is buried at Antioch Baptist Church, Mount Airy, NC.**
- E Steven Decatur Bunker, b. March 12, 1846 - d. March 25, 1920. He was the first child to be born in White Plains, NC. He was married to Susan Alice Nichols and was the father of five children. He is buried at White Plains Baptist Church, Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.**
- C Nancy Adelaide Bunker, b. June 05, 1847 - d. February 17, 1874. She was born in White Plains, NC. She was never married. She is buried at White Plains Baptist Church, Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.**

- E James Montgomery Bunker, b. December 15, 1848 - d. April 24, 1921. He was born in White Plains, NC. He was married to 1st Cecilia Munro and 2nd to Anna Laura Mears. He was the father of 7 children. He is buried at Milan Cemetery, Sumner County, Kansas.**
- C Susan Mariana Bunker, October 02, 1849 - d. March 02, 1922 ; She was born in White Plains, NC. She was married to Squire Gordon Jones of Mount Airy, NC. She died in Bonner County, Idaho, when she was living with her oldest daughter. She was the mother of 8 children.**
- E Patrick Henry Bunker, b. May 07, 1850 - d. May 24, 1938. He was born in White Plains, NC. He was married to Mary Jane Bradley Miller and was the father of six children. He was divorced and died at age 88. He is buried in Highland Cemetery, Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas.**
- C NO CHILD BORN HERE**
- E Rosalyn Etta Bunker, b. January 27, 1852 - d. February 14, 1852. She was born in White Plains, NC. She died of third-degree burns from an open fireplace and was the first child belonging to Eng and Sarah to die. There are no records available to indicate that she might be buried at White Plains Baptist Church. So it is believed that she is buried on the Bunker property--probably the Slave Cemetery.**
- C Victoria Bunker, b. May 21, 1852 - d. November 15, 1896. She was born in White Plains, NC. She died November 15, 1896. She was married 1st to Nathaniel "Nat" Bolejack , Stokes County, NC. They had two children. Her 2nd marriage was to a Dr. Frank Talifferno. They did not have children. They lived in Oklahoma. She died in King's Home, Oklahoma, with place of burial being unknown.**
- E William Oliver Bunker, b. January 31, 1855 - d. July 15, 1932. He was born in White Plains, NC. His first marriage was to Francis Britt and they had 3 children. His 2nd marriage was to a Judy Ross Laffoon. They had 11 children. He is buried at White Plains Baptist Church, Mount Airy, NC.**

- C**     **Louisa Emaline Bunker, b. April 13, 1855 - d. March 30, 1934 .**    She was born in White Plains, NC.    She was married to Zacharias W. Haynes.    Both Louisa and Zacharias were hearing impaired.    They had 10 children.    They are buried at the Oakwood Cemetery, Raleigh, NC.
- E**     **Frederick Marshall Bunker, b. February 1, 1857 - d. October 23, 1886.**    He was born in White Plains, NC.    He was married to a Lydia Bunker.    He moved to Missouri and was reported to have been killed in a bar-room fight in St. Louis.    He is buried in Argonia Cemetery, Argonia, Sumner County, Kansas.
- C**     **Albert Lemuel Bunker, b. April 22, 1857 - d. October 8, 1944.**    He was born in White Plains, NC.    At age 65 he married a Nina Angel.    They had 3 children.    He is buried at White Plains Baptist Church, Mount Airy, NC.
- E**     **Rosella Virginia Bunker, b. June 01, 1859 - d. October 09, 1941.**    She was born in White Plains, NC.    She married a George Whitfield Ashby.    They had 6 children.    She is buried at Oakdale Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.
- C**     **Jesse Lafayette "Bud" Bunker, b. April 07, 1861 - d. June 09, 1909.**    He was born in White Plains, NC.    He was married to an Emma Davis and had 5 children.    He is buried in the Critz Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.
- E**     **Georgianna Columbia Bunker,    b.    May 09, 1863 - d.    1865.**    There are no records available to indicate that she might be buried at White Plains Baptist Church.    So it is believed that she may have been buried on the Bunker property--probably the Slave Cemetery.
- C**     **Margaret Elizabeth Bunker, b. October 06, 1863 - d. November 03,    1950.**    She was born in White Plains, NC .    She married Caleb Hill Haynes and had 10 children.    She is buried at Oakdale Cemetery,    Mount Airy, NC

- E     Robert Edward "Bob" Bunker,   b. April 17, 1865 - d. January 25, `1951.  
He was born in White Plains, NC.   He married Fannie   Elizabeth Jenkins  
and had 10 children.   He is buried at the White   Plains Friends Meeting  
Cemetery, White Plains, NC.**
- C     Hattie Irene Bunker, b. September 12, 1868 - d. November 18, 1945. She  
married Edward Lafayette Patterson and had 2 children.   She is buried at  
Oakdale Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.**

Melvin - Read this when you get  
to Hattie in Roll Call

**From:** Pietro Pino

**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:38 PM

**To:** zackblackmon@gmail.com

**Subject:** Bunker Reunion 2017

Dear Zack,

This is to inform you that I will not be attending the Bunker Reunion this year. But also of the fact that my husband, Pete Pino, passed away 12-22-16. I would like for this to be announced at the mtg.

Also, if you remember, my grandson, Ryan Pino, who has been studying in China spoke at the mtg July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, concerning some information he had found about Eng and Chang.

Ryan has now received his Masters in Chinese Philosophy from Fudan University in Shanghai, China, and he was even asked to give the commencement speech in Chinese.

Ryan is now going on to Yale in August to seek another Masters in Religion at Yale Divinity School.

My cousin, Judy Davenport, will see that the information is also added to my scrapbook in the museum.

Bonnie Robertson Pino

Great, great granddaughter of Hattie Irene Bunker

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## Program

- 11:00 a.m.** Gather, Register, and Socialize
- 11:30 a.m.** Welcome / Lunch . . . . . Zack Blackmon Jr.  
                   Blessing . . . . . Homer Bunker
- 12:10-12:15** Living Descendant Update . . . . . Jim Haynes
- 12:15-12:45** **Roll Call of Descendants (by family) - Melvin Miles**
- | <u>Eng &amp; Sallie (Yates) Bunker</u> | <u>Chang &amp; Adelaide (Yates) Bunker</u> |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Katherine (1844-1871)                  | Josephine (1844-1867)                      |
| Julie (1845-1865)                      | Christopher (1845-1932)                    |
| Stephen (1846-1920)                    | Nancy (1847-1874)                          |
| James (1848-1921)                      | Susan (1849-1922)                          |
| Patrick (1850-1938)                    | Victoria (1852-1896)                       |
| Rosalyn (1852-1852)                    | Louise (1855-1934)                         |
| William (1855-1932)                    | Albert (1857-1944)                         |
| Frederick (1857-1886)                  | Jesse (1861-1909)                          |
| Rosella (1859-1941)                    | Lizzie (1863-1950)                         |
| Georginia (1863-1865)                  | Hattie (1863-1945)                         |
| Robert (1865-1951)                     |                                            |
- 12:45** Memorial – Recognition of Family Members who have  
                   passed since the last reunion . . . . Sarah Bunker Mueller
- 12:50** Financial Report of Reunion Committee . .Zack Blackmon Jr.
- 12:55** Homer Bunker to Recognize the following:  
       1) First Time Attendees  
       2) Descendants of Yates Family  
       3) Oldest Descendant of Eng/Chang  
       4) Youngest Descendant Attending Reunion  
       5) Descendant Traveling Greatest Distance to Attend Reunion

Remarks by . . . . . Mt Airy Elected Official(s)  
 Special Guest Remarks. . . . . His Excellency Pisan Manawapat  
                                           Thailand Ambassador to the United States of America

Plans for Next Reunion / Wrap up / Socialize  
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**2:30** Tour of Bunker Family Sites. . . . . Melvin Miles

***We hope you have enjoyed the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Bunker Reunion.***

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 success and especially the Royal Thai Embassy for providing  
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Please share your stories and experiences so that our remarkable  
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Have a safe trip home. We look forward to seeing you again next  
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## The Siamese Twins with their Wives and 18 of their 21 Children

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## Program

**11:00 a.m.** Gather, Register, and Socialize

**11:30 a.m.** Welcome / Lunch . . . . . Zack Blackmon Jr.

Miss Andear Saiyatsahit will be performing a Classical Thai Dance on stage prior to lunch to celebrate the Reunion and the Ambassadors visit.

Blessing . . . . . Homer Bunker

**12:00-12:25** Life of the Twins - Living Document . . . . . Jim Haynes

**12:25-12:50** Roll Call of Descendants (by family) - Melvin Miles

### Eng & Sallie (Yates) Bunker

Katherine (1844-1871)

Julie (1845-1865)

Stephen (1846-1920)

James (1848-1921)

Patrick (1850-1938)

Rosalyn (1852-1852)

William (1855-1932)

Frederick (1857-1886)

Rosella (1859-1941)

Georginia (1863-1865)

Robert (1865-1951)

### Chang & Adelaide (Yates) Bunker

Josephine (1844-1867)

Christopher (1845-1932)

Nancy (1847-1874)

Susan (1849-1922)

Victoria (1852-1896)

Louise (1855-1934)

Albert (1857-1944)

Jesse (1861-1909)

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**1:00** Financial Report of Reunion Committee . . Zack Blackmon Jr.

**1:05** Homer Bunker to Recognize the following:  
 1) Descendant Traveling Greatest Distance to Attend Reunion  
 2) Youngest Descendant Attending Reunion  
 3) Descendants of Yates Family  
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Remarks by . . . . . Elected Official(s)  
 Special Guest Remarks. . . . . His Excellency Pisan Manawapat  
 Thailand Ambassador to the United States of America

Plans for Next Reunion (Last Weekend in July) / Wrap up / Socialize

**2:30** Tour of Bunker Family Sites. . . . . Melvin Miles

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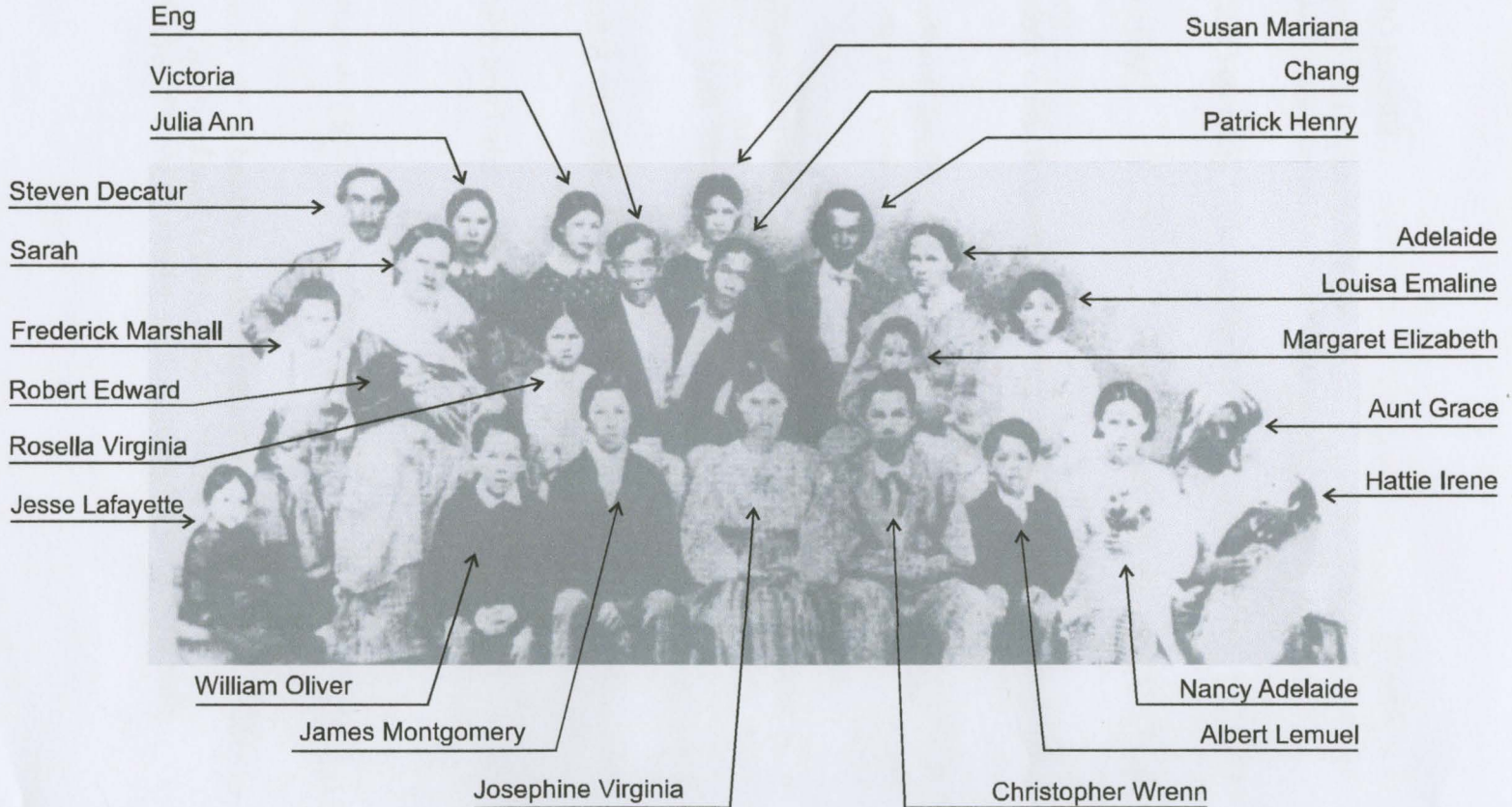
We also welcome the Yates Family who are related and connected to the Bunker Family.

Have a safe trip home. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

\* Anyone wishing to have their name(s) added to the Reunion mailing list please contact Albert Blackmon at [albertblackmon@gmail.com](mailto:albertblackmon@gmail.com) or phone (336) 972-9049.

## The Siamese Twins with their Wives and 18 of their 21 Children

Not pictured (Katherine, 1844-1871), (Rosalyn 1852-1852), (Georgina 1863-1865)



## DATELINE FOR ENG AND CHANG

**MAY 11, 1811** – Eng and Chang were born on a bamboo mat in a small houseboat afloat on the river in the village of Meklong, located about sixty miles west of Bangkok, the capital of what is now Siam. The father was Chinese and the mother was half Chinese and half Malayan. The twins were number 5 and 6 of what would be 9 children born to this couple.

**1819**—Sickness swept the area and 5 children and their father died leaving their mother Nok, the older brother Noy, and an older sister whose name is not known along with Eng and Chang.

**1824**—Robert Hunter shipped them swimming.

--Joined business partnership with Abel Coffin

**1829**—Boarded ship, **Sachem**, for a 138 day trip to Boston.

--Coffin retained services of **James Hale**, age 28, married and a father, to "handle them in this country. Very soon they did a tour of England, Scotland, and Ireland—for 14 months.

**1830**—The twins returned to US. Robert Hunter decided to give up his partnership in the twins. He sold out his half-interest to Captain Abel Coffin. And Captain Coffin being eager to resume his own commercial enterprises in East Indies gave control of the twins to his wife Susan Coffin.

**1831**—James Hale had had his fill of Susan Coffin and ready to quit if her harassment continued. Hale contacted a Charles Harris, who lived

in a boardinghouse in Newbury, New York. Hale had struck up a friendship with Harris, and Irishman, while touring with the twins in England. Harris was employed as their manager and continued traveling in the United States.

**1832—May 11**—The twins turned 21, broke all ties with Susan Coffin and would forever after be “Their Own Men.”

**June 1, 1832**—All ties cut, their first item of business was to retain the services of Charles Harris as their manager. They were not self-employed performers. They were aware that Mr. Harris knew his job, they liked and respected him, and he in turn, liked and respected the twins.

**1835**—This trio set out to tour a great part of the continent—England, France, Belgium, and Holland.

**1836-1837**—made over a dozen appearances at various Peale’s Museums in New York City, Philadelphia, Albany, and Baltimore. Later became P.T Barnum Museum. While in New York, a physician from NC had asked an attendant if he might have the honor of meeting the twins. Permission was granted and a Dr. James Calloway, of Wilkesboro, NC, got to visit in the dressing room of the twins and with Charles Harris, and their lives would be changed forever. (Dr. Calloway was a grandnephew of Daniel Boone, had ben been elected to the NC legislature at the age of 23, had studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and had set up a medical practice in Wilkesboro—serving 7 counties. Later he would become an officer in the Confederate Army and he was also a “pillar” in the Episcopal Church in Wileksboro.

**1839**—Vacation in Wilkesboro, NC

--Decided to stay and rented 2 rooms from Robert Bauguess in the Trap Hill Community.

--Robert Bauguess had a daughter with whom Charles Harris fell in love and married about 10 months later. The Yates sisters attended the wedding.

### **YATES FAMILY**

The Yates family descended from England in 1635 and settled in Virginia. In 1755 a John Yates and his wife, Jemima Roper, moved from Pittsylvania County to Wilkes County, NC. Their grandson, **David Yates**, was born 1795 in Wilkes County, NC and married a **Nancy Hayes** who was born 1814, in Wilkes County, NC. They had six children with **Sarah**

**Ann Yates, b. 12-18-1822, and Adelaide Yates, b. 10-11-1823**, being the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of 6 children.

### **BACK TO ENG AND CHANG**

**1839**—The twins bought property in the Trap Hill Community.

**1840**—completed their home in Trap Hill.

**1843**—married at age 31—on April 13, 1843.

**1844**-- Eng and Sarah (Sallie) had their first child on February 10. Chang and Adelaide had their first child on February 16.

**1845**—Established home in White Plains "so the kids could attend schools"

**1857**—After 16 children had arrived and the twins realizing their unusual life style, they decided to divide the farm and built 2<sup>nd</sup> house for Chang.

## SLAVES

**1860**—In North Carolina it was custom to own “house slaves” and field slaves”. Field slaves typically would rise before dawn, feed the animals, be in the fields before sunrise, cut down trees, build fences, etc. Labor for the house slaves was somewhat less demanding but these slaves had to be under constant surveillance of their white masters who had the legal right to beat them at the slightest mistake.

By 1860, the twins owned a total of 28 slaves. Eng owning 6 males and 10 females. Chang owned 4 males and 8 females. Then together they shared what was termed as one “ancient female slave—**Aunt Grace**—who was received as a wedding present from the Yates family. It is claimed that she lived to be 121 years old. Eng and Chang each kept an older female slave, forty and thirty five respectively, who was a important figure in the slave culture. With only one exception did either own males slaves over twenty-three years old. Older males would be more likely to instigate rebellions or major trouble against their “masters”.

**1874, January 17**—Chang died with pneumonia. Less than 2 hours later Eng died supposedly from “fright”.

--Buried in dirt cellar in Eng's house.

--Autopsy and kept bodies at a medical college in Philadelphia for a year.

--Returned to White Plains and re-buried in the cellar in Eng's house

--After 2 years moved to the yard of Chang's house and buried under the living room window.

**—May 21, 1917, Adelaide died.** And after the twins had been buried in Chang's yard for 40 years, their remains along with Adelaide's body was buried at White Plains Baptist Church.

### **THREE WORLD RECORDS**

- 1. They are the only conjoined twins to live as long as they did—63 years.**
- 2. They are the only conjoined twins in history to marry.**
- 3. They are the only conjoined twins in history to father children—21 of them. (Today there are over 1500 descendants that have been documented.)**

# The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of the Descendants of the Original Siamese Twins

July 27, 2013

First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall  
714 North Main Street  
Mount Airy, North Carolina



Eng and Chang Bunker were born May 11, 1811 in Malong, Siam (Thailand) to Nok and Ti Eye. They died in 1874 at the age of 63. Other than being a medical miracle, they were more well known during their time than Abraham Lincoln and more famous throughout the world than singer Michael Jackson was today according to a May 15, 2011, article in the Charlotte News and Observer.

## Program

**11:00 a.m.** Gather, Register, and Socialize

**11:30 a.m.** Lunch / Welcome ..... Zack Blackmon Jr.

Miss Nong Endear will be performing classical Thai Dance on stage prior to lunch and Thai Folk Dance after lunch to celebrate this Reunion.

Blessing ..... Gary York, Honorary Bunker

**12:00-12:20** From Siam to Surry ..... Melvin Miles

**12:20-12:40** Roll Call of Descendants (by family)

### Eng & Sallie (Yates) Bunker

Katherine (1844-1871)

Julie (1845-1865)

Stephen (1846-1920)

James (1848-1921)

Patrick (1850-1938)

Rosalyn (1852-1852)

William (1855-1932)

Frederick (1857-1886)

Rosella (1859-1941)

Georgina (1863-1865)

Robert (1865-1951)

### Chang & Adelaide (Yates) Bunker

Josephine (1844-1867)

Christopher (1845-1932)

Nancy (1847-1874)

Susan (1849-1922)

Victoria (1852-1896)

Louise (1855-1934)

Albert (1857-1949)

Jesse (1860-1969)

Lizzie (1861-1956)

Hattie (1863-1945)

**12:40** Memorial – Recognition of Family Members who have passed since the last reunion . . . Sarah Bunker

**12:45** Financial Report of Reunion Committee . .Zack Blackmon Jr.

**12:50** Recognition of: ..... Jesse Bunker Bryant  
 1) Descendant Traveling Greatest Distance to Attend Reunion  
 2) Youngest Descendant Attending Reunion  
 3) Descendants of Yates's Family  
 4) First Time Attendees  
 5) Oldest Descendant of Eng/Chang

Remarks by Mayor ..... Deborah Cochran

Remarks by ..... Elected Officials

Special Guest Speaker ..... His Excellency Dr. Chaoyong Satipanon  
 Ambassador to the United States of America

Plans for Next Reunion (Last Weekend in July) / Wrap up and Closing

***We hope you have enjoyed the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Bunker Reunion.***

This reunion has become an event where new relationships are born and long lost cousins have been found. Additionally, researchers have used this occasion to meet and interview descendants of the Twins.

Please share your stories and experiences so that our remarkable heritage will be kept alive for future generations.

We also welcome the Yates Family who are related and connected to the Bunker Family.

Special thanks to all of those who assisted in making this reunion a success this year.

Sunday, July 28, 2013, 11:00 AM  
*Church Service at First Baptist Church*  
 714 N. Main St. Mount Airy, NC  
 All descendants are invited to attend.

Have a safe trip home. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

\* Anyone wishing to have their name(s) added to the reunion mailing list please contact Albert Blackmon at albertblackmon@gmail.com or phone (336) 972-9049.

## The Siamese Twins with their Wives and 18 of their 21 Children

Not pictured (Katherine, 1844-1871), (Rosalyn 1852-1852), (Georginia 1863-1865)



## CHANG AND ENG BUNKER

### THEIR CHILDREN

#### ENG AND SARAH YATES BUNKER

1. Katherine "Kate" Marcellus Bunker was the first born, February 10, 1844, in Traphill, NC. Died in 1871 at age 27 of consumption, (TB). Buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
2. Julia Ann Bunker born March 31, 1845. She died February 27, 1865, at age 19. Cause of death is unknown. Buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
3. Steven Decatur was born March 12, 1846 and died March 25, 1920. Buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
4. James Montgomery Bunker, born December 16, 1848, in Mount Airy, NC, and died, April 24, 1921 in Summer County, Kansas where he went to homestead in Milan, Kansas. He is buried at Milan Cemetery, Sumner County, Kansas.
5. Patrick Henry Bunker was born May 7, 1850, in Mount Airy, and died May 24, 1938, in Barber County, Kansas. He is buried at Highland Cemetery, Barber County, Kansas.
6. Rosalyn Etta Bunker, born January 27, 1852 and died February 14, 1852. She died of burns and was the first child to die.
7. William Oliver Bunker, born January 31, 1855 and died July 15, 1932. He is buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
8. Frederick Marshall Bunker, born February 1, 1857 and died October 23, 1886. He is buried at Argonia Cemetery, Sumner County, Kansas.
9. Rosella Virginia Bunker, born 1859, died October 09, 1941. She married George Ashby. She is buried at Oakdale Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC
10. Georgianna Columbia Bunker, born May 9, 1863, and died 1865. Buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
11. Robert Edward "Bob" Bunker, born April 17, 1865, died January 25, 1951. Bob Bunker died at home in the bed that he was born in and the bed that his father, Eng an Uncle Change died in. This is stated on the death certificate. He is buried at White Plains Friends Meetin Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.

### Chang and Adelaide Yates Bunker

1. Josephine Virginia Bunker born February 16, 1844 and died August 16, 1867. She was the oldest daughter of Chan and Adelaide Yates Bunker. She died at age 23. Buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery.
2. Christopher Wren Bunker, Born April 08, 1845, and died April 02, 1932. He was married to Mary E Haynes. Buried at Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.
3. Nancy Adelaide Bunker, born June 5, 1847, died February 17, 1874. Died at age 27 of consumption (TB). Buried at White Plains Baptist Church.
4. Susan Mariana Bunker, born October 10, 1849, and died March 2, 1922. She married Squire Gordon Jones. She died in Sandpoint, Bonner County, Idaho, while living with her oldest daughter. Burial unknown.
5. Victoria Bunker, born May 25, 1852. Died November 15, 1896 in Oklahoma. She first married Nathaniel "Nat" Bolejack of Stocks County, NC. Near Germanton, called the Bunker Farm.. She lived there for a short time. Her husband left her and her father came and got her and the farm was sold. She had 2 children. Both are buried at White Plains Baptist Church. She remarried to a Dr. Frank Talifferno. They had a pecan orchard in Oklahoma. He preceded her in death, She is reported to have died at King' Home, OK, of cancer. Burial, unknown.
6. Louisa Emaline Bunker, born April 13, 1855, and died March 30, 1934, in Raleigh, Wake County, NC. She was deaf. She married Zacharias W. Hynes in 1873. He, too, was deaf because of scarlet fever contacted at age 10. They were the parents of 10 children. She is buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Raleigh, NC.
7. Albert Lemuel Bunker, born April 22, 1857, and died October 8, 1944. He is buried at White Plains Baptist Church Cemetery. He was married to a Nina Angell Bunker. They had 2 children, 1 of which was Adelaide Angell Bunker, wife of Kester Andrew Sink. Adelaide Angell Bunker Sink is buried at Skyline Memory Gardens. Adelaide and Kester are the parents of Alex Sink, who was a recent candidate for Governor in the state of Florida.
8. Jesse Lafayette "Bud" Bunker, born April 07, 1861, died June 09, 1909. He is buried at Critz Cemetery, Surry County, NC.
9. Margaret Elizabeth "Lizzie" Bunker, born October 06, 1863, died November 03, 1950. Married Caleb Hill Haynes. Buried at Oakdale Cemetery, Mount Airy, NC.
10. Hattie Irene Bunker, born September 12, 1868, died November 18, 1945, Toast, Surry County, NC. Married Edward Lafayette Patterson. Buried at Oakdale Cemetery,

Mount Airy, NC

## Descendants

Chang and Eng Bunker fathered a total of 21 children, and their descendants - including several sets of non-conjoined twins - now number more than 1,500. Many of their descendants continue to reside in the vicinity of Mt. Airy and descendants of both brothers continue to hold joint reunions. Two hundred descendants reunited in Mount Airy in July 2011 for the two hundredth birthday of the twins, which was the twenty-second annual reunion.<sup>[11]</sup>

Prominent descendants include United States Air Force Major General Caleb V. Haynes who was a grandson of Chang Bunker through his daughter Margaret Elizabeth "Lizzie" Bunker. General Haynes's son, Vance Haynes, earned a doctorate in geosciences, performed foundational fieldwork at Sandia Cave to determine the timeline of human migration through North America, and served as professor at several universities. Alex Sink, former Chief Financial Officer of Florida, is a great-granddaughter of Chang Bunker,<sup>[12]</sup> and was the Democratic nominee in the 2010 Florida gubernatorial election.

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⑤ Terry Michael Cross was Vice Commandant of the  
US Coast Guard July 2004 - June 2006  
- 2nd in Command And was Agency Acquisition Executive  
GG-Grandson of Eng

**REMEMBRANCES OF THE HOMEPLACE**  
**OF**  
**ENG AND CHANG BUNKER**

BY ALEX SINK

My sister Dottie and I have always felt that living in the house that the Twins built for Chang and Adelaide's family has been an incredible privilege. Even in childhood we were told how special the Twins' lives were, and how proud we should be as descendants of Chang and Adelaide. Our mother was Adelaide, and I am named for my mother and great grandmother, Dottie named her firstborn daughter Adelaide and we have a first cousin named Adelaide. So our great "grandma Adelaide" has been an enduring force. (Note the large rose bush to the north of the house--this is known as Grandma Adelaide's rose bush which she planted, so it's over 100 years old!)

Speaking of which, the home place came to our care because when the Twins died, my Granddaddy Albert was in college at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His eldest brother Chris demanded that he return home, where Albert lived in the house with Grandma Adelaide until she died at the age of 84 in 1917, when he inherited the home place. Granddaddy Albert never married until after his mother died. He met my grandmother Nina and married her in 1921. Albert was 64 and Mama Nina was 28! Stories abound of their courtship, but one can just imagine in 1921 what kinds of stories were told about this unlikely marriage. They proceeded to have three girls, Adelaide, Dot, and Nancy who were raised in the home place.

Albert saw all three daughters to college. The importance of education in the Bunker family has been well documented, and there was never a doubt that Dottie

and I would go to college as both our parents did. When Granddaddy Albert died at the age of 87 his estate was divided into four equal parts by his executors. When our Aunt Dot (who was married and living in New York) drew the lot with the homeplace, she recognized the impracticality of managing a farm from afar, and offered to trade her home place lot with our mother Adelaide.

Our Mom was engaged to our Dad Kester Sink. . .she called him to come to Mt. Airy from Thomasville as soon as possible to discuss his willingness to take on such a huge responsibility. Dad had just completed his degree in Agriculture Economics from NC State, so was well prepared to assume the enormous challenge of repairing and rebuilding a farm which had fallen into great disrepair because of Granddaddy Albert's failing health in his last years.

A few of the outbuildings from the days of the Twins and Albert survive to this day, but have been moved to different locations in the back of the farm near the barn. They include the corn crib, the shop, the barn, the light house (which generated electricity for the house), the woodshed, and the smokehouse (which the current garages were built around, but the inside one can see the original logs).

Enormous credit is due our father who has been the loving caretaker for over 66 years of what is now a beautiful property. We remember our parent as a very hardworking farming family, up early in the morning, working in the fields and the gardens, until late at night. Over the years we produced tobacco, hybrid seed corn, field corn, soybeans, hay and raised hogs and cattle. In 1960 we were one of four North Carolina families' names as Progressive Farmer Master Farm Family.

Our family life was fairly typical for a Southern farm family. We remember our parents as leaders in the Franklin community as well as in Surry County. Aside from being an amazing cook, seamstress, and homemaker, our mother was President of the Home Demonstration Clubs of the district and President of the Surry County Democratic Women's Club. I credit her with my later interest in

politics! She was also the first woman appointed to the State Insurance Commission.

Of some interest, given the recent fascination with the Twins, neither of us can remember having a classmate ask us about the Twins when we were growing up. We were just a part of the community like everybody else! Occasionally I would be in downtown Mt. Airy, and a shopkeeper would say, "You must be part of the Bunker clan." I had (proudly) inherited those distinctive Asian facial features!

Some of our memories include the many visits we would receive from our Bunker relatives, especially the Haynes family, many of whom still lived in Mt. Airy. After the deaths of Cape and Lizzie Haynes their original home place was purchased by the parents and remained known as "The Haynes House" which we passed every day as we attended Rockford Street School.

One special memory for me is remembering a visit from "Uncle Lester" Haynes who recounted that he was here at he homeplace as a very young child on the day the Twins casket was dug up from the side yard and moved to their final burial place at the White Plains Baptist Church. As a young child myself (I always begged to listen to the grownups talk!) I was fascinated to hear him describe the two dove that lit on the top of their casket and rode all the way to the graveyard.

Dottie and I always had a very close relationship with "Aunt Rachel" Haynes Duffield, who moved back to Mt. Airy and became our beloved piano teacher. Most of th family was members of the Frist Baptist Church so we were often in contact with our cousins.

Music was an important part of the Twins life as they were reported to be accomplished instrumentalists. Our mother studied public school music and served as church organist, Dottie was a 30 year youth choral director, and our cousin's daughter Caroline Shaw was recently the youngest recipient of a Pulitzer Prize for musical composition!

There has been much written about the curiosity surrounding the Twins lives and because of this, strangers would occasionally brazenly come down our driveway uninvited. For this reason, our Mother was an extremely private person, and shunned publicity. We remember that on a few rare occasions she would permit people to visit our family, especially a group of people from Thailand who developed a friendship with us for several years.

When our mother learned she had terminal cancer, she often reminded us of the importance of "keeping the house in the family", never opening the farm to the general public, and protecting the legacy of our amazing Great Grandfather and Great Grandmother. She died of breast cancer at the age of 45.

We heard many stories of Grandma Adelaide. . . what a strong and capable woman she was, her belief in education, and love for her many children and grandchildren.

We also heard many stories of our Granddaddy, one of the most successful farmers of the area, who became a significant landowner. But more intriguing were stories of his travels to Alaska and out West in the early 1900's by train to visit relatives who had moved afar. And remember, at the age of about 12 he was chosen to travel with Chang and Eng on their post Civil War trip to Russia! There used to be a bookcase upstairs in the house with some of his books, which as a young bookworm, I loved looking through. . . a variety of history books and novels published in the late 1800's and early 1900's. So while Albert had to leave University prematurely, he continued his lifelong learning.

Albert was a doting father. Just beside the house he built a children's playhouse in the mid 1920's for his three girls. This playhouse has provided entertainment now for four generations of Bunker children.

The original house has undergone many remodeling projects, but the original fireplaces, some floors, doors, and walls remain as reminders of the original days of

he house, which had five large rooms nd a central hallwy. It is our sincre hope tha this home place of the famous conjoined twins from SIAM will stand for many more genertions as a testament to themand their many relaives who are spread all over the world and continue to make contributions to society.

## The Siamese Twins Go To An Auction

It was an estate sale following the deaths of William Joseph Forkner, Jr. (b abt 1752, Surry Co, N.C., d prior to May 1807, Surry Co, N. C.), who fought in the Revolutionary War and his wife, Susanna Wells Forkner (b abt 1747, Chester Co, PA, d prior to Mar 1848, Surry Co, N.C). Many of their children, relatives, and neighbors representing names Midkiff, Taylor, Inman, Belton, Collins, Sparger, Lewis, Watson, Shelton, Sisk, Wood, Jackson, Brown, Deatherage, Smith, Marshall, Prather, Allred & Davis attended the auction.

Among attendees was son, James Forkner ( b) 1784 Surry Co, N.C.; d abt 1858, Surry Co, N.C.), who tradition says, carried on the sawmill business, brickyard and freightline to the coast that his father had started. At the sale, James bought crocut saw, knives & forks, a vice, wheel, wagon, bed & bed clothing, a Bible and table. Six other beds were sold, as well as livestock, furniture and tools. It was a lengthy sale including over 80 separate items and many items contained group pieces as plows & hoes or cow & calf or a set of smith tools.

It was the 13th of March, 1848 and by then, the Bunker twins, Chang & Eng Bunker (b 11 May 1811 in Maeklong, Siam ((Thailand)) to Nok & Ti Eye) had bought land & settled in White Plains near Mt. Airy of Surry Co, N.C., in the Yadkin Valley. Chang's wife, Adelaide (b 1823 d 21 May 1917), accompanied them. No mention is made of Eng's wife, Sarah Ann (b 1822 d 29 Apr 1892) that day. The twins had married sisters in 1843.

The three made several purchases including one kettle for \$2.87, one chest for \$3.00, one chest for \$.30 and one unnamed item for \$4.00. (At that same sale, a horse sold for \$12-15.00, a side saddle for \$3.00, 5 hogs for \$2.15, a desk for \$2.87 and a loom for \$1.55.)

Many thanks go to the secretary who on Mar 13, 1848, wrote down each person's name beside of their purchase. Without that careful and thoughtful gesture, we would not have this precious information about a day in the lives of the Twin Bunkers.

1. per Surry County Heritage, North Carolina
2. Will of Susannah Forkner (Includes Estate Property List)

Written by Jancie Poplin, July 25, 2016  
(William Joseph Forkner, Jr. is my 5th Great Grandfathe, DNA Match by Ancestry.com)

(1)

A list of property sold on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of  
 March A.D. 1848 as the property of the Estate  
 of Susanah Forkner decd sold by Dalton.  
 Forkner admin

|                                         | ¢  | ¢   |
|-----------------------------------------|----|-----|
| Joseph Forkner one plow - - - - -       | 00 | 75- |
| James Belton plows & hoes - - - - -     | 01 | 70  |
| A. J. Collins To our axe - - - - -      | 00 | 15- |
| James Belton Sythe & cradle - - - - -   | 00 | 60  |
| M. Sparger Sythe & cradle - - - - -     | 00 | 51  |
| James Forkner crocut saw - - - - -      | 01 | 05- |
| A Lewis Settilards - - - - -            | 00 | 53- |
| Joseph Forkner one cup - - - - -        | 00 | 18  |
| Simon Watson one Drawing Knife          | 00 | 35- |
| J. Collins coffee mill - - - - -        | 00 | 14  |
| James Forkner knives & forks - - - - -  | 01 | 00  |
| A. & J. Dunkley To our Kettle - - - - - | 02 | 87  |
| D. P. Forkner one pot - - - - -         | 00 | 85- |
| Gabriel Shelton - - - - -               | 00 | 60  |
| A. Childes To our pot - - - - -         | 00 | 25- |
| D. P. Forkner wash ball - - - - -       | 00 | 30  |
| James Belton one pot & lid - - - - -    | 00 | 90  |
| D. P. Forkner pot &c - - - - -          | 00 | 85- |
| James Belton pot &c - - - - -           | 00 | 50  |
| Do " Do " Do " - - - - -                | 00 | 60  |
| A Childes To pot rack - - - - -         | 00 | 35- |
| David wood To pot rack - - - - -        | 00 | 37  |
| Emil Jackson candle box - - - - -       | 00 | 06  |
| James Belton Tea Kettle - - - - -       | 00 | 31  |
| J. W. Brower crow bar - - - - -         | 00 | 90  |
| Emil Jackson one loom - - - - -         | 01 | 53- |

2) The inventory not to be entered

|                                              | p. | ex  |
|----------------------------------------------|----|-----|
| James Griemore To one set Smith Tools        | 06 | 05- |
| James Fokner one vice - - - -                | 06 | 00  |
| A. Lewis one grindstone - - - -              | 00 | 27  |
| James Fokner one wagger - - - -              | 08 | 65- |
| Philip Deatherage To gears - - - -           | 00 | 70  |
| James Belton To gears &c - - - -             | 00 | 83  |
| James Smith To one mare - - - -              | 15 | 30  |
| James Belton To one mare - - - -             | 12 | 35- |
| M. Sparger one mare - - - -                  | 07 | 00  |
| James Fokner one wheel - - - -               | 02 | 10  |
| Ephraim Midkiff - one wheel - - - -          | 02 | 50  |
| And Jackson To one wheel - - - -             | 01 | 05- |
| James Belton To one reel - - - -             | 00 | 10  |
| W. A. Orather one reel - - - -               | 00 | 03  |
| A. S. J. Bunkers one chest                   | 03 | 00  |
| A Childes To 3 slays - - - -                 | 01 | 10  |
| Dalton Fokner one bed - - - -                | 15 | 10  |
| Matth Fokner one bed - - - -                 | 12 | 00  |
| John Midkiff one bed - - - -                 | 12 | 05- |
| John M. Marshall one scruto - - - -          | 02 | 00  |
| Deby Fokner one Table - - - -                | 01 | 00  |
| Marrison Dick one bed - - - -                | 07 | 50  |
| James Fokner one bed - - - -                 | 08 | 75- |
| Inc M Marshall one bed - - - -               | 06 | 00  |
| Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. To M. Sparger            | 06 | 25- |
| Philip Deatherage To one cover lid           | 00 | 65- |
| David Midkiff To one Do. Do.                 | 03 | 00  |
| Do. Do. To white sheet - - - -               | 01 | 25- |
| Hugh Taylor To one bed Quilt                 | 00 | 50  |
| David Midkiff checked sheet - - - -          | 01 | 40  |
| David <sup>Midkiff</sup> white sheet - - - - | 01 | 12½ |
| James Fokner To a lot bed clothing           | 04 | 55- |
| James Belton To white sheet - - - -          | 01 | 10  |

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
|                                     | 3      |
| Deby Fokner white sheet             | 01 15- |
| John Midkiff to checked sheet       | 00 60  |
| Robert Deatherage Do. Do.           | 00 80  |
| Deby Fokner to side saddle          | 03 00  |
| Philip Deatherage checked sheet     | 00 30  |
| Subtle Albrecht one trunk           | 01 00  |
| James Fokner to one bible           | 00 25  |
| A & T Bunkers one chest             | 00 30  |
| A Lewis one chair & drive           | 00 50  |
| M Sparger to one sifter             | 00 35- |
| James Fokner one table              | 00 75- |
| James Beltan one desk               | 02 80  |
| Do. Do. one table                   | 01 00  |
| A. Childers one slag                | 02 10  |
| A. I. Collins one table             | 00 55- |
| Martha Deatherage to one counterpin | 00 18  |
| A. Childers to one cupboard         | 04 05- |
| A. & T. Bunkers                     | 04 00  |
| Eno M Marshall three chairs         | 00 60  |
| James Beltan five dogs              | 00 52  |
| Thos Inman fire shovel              | 00 12  |
| Robt Deatherage one cow and calf    | 09 10  |
| James Sparger five hogs             | 02 15- |
| Dan Davis to five hogs              | 02 31  |

POSTED ON MAY 21, 2017

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## A working farm where history lives

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By Bill Colvard - [bcolvard@MtAiryNews.com](mailto:bcolvard@MtAiryNews.com)

Q

Rosie and Kester Sink pose for a picture in front of the circa 1845 farmhouse built by Chang Bunker.

Bill Colvard | The News



Q

The bones of Rosie Sink's vegetable garden can be seen in this spring photo where early spring asparagus is finished but before summer vegetables take over.

Bill Colvard | The News

Rosie and Kester Sink agreed to participate in "Mount Airy Blooms," a June 10 tour of Mount Airy gardens, more as a way to share the history of their home with the public than for the beauty of their gardens.

As Rosie Sink says, "It's about the history here. Not the gardens. And it's still a working farm. That's important."

And indeed, the history of the property is impressive. The white clapboard two-story farmhouse was built by Chang Bunker in the mid-1840s and remains family

Mount Airy, NC

84°

1:23 pm EDT

Partly sunny

(<http://mtairynews.com/weather>)



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### POLL

Will you read Hillary Clinton's tell-all about the 2016 election?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

Next

### NATIONAL VIDEO



Q

Rosie Sink's rose garden boasts hybrid tea roses in front of a white picket fence.

Bill Colvard | The News



Q

Kester Sink demonstrates why a Burr rose is called a Burr rose.

Bill Colvard | The News



Q

On the back side of the picket fence delineating Rosie Sink's rose garden are more vegetables. The farm's original barn is seen in the background.

Bill Colvard | The News

property today. Chang Bunker and his twin Eng Bunker were the Siamese twins who came to America in the early 1800s and ultimately settled in Mount Airy. Among other historic accomplishments, they were the first Asians to become US citizens. Eng Bunker had a farm across the road, which has since burned.

But Chang's farm is still very much in existence. The main crop nowadays is seed and sweet corn but in the farm's almost 200 year history, it has been a hog farm, a horse farm, a cattle farm, a tobacco farm and a chicken farm.

When asked how many acres the farm encompasses, Kester Sink replies, "I don't know and if I did, I'd take out a mortgage." Kester is a tall, sprightly man of 93 with a keen

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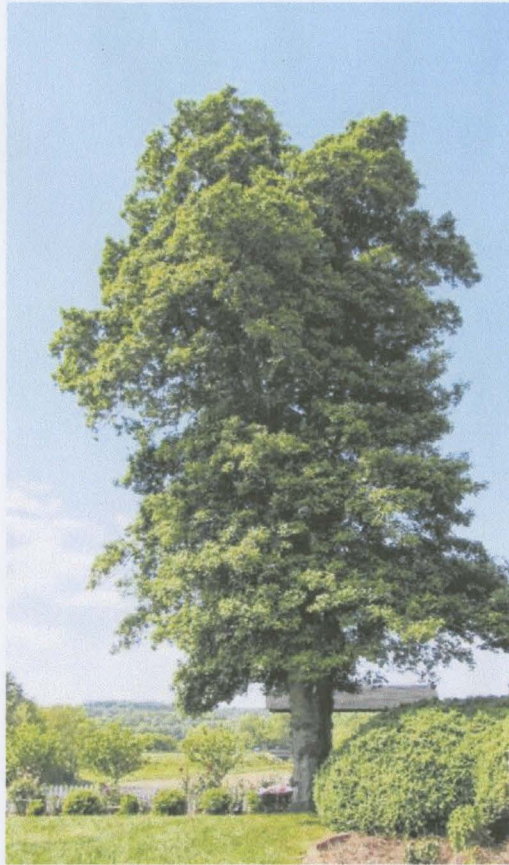
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Q

This ancient holly tree in the front yard predates the circa 1845 house. It has shaded many lawn weddings in the years since.

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Q

Tony Jarrell has been working with the Sinks for more than 20 years. Here, he is putting out pine needle mulch around the foundation plantings at the front of the house. Beside him is one of the many English boxwoods that encircle the house.

Bill Colvard | The News

sense of humor and a deep knowledge of the history of both the farm and Eng and Chang Bunker, moving easily between giving unsolicited fashion advice to an impertinent reporter to discussing the economic ramifications of the post-Civil War period.

But Rosie Sink is being modest when she dismisses the beauty of her gardens. Not least among them is her rose garden where she coaxes finicky hybrid teas into glorious bloom. Hybrid tea roses look lovely in a vase or when presented in a box but Rosie's are beautiful in the garden. Not the usual spindly, disease-ridden vines one often sees but lush, colorful shrubs bursting with blooms. She clearly lavishes them with love and attention and they have repaid her handsomely.



Q

Bunker, the Sink's black lab, keeps a watch on "Grandma Bunker's rose," a Burr rose that was planted many years ago.

Bill Colvard | The News



Q

Bunker and Chloe find the fountain in the Sink's butterfly garden serves a useful, but unintended, purpose.

Bill Colvard | The News



Q

Rosie Sink would not be without a kitchen garden. This whiskey barrel of herbs is right outside the back door.

She also has extensive vegetable gardens where she grows food for the family, much of which she cans and freezes so the vegetables last all winter.

But, then again, the history of the place is never very far away. The rose garden overlooks the farm's original barn, built by the Siamese twins, and is next to an ancient holly tree that predates the house.

Not to mention that the location of Rosie Sink's rose garden was the original resting place of the twins. "As the story goes," says Rosie Sink, "When the twins died, their bodies were hidden in the cellar of the house to keep them from being stolen." They were then buried on the property, probably where the rose garden is now. When Chang's wife Adelaide died,



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Q

The approach up Hollyview Farm Road is as beautiful as anything else on the property. An allée of crepe Myrtles to the right will burst into bloom later in the summer. Underplantings of bulbs adorned the spring months. As the road curves around the fenced meadow on the left, the 1845 farmhouse slowly comes into view in the distance.

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Kester Sink, who believes it was planted by Adelaide Bunker, Chang Bunker's wife. It is a "Burr Rose" (*Rosa Roxburghii*), also known as Chestnut Rose or Chinquapin Rose, and indeed the buds are covered in prickly, sharp needles that create a burr.

The large front lawn is the perfect spot for a garden wedding and many have been held there over the years, in the shade of the ancient holly tree. Kester Sink's double swing from his childhood has been restored and sits next to the playhouse located at the far corner of the main house.

Since the Siamese twins established their farms and Chang Bunker built his farmhouse in the mid-1840s, Mount Airy has grown to the point where commercial businesses adjoin the farm.

As to the impact of the city's growth, Rosie Sink says, "The city may grow around the farm. But it won't grow through it." She is sure that history will continue to be made at Hollyview Farm, much as it always has been.

"Mount Airy Blooms" will give visitors the opportunity to see history up close on June 10 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are on sale at Webb Interiors, 1191 W. Lebanon St., Mount Airy and at the Mount Airy Visitors Center, 200 N. Main St., Mount Airy and online at Eventbrite.com.

the bodies were moved to White Plains Baptist Church and buried beside her.

And Rosie Sink is not the first person to grow roses on the property. As one walks from the car park area to the front door, there is an enormous rose bush to the right which is called "Grandma Bunker's rose," according to



Though some gardens, including Hollyview Farm, are at historic homes, the tour is not a home tour. The gardens will be open but the houses will not be. Public restrooms will be available at the Main Street comfort station and at Cross Creek Country Club.

Proceeds raised from "Mount Airy Blooms" will go to support garden club projects in the area, including the Joan and Howard Woltz Hospice Home Rose Garden, restoration of the gardens at the Historic Moore House, maintenance and upkeep of the Main Street mini-garden fountain, lobby arrangements at Northern Hospital and special programming for the Jones School exceptional children's class.

A Box Luncheon will be available under the Pavilion at Cross Creek Country Club, 1129 Greenhill Road, for \$12. It must be prepaid by June 5. Payment may be made at the Mount Airy Visitors Center, 200 N. Main St., Mount Airy. A vegetarian meal is available. Please request when ordering.

Contributors to "Mount Airy Blooms" include F. Rees Company, LBA Haynes Strand, PLLC, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Kilby and Professional Roofing Services, Inc.

Reach Bill Colvard at 336-415-4699.



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## Proclamation of Congratulations for Ronnie and Donnie Galyon

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of the Descendants of Eng and Chang Bunker; we, the descendants, as a United Family, would like to take this opportunity to offer our sincerest and heartfelt congratulations to Ronnie and Donnie Galyon upon reaching the personal milestone of living 62 years, 8 months and 7 days.

This achievement exceeds the life span of Eng and Chang Bunker, the Original Siamese Twins and is known to have been a personal goal and dream of Ronnie Donnie.

From the unique circumstances of their birth to their world travels as performers, the lives of Ronnie and Donnie have paralleled that of Eng and Chang in a way that grants Ronnie and Donnie a perspective on the lives of The Siamese Twins particular to them and very few others.

They honor the memory of Eng and Chang by living their life with dignity and respect.

We congratulate and honor them here today for doing so.

July 26, 2014