

# WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION



## Newsletter



April - May 2015

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee



### 2015 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**

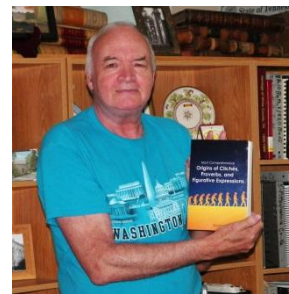
## April WCGA Meeting

# Our Guest Speaker Was Stanley St. Clair

Local author, poet, genealogist and publisher Stanley J. St. Clair was our speaker for the April 18 meeting of the Warren County Genealogical Association.

Mr. St. Clair spoke to our group about his genealogy research of the St. Clair family and his ventures as an author, poet, and finally as a publisher of several books that led to his establishment of St. Clair Publishing.

He is the founder and owner of St. Clair Publications, and a retired insurance agent/manager. He has a Bachelor's in Religious Education from Covington College and Theological Seminary.



*Stanley J. St. Clair*

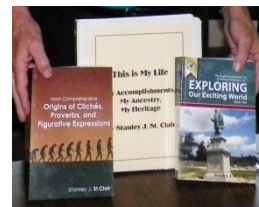
Stan's articles, poetry, and books have been published around the world in at least four countries. He is the author of twelve published books, and co-author of five others. He was featured in the 2007-2008 Cambridge Who's Who, Honors Edition, and the International Who's Who in Poetry in 2004.

He has traveled extensively around the globe and has met a number of dignitaries. St. Clair Publications first book was printed in 1999 as a limited edition.

In 2006, Stan released his first major book, "Prayers of Prophets, Knights and Kings", and launched the initial St. Clair Publications web-site. In 2008, he began obtaining ISBNs and formed a working relationship with a division of Amazon.com.

In 2009, after a number of requests by authors, both new, and established, Stan decided to offer services to others which could expand their horizons.

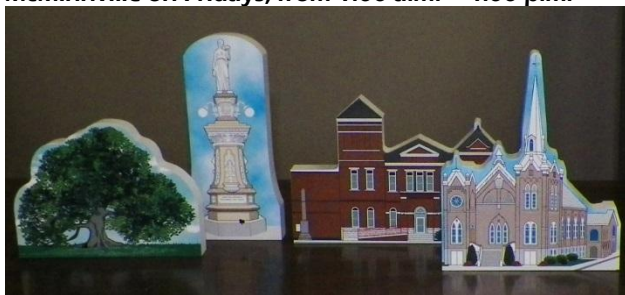
Pictured at the left are copies of his books "This Is My Life - My Accomplishments, My Ancestry, My Heritage" ( a book of history on his St. Clair family); "Most Comprehensive Origins of Cliches, Proverbs and Figurative Expressions" and "Exploring Our Exciting World". Those books, as well as several others may be purchased at most major bookstores.



Stan and his wife, Rhonda, live in McMinnville, Tennessee.



WCGA Bulletin Editor Chris Keathley proudly displays our next Keepsake, the Davis Memorial Fountain statue, known as the Hebe Statue. This is our fourth keepsake and they can all be purchased for \$18 each at the Southern Museum, 201 E. Main Street, McMinnville during business hours or at the Warren County Genealogical Association, 201 Locust Street, McMinnville on Fridays, from 1:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Our four keepsakes are, L-R: The Birthing Tree, Hebe Statue, Warren County Courthouse and First Methodist Church in McMinnville.

### DATE CHANGE

The next meeting of the Warren County Genealogical Association scheduled for May 16 has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2:00 p.m. to be held in the Magnolia Room of the Warren County Administrative Building. Chris Keathley will have a photo exhibit of 100 years of the Hebe statue. The exhibit will contain approximately 100 photos.

### Providing Great Refreshments



Evelyn Wade and Martha Holt provided and served refreshments with a smile at our April 18 meeting. Providing refreshments for the May 23 meeting will be Glenda Cantrell and Carolyn Lance.

### Turn Your Radio On...



Marion Speaks and Stanley St. Clair were guests of Kelly Marlowe, right, on the "Behind the Mike" radio show that was broadcast on April 16. Tune in to 96.0 AM in McMinnville at 10:00 a.m. May 14 when representatives from the WCGA will once again be guests of the show.

## MINUTES IN BRIEF

The April 18, 2015 meeting of the WCGA was called to order by Cheryl Mingle at 2:05. Attending were the following: Chris Keathley, Evelyn Wade, Martha Holt, Bonita Mangrum, Bettye Pack, Barbara Bates, Marion Speaks, Doyle Speaks, Stan St.Clair, Rhonda St.Clair, Tom Scott, Wanda Scott, Pat Berges, Cheryl Mingle, Scarlett Griffith, Carolyn Lance, Larry Boyd, Bonnie Davis, and Steve Davis.

Minutes from the March meeting were read and motion made by Chris and seconded by Evelyn to accept the minutes as read.

Due to the absence of Allen Jaco, treasurer, no treasurers report or membership report was given.

Programs: Marion Speaks, V. President, announced Allen and Chris would be on "Behind the Mike" for May. They will be talking about Chris Keathley's photo exhibit and the 100th birthday of the statue "Hebe". This will take place at the May meeting of the WCGA. There will be additional speakers at this meeting as well. The story of the man behind the restoration.

Publicity: Cheryl Mingle reports all is going well with efforts to get our message out about "keeping our history alive" on radio, newspaper, facebook and a soon to be out article in the "Ben Lomand Connect" magazine.

Circulation: Wilma had nothing new to report.

Research: Bonita reports she has been quite busy with research and also filling in for our archivist, Jean Hobbs while she is out of the country. She had 14 4-H'ers in the office to learn about family records and research.

Bulletin: Chris will have the Spring and Summer issue out in May.

Newsletter: Doyle will have an article about Bonita being in the WCGA office to help family research and County records.

Office: Evelyn reports more shelving is needed and needs to purchase ink.

Old Business: Unfortunately we are losing our newsletter editor and V. President as well as program director. They will be leaving us soon to move back to Indiana. Replacements need to be found to fill these vacancies.

New Business: Due to so many conflicts with the May meeting date of the 16th, Wilma made a motion the date be moved to one week later on the 23rd, Marion seconded. Our "tour our surrounding counties" will continue on May 8th, as we travel to Wilson County.

At this time our speaker for April, Author and Poet Stan St Clair was introduced. He is a Southern gentleman, who took an interest in writing in his early years. This led into his genealogy quest. He published his first book in 2006. He had heard many "old sayings" from his mother growing up. This led to him writing "Origin of Cliques, Idioms and Figurative Expressions" A member of the Scottish Clan, Saint Clair, he is a colorful speaker.

Meeting adourned.

Prepared by Secretary Scarlett Griffith



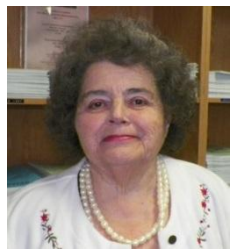
Doyle and Marion Speaks are pictured with hosts Morris and Scarlett Griffith at a surprise luncheon in their honor. Doyle and Marion will be re-locating to Indiana in the near future. The "pitch-in" luncheon was held on April 10 and was attended by Chris Keathley, Allen Jaco, Wilma Davenport, Evelyn Wade, Martha Holt, Cheryl Watson Mingle, Pat Berges, Bonita Mangrum, Christine Bouldin and Morris and Scarlett Griffith.



Doyle and Marion Speaks are pictured with WCGA President Cheryl Watson Mingle after being presented with plaques in appreciation of their dedication to the Warren County Genealogical Association over the past several years.

### Do You Need Help With Your Family Research?

Bonita Bratcher Mangrum, WCGA's Research Chairman, with over 45 years of experience, has graciously helped hundreds of people with their family genealogy searches. You can find her at the WCGA office on Friday afternoons from 1-4 or by appointment at 931-939-2154. Our office is located in the rear of the Warren County Administration Building at 201 Locust Street in McMinnville.



### Refreshment Assignments Announced By Committee Chairman Christine Bouldin

May – Glenda Cantrell and Carolyn Lance  
June – Barbara Bates and Cheryl Mingle  
July – Larry Boyd and Scarlett Griffith

## **Our Ben Lomand Connect Story**

### **Being interviewed pays off**



We are so proud to have made the cover story for the Ben Lomand Connection magazine. Marion Speaks, Cheryl Watson Mingle, Doyle Speaks and Scarlett Griffith were recently interviewed by Patrick Smith, who is Content Manager for Word South, the company who produces the magazine.

*The following story and photos, in part, from the May/ June 2015 issue of The Ben Lomand Connection magazine are reprinted by permission.*

## **'Better than finding gold'**

**Web-based genealogy increases local enthusiasm for family history**

By Patrick Smith

Anyone familiar with middle Tennessee's past knows there's no shortage of history tied to the region.

From the thousands of people who went deep into the coal mines each day, to those who swung the hammers to build the railroad lines crisscrossing the South, to those who fought and died during the Civil War – the area's identity has been shaped by these events and more.

Now local historical organizations, with the help of broadband, are working to preserve this history for future generations.

Organizations like the Warren County Genealogical Association, Bon Air Mountain Historical Society and Grundy County Historical Society are patching together days gone by and volunteering their time and resources to find the missing pieces of local history and the genealogy of local families. Fueled by tools like Facebook, Ancestry.com and an ample amount of books in libraries, researchers are finding the missing links in family trees and learning about the building blocks of the community.

"People will post a picture on Facebook, asking for help identifying the people in the photo, and it just seems like it goes wild," says Linda Mackie, president of the Bon Air Mountain Historical Society, "We're constantly finding someone's relative or new information about the community, It's amazing what you can find with the help of technology."

### **CHANGING GENEALOGY**

Cheryl Watson Mingle credits her seventh-grade teacher and a family ancestry homework assignment with sparking her interest in genealogy. She got hooked at an early age and can now trace her lineage, with documentation, back to the Mayflower. She's spent hours pouring over books, traveling the country visiting her ancestors' gravesites and, with help of the Internet, she's traveling the world a few clicks of her mouse. Mingle, the president of the Warren County Genealogical Association, has developed a deep appreciation for understanding her roots. "You get hooked," says Mingle. "So much history and genealogy has been destroyed, and we're doing our best to keep it alive."

With the help of broadband, the trips that may have previously been required are wiped away. Broadband alleviates the expense, the time and the uncertainty – Mingle explains that many of the questions one might have after doing some research have already been answered by someone looking up similar information. "Without the Internet, you'd have to go to England, or wherever is necessary, to find the facts," says Mingle. "The genealogy and history sites have helped greatly."

For the times when everything falls into place and she finds a long-lost relative, it's like solving a puzzle. "It's so awesome when you've done years of research and, finally, you find a picture of your great-great-grandfather on the Internet, says Marion Rhea Speaks, vice president of the WCGA. "It's almost overwhelming."

No matter what piques your interest for history – famous people, famous places or just learning little more about your ancestors – the fun of it all is connecting the dots and piecing the past together. "When I find something new, to me, that's better than finding gold. I wouldn't trade it for anything," says Mingle.



**Visit us on the web or  
our Facebook sites!**

**Log on to your Facebook account and  
Type either of the locations into your search frame**

**Warren County Genealogical Association  
WCGA home page.**

**And**

**WCGA's Old Warren County, TN Family History/Photos  
A place where you can view history and old photos of  
Warren County. You are urged to contribute as well**

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

[www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn](http://www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn)

**Who Do You Think You Are**

# Trying To Connect To Warren County?

**66 people have proven it!**

They received Certificates for

## Warren County – McMinnville First Pioneer Families

There's still time for you to 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.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.

### Warren County-McMinnville Pioneer Family Certification

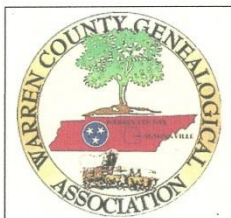
Recognizing the Pioneer Families  
living in the frontier area known  
as Warren County Tennessee between 1807 - 1820.

*Warren County Genealogical Association, Inc.*

Verified and Certifies that  
**Marion Rhea Speaks**

Is a direct descendant of Pioneer Settler  
**Moses Rhea**

Warren County-McMinnville Pioneer Family  
Certificate #024



*Marion Speaks*  
Marion Speaks Chair WCGA Pioneer Families Committee (date)  
*Jan Hobbs*  
Jan Hobbs - WCGA Pioneer Families Committee  
*Betty Pack*  
Betty Pack - WCGA Pioneer Families Committee  
*Bonita Mangrum*  
Bonita Mangrum - WCGA Pioneer Families Committee  
*Carolee Lance*  
Carolee Lance - WCGA Pioneer Families Committee