

Constable A. J. "Buck" Bond  
Dorothy Granberry, Geneva Miller Historical Society

Andrew James Bond, known by many as "Buck", was a Haywood County Constable during the 1880s or early 1890s when local African Americans still had the right to vote. Buck Bond's post was in the 6<sup>th</sup> civil district, probably near the Beech Grove Community where he lived, farmed and operated a community store.

During Bond's lifetime, a constable was a district elected peace officer with lesser jurisdiction than the county sheriff. The unpaid office had arrest powers or in other words was the district face of the county sheriff in this time when transportation was by horses and not high speed cars. Although a constable received no regular compensation, he was paid by the courts for writs served and warrants executed.

The Haywood County Sheriff during Bond's term as constable was Sheriff William T. Capell, a republican, who died in office. Captain Will Scott, a democrat, was elected by the Haywood County Court to complete Capell's term. Scott was sheriff during the memorable election of 1888 when the "rabbit foot was worked" on the Republican ticket and all of the republican tickets illegally turned democratic tickets.

This election led to the eventual takeover of local government by area Democrats.

Buck Bond was born in 1856 to Maltimore and Mary Etta Bond. Maltimore Bond was a brickmason who helped in the building of the Haywood County Courthouse. Buck and his parents and, maybe his grandparents, were enslaved by Thomas Bond. In 1878 or 1879, Buck married Aurelia Anderson and they were the parents of several children. Buck Bond's descendants also served Haywood County during their lifetimes. Current residents of Haywood County who are the grandchildren of Buck Bond are Maltimore Bond and Joyce Fannin