

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION



Newsletter



March-April 2014

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee

Mingle Addresses Group

DAR is Appealing to Many Local WCGA Members

Cheryl Watson Mingle was the program speaker for the March meeting of the Warren County Genealogical Association.

Her program on the "Daughters of the American Revolution" explained its history, what it stands for and the procedures of becoming a member.

The non-profit organization was founded in 1890 with the simple mission of promoting historic preservation education and patriotism. It is a nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization consisting of nearly 177,000 members in 3,000 chapters across the world.

The Lt. James Sheppard Chapter of the DAR is located in McMinnville, TN. The Chapter Regent is Rachell Killebrew and the Chapter Registrar is Cheryl Watson Mingle.



The DAR members are women who are a lot like you. They come from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests. Their common bond is their lineal descent from Patriots of the American Revolution.

Our female members are encouraged to become members to help honor and preserve the legacy of their Patriot ancestors. Through participation in the Society's various programs and activities, you can continue the legacy by actively supporting historic preservation, promotion of education and patriotic endeavors.

To become a member any woman, 18 years or older, must be able to prove lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence. She must provide documentation for each



Three members of the WCGA are members of the DAR. Those members, listed L-R with their Revolutionary ancestry, are: Barbara Bates (Josiah Brandon), Shirley Douglass (John McGee) and Cheryl Watson Mingle (Ebenezer Snow).

statement of birth, marriage and death, as well as the Revolutionary War service of her Patriot ancestor.

Thinking about becoming a member? Contact Rachel Killebrew 931-473-8616 email rkillebrew@blomand.net or Cheryl Watson Mingle 931-939-2121 email ctmingle@blomand.net.



Scarlett Griffin is in the process of applying to become a DAR member and brought her research book to show some of the documentations needed to apply.

**The next meeting of the
Warren County Genealogical Association
Will be Saturday, April 19, 2:00 p.m.
We will meet in the Magnolia Room of the
Administration Building
Our office is in the rear of the
Warren County Administration Building
201 Locust Street, McMinnville, TN
Cheryl Watson Mingle will present the Genealogy
Report on her Watson family line
Guest speaker will be Mike Chilcutt with an
ensemble From the Silver and Gold Band**

Do you have Civil War Ancestors?

Submit your Civil War Veteran for entry in upcoming issues of the WCGA Bulletin." You may obtain an entry form on our web site at www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn



2013 OFFICERS

President: Cheryl W. Mingle
Vice Pres: Marion Speaks
Secretary: Scarlett Griffith
Treasurer: Allen Jaco
Past Pres: Ladye Jane Hunter

WCGA Committee Chairmen

Membership:
Allen Jaco

Circulation Manager:
Wilma Davenport

Programs:
Marion Rhea Speaks

Bulletin Editor:
Chris Keathley

Newsletter Editor:
Doyle Speaks

Publicity:
Cheryl Watson Mingle

Research:
Bonita Mangrum

Office:
Evelyn Wade, Martha Holt

Refreshments:
Christine Bouldin

Webpage Administrator
Bryan Kell

The Birthing Tree Keepsake is Here



The Courthouse, McMinnville, TN
(First in a series)
First Methodist Church, McMinnville, TN
(Second in a series)
The Birthing Tree, McMinnville, TN
(Third in a series)
*All three available for \$18 each at
Southern Museum
201 E. Main Street, McMinnville
Open Wed., Fri., Sat. 10:00 a.m.-4 p.m. and
Warren Co. Genealogical Association
County Administrative Building 201 Locust St.
Open Fridays 1:00-4:00 p.m.*

Membership Dues...

Your WCGA membership dues for calendar year 2014 were due January 1, 2014.

Annual dues are \$20 per calendar year for members within the 50 states. Foreign membership is \$28 per year.

Please make your checks payable to the Warren County Genealogical Association and can be brought to our next meeting or mailed to WCGA, P.O. Box 411, McMinnville, TN 37111.

WCGA is now on Facebook!

Come visit us at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Warren-County-Genealogical-Association/135126859883450>

We're also on the web, visit us at:

www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn

Share our Newsletter

Do you have a relative or friend you would like to receive the WCGA Newsletter? We would be happy to add them to our list.

Just send their name and email address to:

Speaksdm@charter.net

Marion Rhea Speaks Presents Her Rhea Family Genealogy

Finding our ancestors is mostly a lifetime endeavor and often filled with disappointment, especially when we hit those road blocks that seem so difficult to get around.

Marion's Rhea family research has been filled with several of those blocks that seemingly weren't possible to wire around. In the end, her investment of years of research paid off with 7 family generations.

Her recent DNA test through Ancestry.com shows her ancestry to be primarily European with high numbers in the Scottish, English and Irish descendants. The surname Rhea is often found spelled several different ways; Ray, Rae, Wray, Rea, Rheay, Reagh, not to mention Rhea.

Sharing our Family History

The first known connection to the Rhea line shows **John Rae/Rhea** Abt. 1700-Abt. 1800 of Connacht, Roscommon, Ireland who sent his five oldest male children to America. One of those five was **John M. Rhea** 1738-1813 in Ireland. He settled in Virginia where he married Mary Gray on February 2, 1763. They eventually moved to Chatham County, North Carolina where he was assistant minister at the Sandy Creek Baptist Church. They eventually migrated west to Warren Co. TN. where they continued to raise their 11 children on a plantation located north of Rocky River. A Baptist minister for 40 years, he died on February 15, 1813 and is buried in the family cemetery located on the plantation.

One of the sons on Rev. John M. Rhea and Mary Gray was **Moses Rhea** 1767-1830 who was born in Virginia. Married to Hannah Ritter, they were the parents of 10 children. He was listed in the 1820 Federal Census in the Hubbard's Cove area located near Viola, TN. He died in Warren County, TN on March 19, 1830 at the age of 63.

William Rhea Abt. 1794-1870, son of Moses and Hannah, was born in Virginia. He was married to Mary Qualls and they had 5 children. He died in 1870 in Grundy County, TN.

John Robert Rhea 1837-1907 was the fifth child of William and Mary. He was born in Grundy County, TN. He was married in 1859 to Sarah M. Gilbert. They were the parents of nine children. He died in



Marion is shown with a photo of the cemetery where her 4th great grandfather John M. Rhea is buried. The cemetery is located on the old plantation north of Rocky River.



Marilyn McGee and Marion Rhea Speaks are pictured sharing a photo of Albert Rhea and Beatrice Tosh who were Marion's grandparents. Albert was also great uncle to Marilyn's husband, Clark McGee whose grandfather was William Rhea brother to Albert.

March 1907 in Coffee County at the age of 69. The location where he is buried has not been found. Records of Tennessee death records were not recorded until late in 1907. The children of John Robert and Sara were: William, Samuel, Charley, James, Mary, Alton, Thomas, John, Houston, and Albert.

Albert Rhea 1885-1976 was the youngest child of John Robert and Sarah. He was born August 3, 1885 in Coffee County, TN. He was married December 17, 1911 in Warren County, TN to Beatrice Tosh. They were the parents of seven children. He died February 19, 1976 in Muncie, Indiana at the age of 90 and is buried in the Manchester City Cemetery in Coffee County. The children of Albert and Beatrice were: Bonnie Eldora, Sarah Eloise, Albert Price, Orville Andrew, Aubrey Denton, Enoch Benjamin and Maxine Beatrice.

Enoch Benjamin Rhea 1928-2001 was the sixth child of Albert and Beatrice. He was born on July 23, 1928 in Warren County TN and was married to Emma Frances Durham on April 19, 1948 in Rossville, GA. Their two daughters were Marion Lois and Tannis Regina. Enoch (Ben) and Emma (Frances) were divorced in 1952. Ben's other children include: Joe, Ina, Michael, Cheryl, Jeff, Montieve, Ben Edward, Amy, and Andrea. He died on August 6, 2001 in McMinnville, TN and is buried at the Mt. Zion Cemetery near Viola, TN.

Marion Lois Rhea is the first child of Ben and Frances and is married to Doyle Speaks. They have two children: Bradley 1967-1984 and Amy Regina 1969. They are The proud grandparents of two grandchildren.



Enoch Benjamin Rhea

Would you like to

“share your family history”

at one of our WCGA meetings?

I'm sure you have a story or two to share...

Get with Marion Speaks who is in charge of our Programs and schedule a presentation. A few spots are open.

MINUTES IN BRIEF

From the March 15, 2014 Meeting

By Scarlett Griffith



The March 15 Genealogy Association meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Mingle at 2:10 p.m. The following people were in attendance: Wilma Davenport, Christine Bouldin, Bonita Mangrum, Chris Keathley, Martha Holt, Evelyn Wade, Barbara Bates, Robert Bates, Marion Speaks, Doyle Speaks, Carolyn Lance, Bernice Driver, Bettye Pack, Cheryl Mingle, Ladye Jane Hunter, Allen Jaco, Scarlett Griffith, Norman Elrod, Jean Hobbs, Marilyn McGee, Pat Burges, Shirley Douglas, and Glenda Cantrell.

Minutes of the February meeting were read by Scarlett Griffith. A motion was made to accept minutes as read by Wilma Davenport, seconded by Pat Burgess.

Treasurer Report:

Allen Jaco reported: Income: 533.75; Expense: 39.92; Net: 493.83 added to funds; Total: 4,745.38. He expects a bill from "The Cat's Meow", the company who makes our keepsakes.

Membership:

Allen Jaco reported the total membership to date is 97. 33 past year members have not renewed and reminders are being sent. 3 requests were made for the newsletter only. He asked everyone to consider adding the newsletter to family and friends.

Circulation:

Wilma Davenport: Nothing new to report

Office:

Evelyn Wade and Martha Holt: Nothing new to report

Webpage:

Bryan Kell: Unable to attend

Research:

Bonita Mangrum: Nothing new to report

Bulletin:

Chris Keathley, editor: Will have the bulletin ready for distribution in May.

Newsletter:

Doyle Speaks, editor: Ask that any article you might wish to have in the newsletter be sent to him by the 25th of each month in order to have the Newsletter finished and emailed by the 1st of the month.

Program:

Marion Speaks: Reported that, due to his work schedule, Steve West with High Funeral Home was unable to present the program today. He will be rescheduled at a later date. In his absence, Cheryl Mingle presented information on the DAR.

Marion presented the genealogy report on the Rhea family.

The April meeting will be held in the Magnolia Room of the Administration Building due to the larger attendance expected. Guest will be Mike Chilcutt and members of the "Silver and Gold Band."

The April Family Genealogy Report will be given by Cheryl Watson Mingle on her Watson line.

Publicity:

Cheryl Mingle: Reported that we are receiving good response from "The Behind the Mike" program. Ladye Jane Hunter will join the group on the April 17 radio program.

Old Business:

Allen Jaco reports he is still working on the 501C3 Status for the WCGA.



2014 WCGA OFFICERS

Left to right: Cheryl Watson Mingle, President; Scarlett Griffith, Secretary; Allen Jaco, Treasurer; Ladye Jane Hunter, Past President and Marion Rhea Speaks, Vice President.

He is still researching the safe options and the possibility of the use of a bank safe deposit box for the association.

The "Behind the Mike" radio program is bringing new interest to our group.

The "Pioneer Families" program is still active and more participants are picking up applications.

New Business:

It was decided to buy more keepsakes due to the good sales of "The Birthing Tree." The company is offering a discount during the month of April.

Christine Bouldin has made arrangements for more members to bring refreshments to the April meeting due to the larger attendance expected.

A trip to a pre-civil war home, "The Argo House" located at Beersheba Springs is planned for June. We will be stopping at other points of interest. Allen Jaco will co-ordinate the date with the homes occupants. Bonita Mangrum will talk to Bill Turner about the group visiting his museum. Scarlett Griffith will check with "The Dutch Maid Bakery" restaurant in Tracy City for the groups lunch stop.

A motion was made by Marion Speaks, seconded by Shirley Douglass, to work with the Warren County Senior Center to have a genealogy work-shop. The date of April 21st was set for McMinnville's version of "Who Do You Think You Are". If possible, we want to be able to work one-on-one with those interested in researching their families.

The genealogy of the Rhea family was presented by Marion Rhea Speaks. Hearing her on the radio program brought a guest to the meeting today. Marilyn McGee, whose husband Clark is a cousin to Marion, although they have never met, attended today's meeting.

Cheryl Watson Mingle presented a program on the "Daughters of the American Revolution", its history, what it stands for and the procedures of becoming a member. Scarlett Griffith is in the process of applying to become a DAR member and brought her research book to show some of the documentations needed to apply. Meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Submitted by Secretary, Scarlett Griffith

Who Do You Think You Are

Trying To Connect To Warren County?

61 people have proved it!

They received Certificates for

Warren County – McMinnville First Pioneer Families

You can make your connection by submitting copies of an official record linking you to Warren County before 1820. Those records can be birth, marriage, death, probate or will, church, cemetery, funeral or obituary, land records, tax records, court, military records, census, newspaper, or Bible for each generation, including the applicant.

To qualify for a certificate, suitable for framing, the applicant must directly descend from an ancestor (male or female) who was in Warren County no later than the 1820 census (this includes the boundaries of the original formation of Warren County from White county).



There is a \$10 application processing fee + \$3.50 shipping for the certificates. All applications and verifying material become the property of the Warren County Genealogical Association.

Current Tennessee residency is not necessary.

Applications may be obtained on line at

www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Warren-County-Genealogical-Association/135126859883450> Facebook page

or may be picked up at

WCGA office at 201 Locust St.

Also available at the Senior Center at 809 Morrison St.

They should be submitted to

Warren County Genealogical Association,
c/o First Pioneer Families,
P. O. Bo 411,
McMinnville TN 37111.