

ROBERT ROGERS CHAFFIN

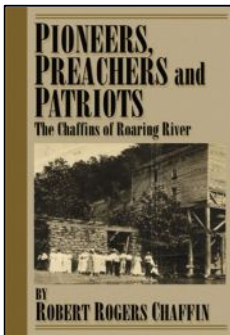
<http://www.publishedbywestview.com/ChaffinRR.html>



Bob Chaffin was born in the Roaring River Community of Jackson County, Tennessee during World War II, but soon moved with his family to the nearby town of Carthage; where he spent the balance of his growing up years. He was graduated from David Lipscomb University and Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan where he earned an MBA. Upon graduation from David Lipscomb he took a job with General Motors' Financial Staff and worked his way through varying levels of responsibilities in a number of GM locations.

In January of 2001 he retired while holding the position of Finance Director for the Information Systems Division of GM and returned with his wife Janice Lafever Chaffin to his beloved Tennessee. Today, he lives in Lebanon, raises Black Angus Cattle, and serves as an Elder for the Maple Hill Church of Christ.

Author of the book: *Pioneers, Preachers and Patriots: The Chaffins of Roaring River*, Jackson Co., TN:



This collection of regional history, religion, personal reminiscence, and rumination apply an ample amount of humor to tales reflecting the hardiness of several generations in this Middle Tennessee Region. "I grew up in an idyllic rural setting in Middle Tennessee, which I am quite sure is more ideal in remembrance than it was in fact. My father was a consummate story teller and I cut my teeth on tales of yesterday and funny stories that occupied the time and mind before television became a national obsession. I spent a lot of time telling and re-telling the stories I had heard to my own children and to my, ever patient, wife. The contrast between the life I had known and the life I was living was stark; and as my cousin said at his mother's funeral; 'it was a story that needed telling.'" *Robert Rogers Chaffin*

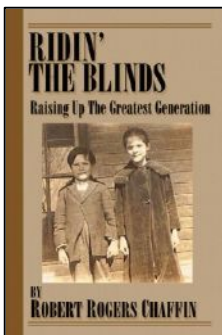
Pioneers, Preachers and Patriots by Robert Rogers Chaffin

2005 Edition, 6.14x9.21, 276 pages

ISBN Complete: 0-9773179-3-5

\$16.95

To Robert Chaffin, Roaring River will always remain the garden spot of the universe the place that God had smiled on in a special way, the most desirable place to inhabit this side of the promised land. In telling the stories about this wonderful community, the author hopes that in some way it will bring to the reader's mind the sights, sounds and stories of your own past or will develop in you a greater appreciation of the courage and energy of your own ancestors. The story of the author's American ancestors is much like that of many American families who entered the colonies in the sixteen and seventeen hundreds, faced the hardships of settling a new land, the perils of numerous wars, political unrest and social upheaval but through it all placed their faith, family and fortune in the hands of an unchanging God, shepherding an ever changing land. These Chaffins of Roaring River, were but links in a long line of Pioneers, Patriots and Preachers.



Ridin' the Blinds by Robert Rogers Chaffin

2008 Edition, Paperback, 6.14x9.21, 228 pages

ISBN: 978-0-9819172-0-7

\$16.95

Like a great number of young people growing up in the years between World War I and World War II, Robert Rogers Chaffin's father-in-law, George Lafever, had a difficult life. He was orphaned at a young age and took to the rails when still barely a teenager. Through pictures, letters, a life sketch, and remembrances of his entertaining stories, his unique life has been memorialized in this book, which includes the great northern migration during the

nineteen-twenties and thirties as well as the greater story of the whole Upper Cumberland Region. In the trying days and hardships of the Great Depression George Lafever and his generation were put through a trial by fire which refined their character as the furnace refines gold. The pure toughness and resolve of their generation proved the salvation of freedom and democracy in the anxiety filled days of the Second World War.

OPINION: A SOUND OFF AGAINST CORKER

By Robert "Bob" Rogers Chaffin

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, Dec 21, 2008

The problem with being in a powerful position is that somewhere along the way one begins to believe he is somehow wiser and more thoughtful than others; that his ideas and approaches are superior to those that have gone before; perhaps as a result of some gift from the almighty. After all, surrounded by staffers and those currying his favor few are willing to tell the emperor that he has no clothes. Yes men are on every side who say, "Good idea boss, why didn't we think of that?" Or perhaps, "Well, that's why you are the boss!"

From there it is a rather short step to the conclusion that, number one, the rules somehow do not apply to you, as in the case of the governor of Illinois, Sen. Stevens of Alaska or Richard Nixon. Then develops the second phenomenon; one begins to believe their own P.R. and soon the idea crystallizes that you and you alone are able to solve the conundrums that baffled others and cut the Gordian Knot.

I suspect it is this illusion to which Bob Corker fell prey when faced with the UAW. After all, had he not been a "card carrying union member" who made millions in his own construction business, become mayor of a major city and been elected a U.S. Senator? With his family neatly tucked away in a mansion of his choosing, it must be true that he, and he alone, possessed the ability to deal with the perceived evil forces of the UAW. Somehow, it had escaped his attention that this is the same brotherhood that faced down the goon squads of Henry Ford, then one of the most powerful men on the face of the earth, and organized a sit-down strike at the GM plant in Flint, Mich., despite the fact that GM practically owned Flint and that National Guardsmen with machine guns were stationed around the plant.

Corker believed he would simply write down his demands and the UAW would have no choice but to capitulate, and by the way, why not have Sen. Chris Dodd demand that Rick Wagoner resign; after all each side of the aisle needs to get in a macho punch. As a result of the orchestrated theatrics, neither side of the Senate aisle was able to deliver for the American economy -- now in shambles. I liked Bob Lutz, vice chairman of General Motors', comment to Chris Matthews which paraphrased Lee Iacocca's oft used phrase, "If you can find a better management team, put them in there." Obviously the board of directors of GM have not found a better management team -- particularly since Rick is the only one of the three CEO's who has had a career in the automobile business.

Well Mr. Corker, as you can see, it doesn't work that way when the elephants dance. Undoubtedly, getting rid of organized labor would be a plus in the eyes of many of your rich contributor buddies, and sacrificing Rick Wagoner on the altar of political gain would cause Mr. Dodd to look tough, but neither would resolve the fundamental problems of our economy.

It is time to lay aside the egos, for just one moment forget political and personal gain, and do something for your country. You have demanded that of others in Iraq and Afghanistan, now walk the walk.

* Bob Chaffin is a 35-year veteran of the auto industry. His mother went to high school in Cookeville, Chaffin was born in Gainesboro and growing up in Carthage. In 1966, Chaffin went to Detroit to work for GM. He now resides in Lebanon



Reunion at Lola B. Gentry Mayberry's 1957. Standing, L to R: **Robert Rogers Chaffin**, David Harley Gentry, unknown girl, Frankie Gentry, Larry Gentry (in Frankie's hand), Ada Chaffin, Ray Gentry, **Bob Chaffin (father of Robert Rogers Chaffin)**, Charles Flatt, Raymond Flatt, Roy Gentry, Oral T. Smith with Greg Gentry, Wanda Montgomery Aiken with hands on Yvonne Aiken, V. June Bain Gentry, A. V. Chaffin Gentry, Betty Fox Gentry (behind A. V.), Winters L. Gentry, William Francis "Billy" Gentry. Middle row kneeling L to R: Lois Loftis, Gladys Hawkins Gentry, Willie Chaffin Gentry, Katrina Gentry Flatt, Joy Gentry Flatt, Frances Tilley Gentry, Walter Aiken, James Hollis Gentry, Edward Gentry, Eddie Gentry. Sitting L to R: Harold Gentry, Vestle Gentry, W. O. Gentry, Floy Gentry, Gladys Gentry Montgomery, Fred Montgomery, **Lola B. Gentry Mayberry**, **Edgar Mayberry**, Mildred Gentry Smith with Sherry Smith. Children: Evelyn Gentry, Janet Philip Gentry, Teresa Gentry, Mark Gentry (head turned) and Eddie Montgomery. Picture taken from the book: Jackson County Tennessee Bicentennial Pictorial History (1801-2001), pg. 198.

ABNER CHAFFIN MD JANE "JENNY" COX, (d/o David Cox). =
 JOSEPH CHAFFIN MD NANCY NORVELL FOX, (d/o Benjamin Fox Jr. & Martha "Nancy" Narvell/Norvell) =
 ABNER CHAFFIN MD ELIZABETH YOUNG, (d/o Robert Young & Barbara Gallion) =
 JOHN ROBERT CHAFFIN MD RACHEL MACK ROGERS =
 CHARLIE ROGERS CHAFFIN MD ETHEL YOUNG, (d/o Marlin Franklin Young & Mary Adeline Smith) =
 ROBERT FRANKLIN "BOB" CHAFFIN MD LOIS MAYLEAN MABERRY, (d/o Edgar M. Maberry & Lola B. Gentry) = (Children: Betty Donnieta Chaffin, b. April 1940 & Robert Rogers Chaffin, 6 June 1944)
 ROBERT ROGERS CHAFFIN MD JANICE "JAN" LAFEVER, (d/o George LaFever & Arlie Mabel Palmer, d/o A. Monroe Palmer & Mary Ellen Waddell) = (Children: Christopher Chaffin & Patrick Chaffin)

John R. Chaffin Cemetery Dodson Branch Hwy (135), Jackson Co., TN

*Abner Chaffin, b. 15 Jan. 1819 – d. Sept. 1869, s/o Joseph Chaffin & Nancy Fox.

Married 22 Mar. 1838

*Elizabeth (Young) Chaffin, b. 19 Jan. 1819 – d. 10 Sept. 1904, d/o Robert Young & Barbara Gallion.

*Benjamin Bartlett Chaffin, b. 4 Nov. 1848 – d. 24 Apr. 1926, s/o Abner Chaffin & Elizabeth Young.

*Frances "Fannie" (Anderson) Chaffin, b. 20 Mar. 1855 – d. 18 Nov. 1894, d/o Paul Thomas Anderson & Susannah "Susie" Johnson.

*John Robert Chaffin, b. 5 Dec. 1850 – d. 25 Dec. 1928, s/o Abner Chaffin & Elizabeth Young.

*Rachel (Mack) Chaffin, b. 1 Mar. 1859 – d. 30 Aug. 1931, d/o William & Sarah Rogers.

*William Jasper Chaffin, b. 10 Apr. 1845 – d. 16 Sept. 1873, s/o Abner Chaffin & Elizabeth Young.

*Annie Angeline Chaffin, b. 7 Nov. 1849 – d. 3 Sept. 1873, d/o Polly Bean

*Charlie Rogers Chaffin, b. 9 Oct. 1891 – d. 17 Nov. 1922, s/o John Robert Chaffin & Rachel Rogers.
*Ethel (Young) Chaffin, b. 28 Dec. 1892 – d. 22 Jun. 1936, d/o Marlin Franklin Young & Mary Adeline Smith.

Anne Vera Chaffin, b. 11 Sept. 1901 – d. 6 Oct. 1901, d/o John Robert Chaffin & Rachel Rogers.

*James Monroe Chaffin, b. 23 Nov. 1858 – d. 10 Mar. 1935, s/o Abner Chaffin & Elizabeth Young. James Monroe Chaffin md 2nd Mary Way.

*Matilda (Dudney) Chaffin, b. 9 Oct. 1858 – d. 14 Feb. 1924, d/o Patrick Dudney.

*Albert Lynn, b. 14 April 1877 – d. 30 June 1949

*Eva Grace (Chaffin) Lynn, b. 30 May 1889 – d. 17 Aug. 1962, d/o John Robert Chaffin & Rachel Rogers.

This information was given by Mr. Encil Chaffin as being buried here in the John R. Chaffin Cemetery:
Victoria Chaffin, b. 2 Feb. 1880 – d. 2 Dec. 1901, d/o Benjamin Bartlett Chaffin & Fanny Anderson.

Allen-Anderson Cemetery, Blackburn's Fork, Jackson Co., TN

*Paul Thomas Anderson, b. 1 May 1821 – d. 31 Oct. 1866, s/o Thomas Shirley Anderson Sr. & Judith Robinson.

*Susannah "Susie" (Johnson) Anderson, b. 18 Nov. 1825 – d. 31 Dec. 1879, d/o Nimrod Johnson & Susannah Gallion.

*Thomas Shirley Anderson Sr., b. 8 Feb. 1779 – d. 8 Oct. 1858, s/o William Anderson & Catherine Shirley.

*Judith (Robinson) Anderson, b. 9 May 1785 – d. 5 Nov. 1868, d/o Edward Robinson & Anna Meador.

Holly-Palmer Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN

*A. Monroe Palmer, b. 21 Dec. 1874 – d. 18 Feb. 1965

*Mary Ellen (Waddell) Palmer, b. 12 Jun. 1884 – d. 4 Mar. 1936

Joseph M. LaFever Cemetery, DeKalb Co., TN

Source: Dekalb County Cemeteries by Doris (Garrison) Gilbert, pg. 162: Joseph M. LaFever Cemetery, located behind the home of Joe LaFever at Cherry Hill store site on old road, 2 or 3 houses north of the old store site. Copied by Maurine Ensor Patton.

*George E. LaFever, b. 14 August 1880 – d. 1 November 1911

*Vada (Maynard) LaFever, b. 11 Dec. 1886 – d. 8 April 1916

*Oziar "Ode" LaFever, b. 5 March 1884 – d. 3 July 1980

*Hallie (Butts) LaFever, b. 4 September 1894 – d. 22 October 1979

ALEXANDER AND CORKER THANKS FOR NOTHING

By Robert "Bob" Rogers Chaffin

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009

What is it? Do you want to see us slowly slip under the waters of economic oblivion?

Or are you just so mad that George Bush caused you to lose the White House you are throwing a temper tantrum, at the expense of the American people?

As you ride around in your chauffer-driven limousine, are you so insulated from the regular folds that you are willing to take our best hope and label spending on hospitals, health care, roads, bridges and housing as PORK?

Sure, not everything in this package will work, but giving your rich buddies a huge tax break and deregulating the bandits on Wall Street certainly hasn't worked – so do you want us to try more of the same?

Maybe it's the help for the unemployed you object to, or the spending on schools and education that gets your dander up, and I'm certain you are against any attempt to help the American auto industry – after all, that's where the evil unions have a foothold.

Where were you when Paulson was doling out billions with no restriction or even a tracking mechanism?

Were you a little preoccupied with who was going to win the election, and so giving money out seemed like a better idea?

Both of you were part of the presiding party in the most dysfunctional era of American government in recent memory, blew billions on the wrong war, at the wrong time, in the wrong place. Who has wasted more money than went into the pork barrels in the last eight years when budget surplus was turned to deficit?

Senator Corker, you were happy to take the Detroit 3 auto executives to the woodshed, but now Nissan, Honda and Toyota are also struggling and along with them good people who just want to feed their family with wages from a good days work.

The shallowness and transparency of it all is appalling. Dump trucks of money were backing up to the Boys on Wall street, and now you don't want the folks on Main Street to get a hand up?

Our best hope for this package is that 3-4 million jobs will be created, yet you both stood against spending \$25 billion to save 3.5 million auto jobs. – you just don't get it!

The time for ideology is over, we need some action, and history will not forget that when someone was needed to stand in the breach – you stood in the WAY in order to play to your conservative base.

I hope the voters do not forget either!

Bob Chaffin is a 35-year veteran of the auto industry. His mother went to high school in Cookeville, Chaffin was born in Gainesboro and growing up in Carthage. In 1966, Chaffin went to Detroit to work for GM. He now resides in Lebanon.

AN OPEN LETTER TO D. C.

By Robert "Bob" Rogers Chaffin

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 22 March, 2009, pg. D-3.

I am a retired GM executive, and when I retired GM agreed to pay my medical insurance for life – as a result of having a combined age and years of service greater than the number 85. I also got an executive retirement amount that I would receive monthly for life. And more times than once, I made career decisions regarding not leaving GM for a higher paying job elsewhere, knowing that I had earned that retirement as part of my total compensation. Package.

Now let me say upfront that I am not complaining, because I know the importance in the survival of General Motors, both to myself and this country, but GM has unilaterally moved to reduce my executive retirement plan by 10 percent as part of their survival plan, and has informed me that myself and my wife will no longer be covered by private medical insurance, since we are age 65 or over.

On the contrary, I commend them for making these hard decisions in view of the need public money through the TARP. I even sent Rick Wagoner an e-mail stating as much.

The UAW is moving swiftly to make concessions that will ensure the long term survival of the Detroit Three Auto Makers, and debtors have agreed to terms that will net them from one half to one third of the bond value for Detroit Three debt – all in the interest of equality of sacrifice and long-term health for the American Auto Industry.

My question, however, is why does AIG not seem to show the same corporate sense of responsibility?

Why do they feel that they cannot take some unilateral action, in view of the unusual circumstances of the day?

AIG's recent action with respect to bonus payment is unacceptable, deplorable and not to be tolerated, while the failure of Washington to not put prearranged conditions on the payment of such money, is unacceptable.

Why is it that GM, Ford and Chrysler were treated like unwelcome cousins come for a long term visit when they appeared before the Senate Committee, yet AIG continues to be treated with kid gloves?

Why is it that GM and Chrysler have been given detailed and specific criteria for further payments while AIG has been allowed to write their own rules? Why is it that certain Senators continue to make news calling for GM to file Chapter 11, when I hear no such calls for AIG?

Are there different rules for the Wall Street boys than for the Detroit Three?

Does the difference lie in the fact that GM and Chrysler have thousands of blue collar workers who might not have the same level of political clout, while AIG employs mostly white collar workers, representing the core of the rich and powerful?

Hmm...I wonder?

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<http://www.ajlambert.com>