

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
FORTH-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
**HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION**  
OF  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

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HELD WITH  
Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church, August  
17th, 18th, and 19th, 1939.

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**OFFICERS**

|              |                                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Moderator    | Eld. P. H. Coffman, Denison, Tex.    |
| Ass't.-Mod.  | Eld. R. S. Sampson, Denison, Tex.    |
| Clerk        | Sister Ida Yandel, Coleman, Okla.    |
| Ass't.-Clerk | Sister Ruth Swindell, Colbert, Okla. |

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The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Murray Hill Church, beginning on Thursday night before the third Sunday in August, 1940.

Eld. J. J. Lackey is to preach the Introductory Sermon.

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Free Will Baptist Gem Print, 211 Bond St. Monett, Mo



FREE WILL BAPTIST  
BIBLE COLLEGE

Nashville, Tennessee

*Presented By*

Winnie B. McLain

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## **Form of Church Conference**

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1. Call Church in Conference.
2. Call for peace of the Church.
3. Call visiting brethren to seats in council.
4. Reading minutes of previous session.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. New Business.
7. Are any sick or in distress?
8. What has been done for the support of the Ministry and other incidental expenses?
9. A call for confession.
10. Invitation for members.
11. Adjournment.

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## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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1. Introductory Sermon.
2. House called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating delegates.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading Rules of Order.
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Reports of Committees.
13. Miscellaneous Business.

## PROCEEDINGS

The Hopewell Association of Free Will Baptist was called to order by Eld. W. H. Coonrod, Moderator, on Thursday night, August 17, 1939.

Service opened by singing led by Bro. R. L. Bonds.

A duet: "When the World's on Fire" was sung by Argie White and Densel Sarrows.

Devotional was conducted by Eld. W. H. Coonrod. Followed by united prayer.

"We Will Not Be Strangers By and By," was sung by Brothers R. L. Bonds, Don Bonds, Earl Wallace and Milree Wallace.

Eld. J. W. Fulce brought the introductory sermon, text, Romans 12. The message was enjoyed by everyone.

Singing by the choir.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. R. L. Bonds.

## FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Called to order by Eld. W. H. Coonrod.

Bro. R. L. Bonds led, "We'll Understand It" and "I Want to Be Faithful."

Prayer led by Eld. P. H. Coffman.

Letters from churches were called for, read, accepted and delegates seated as follows:

**Buckholt**—Bro. Dave Lackey, Sisters Pauline Lackey and Trudy Hall. Deacons: Bro. T. G. Watson, Bro. Jim Tapp and Bro. A. L. Workman.

**Hopewell**—Sisters Maudie Goodman, Pearl Smith and Winnie Speaks. Deacons: Bro. Clyde Smith and Bro. Bob Speaks.

**Murray Hill**—Sisters Mary Windell, Evelyn Davis and Della Cummings. Deacons: Bro. J. D. Higgins and Bro. Lilburn Anderson.

**Oak Grove**—Sisters Callie Jones, Pearl Fite and Maud Hill. Deacons: Frank Jones and Eargle Fite.

**Pleasant View**—Sisters Nadine Harvey, Gene Cooper and Provie Wallace. Deacons: Bro. Jim Williams, Bro. W. T. Waggoner and Bro. Reeves.

**Folsom**—Bro. Gilbert Askew, Bro. Earnest Haddock and Bro. Alva Murphree. Deacons: Bro. R. L. Bonds, Bro. Edd Whitmire, W. I. Davison, and J. V. Wallace

### **Election of Officers**

Moderator Eld. P. H. Coffman, Denison, Tex.  
Ass't.-Mod. Eld. R. S. Sampson, Denison, Tex.  
Clerk Sister Ida Yandel, Coleman, Okla.  
Ass't.-Clerk Sister Ruth Swindell, Colbert, Okla.

Petitionary letters called for, none were presented.  
The Rules of Order were read by the clerk.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats in council as advisory members.

A temporary committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. P. H. Coffman would bring the morning message.

Song led by Bro. Hall.

Dismissed with prayer by Eld. J. W. Fulce.

### **FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE**

Service opened by singing.

Eld. R. S. Sampson led the devotional service.

Song, "Farther 'Alone."

The stand was filled by Eld. P. H. Coffman, Text, Romans 8:9. A powerful message was delivered and enjoyed by all present.

A song was sung and an old fashioned handshaking was enjoyed.

Dismissed with prayer by Eld. W. H. Coonrod.

### **FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

Called to order by the Moderator.

Singing by the choir.

Scripture reading, Jer. 5, by Bro. W. I. Davison.

Prayer by Bro. Eargle Fite.

Motion carried that Moderator appoint committees.

### **Appointment of Committees**

Divine Service—Bro. J. V. Wallace, Bro. Dave Lackey and Sister Della Cummings.

Resolutions—Elders J. W. Fulce, R. S. Sampson, and W. H. Coonrod.

Temperance—Sister Ruth Swindell, Bro. Clyde Smith and Sister Martha Millican.

Finance—Bro. Jim Williams, Bro. F. J. Jones and Bro. R. L. Bonds.

**Education** — Sisters Ida Yandel, Mary Swindell and Pauline Lackey.

**Sunday School** — Eld. Will Young, Sister Sampson, and Sister Pearl Fite.

**Obituary** — Sister Provie Wallace, Sister Evelyn Davis and Bro. Bob Speaks.

**Credentials** — Bro. J. D. Wallace, Eld. J. J. Lackey and Bro. Eargle Fite.

**Examining Council** — Elders J. W. Fulce, J. J. Lackey and R. S. Sompson.

Unfinished business called for.

New business called for.

**Discussion** — Should the church erase the name of a member who walks disorderly, or should the church withdraw from him? It was decided to take the Bible way as given in Matthew 18:15-18. Erase their names after going to them if they still walk disorderly.

**Committee on Divine Service** reported that Eld. J. J. Lackey would bring the afternoon message.

The report of the Examining Council was read by the clerk. They recommended Bro. J. V. Wallace, Bro. Jim Tapp and Bro. A. L. Workman for ordination. These brethren were approved as Deacons by the Association. They were ordained by the following Ordaining Council: Eld. R. S. Sampson, Eld. Earl Umstead and Bro. W. I. Davison.

Motion Carried to adjourn conference until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Service opened with Bro. R. L. Bonds and Sister Elsie Krebs singing, "An Empty Mansion."

Eld. J. J. Lackey delivered an interesting message. His subject was, "Look on Us." Text, Acts 3.

Song: "Break Away From Sin."

Dismissed with prayer by Sister Sampson.

#### FRIDAY-NIGHT SERVICE

Service opened with singing led by Bro. R. L. Bonds.

Prayer led by Eld. Earl Umstead.

Song, "March Along"

Special song, "Everlasting Life."

An arousing and powerful message was delivered

by Eld. R. S. Sampson, Subject: "He That Believeth"  
Text: John 3:36. God's spirit was poured out on  
His people and ten souls were saved.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing.

Scripture reading by Eld. P. H. Coffman.

Prayer led by Eld. Will Young.

Report of the Obituary Committee was read, accepted and committee released.

Report of Sunday School Committee was read, accepted and committee released.

Report of Finance Committee was read, accepted and committee released.

Report of Education Committee was read, accepted and committee released.

Motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 1.

Motion carried to adjourn conference until 1:00 p. m.

### SATURDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with singing.

Eld. Will Young preached a good sermon from  
Psalms 133.

Song, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus."

Dismissed in prayer by Sister Provie Wallace.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Come together with singing.

Motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2.

Motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 3 and release the committee.

Motion carried to adopt the report of the Committee on Credentials. The Moderator appointed Eld. J. W. Fulse, Eld. R. S. Sampson and Bro. Jim Williams to investigate Eld. Mike Manners.

It was voted to hold the next annual session of the association with the Murray Hill Church near Colbert, Oklahoma.

The Fifth Sunday Meetings were set as follows:

First at Buckholt; second at Murray Hill, third at Oak Grove and fourth at Pleasant View.

Motion carried to elect an Evangelist for next year.



Delegates from the following churches agreed that their churches would pay an Evangelist \$5.00 for one visit during the year: Buckholt, Folsom, Murray Hill and Pleasant View. The Oak Grove and Hopewell churches agreed to pay what they could.

Motion carried to elect Eld. J. W. Fulce as Evangelist.

Motion carried to allot \$15.00 for the printing of the minutes; the printing to be arranged by the clerk.

Motion carried that each church pay fifty cents for state minutes.

The following delegates were appointed to represent the Hopewell Association: Eld. Will Young, Eld. R. S. Sampson and Sister Ruth Swindell. Alternates — Sisters Sampson, Evelyn Davis and Bro. R. L. Bonds.

Motion carried to accept minutes as read.

The Committee on Divine Service appointed Eld. J. W. Fulce to bring the night message.

Motion carried to give the people of the Hopewell church and community a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality and kindness during this association.

On motion a standing vote of thanks was given our Moderator and Clerk.

Clerk's financial report read and accepted.

Motion carried that a collection be taken to apply on Clerk's expenses. \$1.30 was received.

Moderator appointed Eld. J. J. Lackey to preach the introductory sermon next year.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet on Thursday night preceding the third Sunday in August, 1940, with the Murray Hill church.

Farewell handshake as everyone sang, "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Eld. P. H. Coffman, Moderator  
Ida Yandel, Clerk

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Resolutions** — We, your Committee on Resolutions, beg to report as follows:

**No. 1** — Be it Resolved, That the Hopewell Association set aside something for support of the Evangelist.

**No. 2** — Be it Resolved, That this Association adopt the tithing system as taught in the Bible. Preach, teach and practice this system as God's plan of financing the cause. Matt 23:23 and Mal. 3.

**No. 3** — Be it Resolved, That the fifth Sunday meetings be omitted because of revival meetings.

**Temperance** — We, your Committee on Temperance, recommend that all Elders and Deacons and members discourage, in every way possible, the use of alcoholic and intoxicating beverages.

**Finance** — We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report:

Received from the churches as follows:

|                                         |        |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| Buckholt .....                          | \$3.00 |
| Hopewell .....                          | 3.00   |
| Murray Hill .....                       | 3.00   |
| Pleasant View .....                     | 3.00   |
| Oak Grove .....                         | 3.00   |
| Folsom .....                            | 3.00   |
| Collection for Associational Fund ..... | 1.30   |

Total amount received ..... \$19.30

**Education** — We recommend that this Association maintain a Bible school so that our young ministers may be better prepared for the ministry.

We also recommend that each home subscribe for a Free Will Baptist Paper, if possible.

**Sunday School** — We recommend that all misisters, deacons and church members work in the interest of Sunday schools. That all parents go to Sunday school and take their children, and that all superintendents and teachers study the lesson.

**Obituary** — We, your Obituary Committee, beg to report that Bro. Green Alford of the Buckholt church passed away, Jan. 6, 1939.

Samueline Fite, infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Eargle Fite, and Foy Lee Jones, infant son of Bro. and Sister Roy Jones—both families from the Oak Grove church.

We express our deepest sympathy to the bereaved, for we believe our loss is Heaven's gain.

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**Credentials** — We, your Committee on Credentials, beg to report as follows:

We have investigated the ministers and found them orthodox, except Bro. Mike Manners.

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**Examining Council** — We, your Examining Council, beg leave to report as follows:

We examined Bro. Jim Tapp, Bro. A. L. Workman, and Bro. J. V. Wallace, who requested to be ordained to the deaconship, and find them orthodox in faith and practice. We recommend their ordination.

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## MINISTERS' REPORTS

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**Eld. P. H. Coffman** — I have preached 48 sermons, witnessed 6 professions, held 2 revivals, traveled 800 miles and received \$35.00 for my work.

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**Eld. W. H. Coonrod** — I have preached 97 sermons, pastored 3 churches, held 3 revivals, witnessed 19 professions, baptized 3, received 15 into the church, traveled 2801 miles and received \$170.11 for my work.

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**Eld. J. J. Lackey** — I have preached 91 sermons, pastored 2 churches, held 2 revivals, witnessed 33 professions, baptized 52, received 52 into the church, preached 7 funerals, traveled 350 miles and received \$125.00 for my work.

**Eld. R. S. Sampson** — I have preached 124 sermons, pastored 1 church, witnessed 34 professions, baptized 14, received 29 into the church, traveled 3400 miles, held 2 revivals and received \$182.50 for my work.

**Eld. Will Young** — I have preached 50 sermons, and helped in 3 revivals.

### **OUR MINISTERS**

|      |                       |                |
|------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Eld. | P. H. Coffman .....   | Denison, Texas |
| "    | W. H. Coonrod .....   | Denison, Texas |
| "    | A. F. DeWitt .....    | Atoka, Okla.   |
| "    | J. W. Fulce .....     | Denison, Texas |
| "    | J. J. Lackey .....    | Carney, Okla.  |
| "    | M. M. McKee .....     | Soper, Okla.   |
| "    | Josie L. Miller ..... | Silo, Okla.    |
| "    | Leroy Miller .....    | Silo, Okla.    |
| "    | R. S. Sampson .....   | Denison, Texas |
| "    | J. L. Tatum .....     | Durant, Okla.  |
| "    | Earl Umstead .....    | Coleman, Okla. |
| "    | Will Young .....      | Denison, Texas |

## FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

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Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are equal in Divine essence, power and glory.—Romans 1:20; 1st John 1:7; John 17:21.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written and revealed Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—Mat. 5:18; 2 Tim. 3:16

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him holy commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same whereby all mankind are sinners; not by constraint, but by choice; being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He, by the Grace of God should taste death for every man.—Gen. 3:7, 17; Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ, by His death, burial and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent, therefore He saith: "Look unto me and be saved all ye ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else."—Matt. 4:17; Isaiah 45:22; Acts 20:20, 21; Acts 17:30.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3; Romans 5:1-13.

6. We believe that infants and idiots are saved by the merits of the Son of God.—Jon. 4:11; Deut. 1:39; Mk. 10:14; Lk. 18:16.

7. We believe that all Christians should persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life: for blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates of the city.—Matt. 24:13; Rev. 22:14.

8. We believe that Baptism by immersion is the Apostolic mode, even the burial of the believer in water: and that Christ, who is our life, showed this humble example to His children, and bids us walk therein.—John 3:22; Matt. 3:16; Rom. 6:2-5; Matt. 28:19-20.

9. We believe that God in His goodness displays His power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost, and by the instructions of His blessed Word, to go forth and proclaim life and salvation. He bids us freely to come, and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come.—1. Cor. 12:13; Eph. 3:7; Rev. 22:17; Isaiah 55:1.

10. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper and Washing the Saints' feet are Divine ordinances and should be observed by all His children.—Mark 14:22; John 13:4-14; Matt. 28:19, 20; 1 Tim. 5:10.

11. We believe that none have a right to Baptism only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none have the right to administer the same only those who are called of God and have come under the hands of the Presbytery of Elders; and each church ought to have a Pastor, Deacons and Clerk, chosen by the church and continue in office during the good pleasure of the same: and in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other Scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, which shall be unanimous.—Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23; 2 Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it to be the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and that it is the duty of the Pastor of the church when setting forth the Lord's Supper to "let a man examine himself, and so let him eat."—1 Cor. 11:28; John 13:14; Heb. 10:25.

13. We believe that Sanctification and Holiness is a Bible doctrine, that immortality is God dwelling in the light so when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God.—Gal. 6:10; 1 John 2:9.

14. We believe in the resurrection of the dead of both the just and the unjust. The resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God, the unjust, to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:31-34; 1 Cor. 15:42-45; 2 Thess. 1:4-11; Rev. 20:12-15.

## Form of Church Letter

Post Office .....

Date .....

We, the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), worshipping at ..... met in conference and elected the following delegates to represent us in Hopewell Association when convened with ..... Church, whom we pray you to seat to aid you in all your deliberations, to-wit: .....

### Statistics:

State of Religion .....

Sunday School .....

Prayer Meeting .....

Meeting Days .....

We paid our pastor, Elder .....

Called Elder ..... as our pastor for the ensuing year.

Ordained Deacons .....

Resident Members .....

Non-Resident Members .....

Total Membership .....

Received into the Church .....; by

Confession of Faith .....

We ask for the next session..... Fifth

Sunday meeting. We ask for the next session of the

..... Association.

We send \$.....minute money.

Elder ..... Moderator,

..... Church Clerk.



## RULES OF ORDER

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1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers and deacons present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.

3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, 'Shall it be discussed?' If negative, the question shall be dismissed.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.

12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

| Condition of Church .... | Meeting Days ..... | Members Deceased ..... | Members Received ..... | Membership ..... | CLERK                 | PASTOR              | CHURCH              |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Good                     | 12                 | 1                      | 21                     | 46               | Iva Watson .....      | J. J. Lackey .....  | Buckholt .....      |
| Good                     | 2                  | 0                      | 6                      | 76               | Nell Tipton .....     | M. M. McKee .....   | Folsom .....        |
| Fair                     | 4                  | 0                      | 5                      | 27               | Pearl Mae Smith ..... | W. H. Coonrod ..... | Hopewell .....      |
| Good                     | 1                  | 0                      | 20                     | 39               | Ruth Swindell .....   | R. S. Sampson ..... | Murray Hill .....   |
| Good                     | 1                  | 0                      | 0                      | 27               | Pearl Fite .....      | Earl Umstead .....  | Oak Grove .....     |
| Good                     | 2                  | 0                      | 10                     | 30               | Hattie Williams ..... | J. J. Lackey .....  | Pleasant View ..... |

