



WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

February 2019

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee

WCGHA Officers Are Re-elected



Installation of officers for the 2019 term of the Warren County Genealogical & Historical Association was held at our January meeting. They are, l-r: Cheryl Watson Mingle, President; Marion Rhea Speaks, Vice-President; Donna Sullivan, Secretary; Allen Jaco, Treasurer and Ann Brown, Past President.

"We've just completed an outstanding year at the WCGHA and are very proud of our accomplishments. Re-aligning our Association with the Historical, as well as Genealogical, aspects of our area is one of those positive moves. This has enabled us to grow our historical collection of artifacts through donations from our members and the community. Our officers and committee chairs have worked diligently to make us a vibrant organization with the many projects they have entered. Our monthly meetings have been educational, as well as fun. We look forward to continued growth with a vibrant community outreach that gives us hope for another successful year."

Cheryl Watson Mingle, President

Committees

Membership:

Allen Jaco



Circulation Manager:

Wilma Davenport



Programs:

Marion Rhea Speaks



Bulletin Editor:

Chris Keathley



Newsletter Editor:

Doyle Speaks



Web Page Editor & Publicity:

Ann Brown



Refreshments:

Christine Bouldin



WCGHA's office
is located at
201 Locust Street
McMinnville, Tennessee
in the basement of the
County Administrative
Building

Committees

Research:

Bonita Mangrum



Bobby Bond



Office:

Evelyn Wade



Wilma Davenport



Our next WCGHA meeting

Will be on February 16
2:00 p.m.

201 Locust Street
Located in the basement of the
County Administration Building
McMinnville, TN

Our guest speaker



McMinnville's own
Rachael Killebrew

Will give a talk on

**"The Life & Times of
Carl T. Rowan"**

He was a McMinnville native,
Ambassador to Finland and
authored 17 books.

It Was A Great Show & Tell

J.B. Brown with his son J.B. Brown, Jr., left, and grandson Wesley Brown, right, proudly display his 54 caliber percussion rifle at the Show and Tell program in January. He bought the 1825 Samuel and Jake Hawken rifle for \$25 in Chattanooga in 1964. All of these rifles were hand made by the manufacturer. The stock and barrel was in very bad shape. He



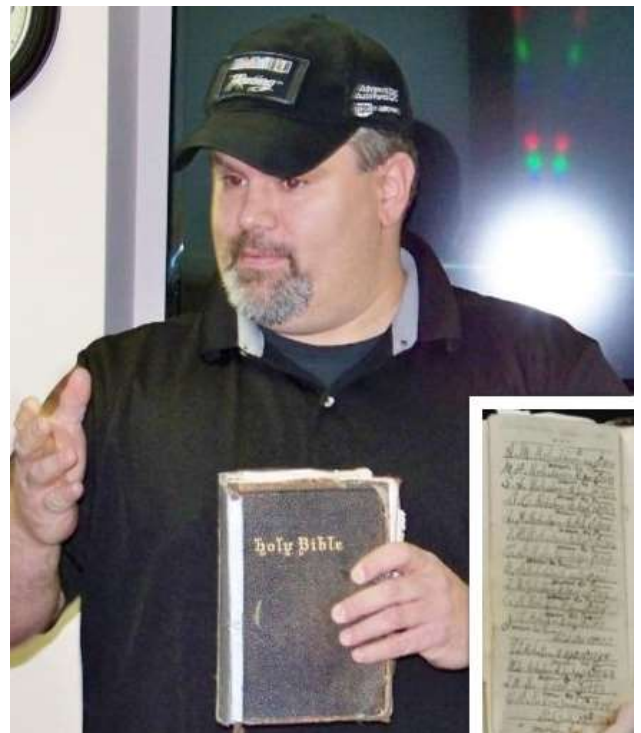
replaced the barrel by finding another original in St. Louis and made the stock from a piece of Triple A fancy Burl Maple at a cost of \$300 for the piece of wood. He spent 200+ hours from 1965 to 1969 restoring the rifle.



Susan Driver talked about her book “Thy Loving Children Still” -- History and Memories of Pleasant Hill Academy. The book, written by Iris Webb Glebe, is full of information on the private school located in Cumberland County, TN. Susan

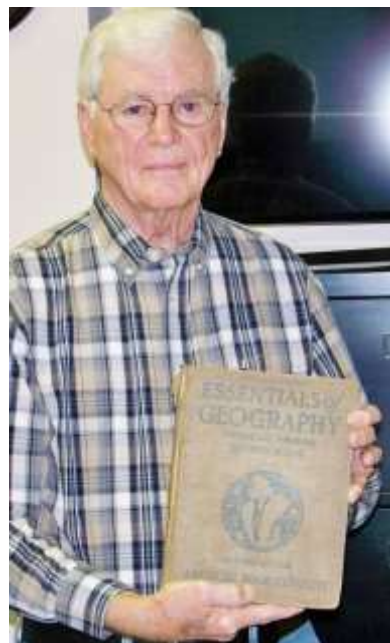
purchased the book on Amazon after reading a copy owned by cousin Tim Grandey. Her grandmother Ethel Golden Grandey was a student at the academy in 1914 and her great aunt Magnolia Golden was a student in 1915. Both are pictured in the book. The Golden family was from the McMinnville area of Warren County. Pleasant Hill Academy closed shortly after WWII.

Bobby Bond photo



Joshua Robertson shared with us the Family Bible owned by his great grandfather Arthur Montgomery Robertson. After purchasing it from the estate, to his surprise, he found several family names with death and marriage dates written on pages inside the Bible.

Mary Oaks showed her heirloom photo of the 1916 Ringling Brothers Circus taken in Chicago. The original framed photo was passed down from her grandfather. Her great aunt Ester Risberg was in the circus chorus line and is in this picture. Written in the lower left part of the photo is: Ringling Bros Worlds Greatest Show, "Cinderella" Sensational Spectacle, Written & Reproduced by Charles E. Ringling.



Allen Jaco holds the book "Essentials of Geography" he shared with our group. The book, published in 1925, was a classroom text book owned by Burton Rutledge. He grew up in the Campaign/Rock Island area and attended Pleasant Hill School in Cumberland Co. for his final years of school. Allen became acquainted with the Rutledge

family in 1957 when he contacted Mrs Ruby Etta HARTT Rutledge Woods, who's mother was Eliza Jaco. She was the mother of Burton and she and Allen began sharing Jaco information. Allen also shared a letter from the Boy Scouts of America addressed to L S Burton Rutledge notifying him that his Lone Scout membership dues were approaching. A Lone Scout was a person who lived in a rural area and was not attached to a Boy Scout troop. They had advisors from the community who acted as their Boy Scout troop leader.



Barbara Bates holds a picture of the 1929-1930 Viola Elementary School students. Her mother, Billie Baldwin Brandon, at age 9-10, went to school there and is included in the picture. She also shared the beautiful vase that was passed down from her grandmother Nellys Baldwin.



Wilma Davenport brought her grandmother Mary Bess's walking stick to share with everyone. Mary was born in 1875 and was married to James A. Cates. They were from North Carolina.



Cheryl Watson Mingle holds the little doll she played with as a small child. The doll, approximately 50 years old is still in excellent condition and was made by the Sun Rubber Company.



Bonita Mangrum shared a story on the book "Williamson County – Out There In The First District" by Rick Warwick. The book was purchased at a book sale by Barbara Hancock who was a teacher at Center Town. Bonita's son Timothy was one of her students. The book is full of Mangrum relatives and she figured Bonita would want the book and passed it on to her. She recently was able to purchase a second book from the author for a gift to her other son.



Marion Rhea Speaks showed and demonstrated the Harmonica that was owned by her grandfather Smith Durham. She remembers him playing this prized possession when she was a little girl.

WCGHA Presents Pioneer Family Certificate #81



Cheryl Watson Mingle is pictured with J.B. Brown after presenting him with a Pioneer Family Certificate. He is the 81st person to receive the certificate. He was approved based on proof of Absolom Brown (b. 1778) and Thomas (Tommy) Brown (b.1800) being residents in Warren County prior to 1820. Anyone connected to either can apply for their own Pioneer Family Certificate provided they meet the criteria as stated in the application. The research for J.B. is as follows:

BROWN: John Berry Brown¹, John Wesley Brown (b.1911)², John Berry Brown (b.1878)³, Nathan Leonidus (Lonnie) Brown (b.1854)⁴, Ledden Brown (b.1826)⁵, Thomas (Tommy) Brown (b.1800)⁶, Absolom Brown (b.1778)⁷



Cheryl Watson Mingle and Bobby Bond provided an abundance of refreshments at our January meeting. On schedule for the February meeting are Barbara Bates and Jean Hobbs.

Turn Your Radio On



Marion Rhea Speaks joined co-hosts Kelly Marlow, left, and Jason Hillis, right, on January 17 as a guest representing our Association on the early morning radio show "Town Talk". The WBMC radio show is broadcast at 960 AM-FM McMinnville Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Tune in on Thursday, February 14 when our organization will again be a guest on the show.

Our Collection Continues to Grow

Another Great Addition to Our Historical Collection



Susan Miller Foote, at left, is pictured with her family's donation of books and ledgers that belonged to her great-great grandfather James Lee Miller. He came to Warren County from North Carolina in the early 1800s. She graciously donated them to the Warren County Genealogical and Historical Association.

These historical documents were passed down to Susan's great grandfather William Van Dorn Miller who was sheriff of Warren County from 1898-1902. They were then passed on to Susan's grandfather Raleigh Miller Sr. and eventually to her father Raleigh Miller Jr., who lives in McMinnville. The books were kept in a beautiful old desk that was also passed down through the family. Susan's brother, David B. Miller, proudly displays the desk in his Virginia home and the family has chosen to donate these books to the Association for future generations to enjoy.

James L. Miller, inset at right, is buried in the Shiloh Mud Creek Cemetery. In 1901 his son William Van Dorn Miller purchased the Rock



Martin House and farm and it remains in the Miller family today. The Rock Martin house is located in the Mud Creek area of Warren County.

The donated books are:



1. **21st District School Record Book 1852-1866** belonging to James Lee Miller, Esq.

2. **Young's Arithmetic Dictionary** published in 1847 and owned by James Lee Miller whose name is on the inside cover.

3. **Workhouse Log Book** that belonged to William Van Dorn Miller, 1900-1902.

4. **Third District Court Records 1843-1872** owned by James Lee Miller & John Gribble.

*Our Association is proud to be the keeper of these historic records
donated by The Family of Raleigh B. Miller, Jr.*

WCGHA CONTRIBUTION FORM

Bring donated items of historical interest to our office at
201 Locust Street in the basement of the
County Administrative Building

or

Mail to:
Warren County Genealogical and Historical Association
P.O. Box 411
McMinnville, TN 37111-0411

DONOR (please print)	
NAME: _____	DATE: _____
ADDRESS: _____ (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)	
PHONE: _____	EMAIL: _____
ITEM(S) DONATED	
BOOKS: _____	
PUBLICATIONS: _____	
FAMILY FILES: _____	
CONTRIBUTION: \$ _____	SPECIFIED USE: _____
By donating these items to the Association, the donor agrees to allow the Association to use, copy, or reference items for genealogical and/or historical activities of the Association as allowed by copyright laws.	
	_____ Donor Signature
In Memory of () In Honor of () : _____	
Donated by: _____	

Cemetery Project Phase I Update

The WCGHA Cemetery Project Committee is busy gathering gps coordinates, pictures of cemetery signs, and working on cross-referencing duplicate names for cemeteries.

One important aspect of the research is to identify cemeteries that need to have signs placed and/or cemeteries that need to be cleaned.

The Committee has created a file for each cemetery which will contain standard records as well as unique information pertaining to each cemetery.

You can expect to find a **cover sheet** containing basic information such as address, gps coordinates, decoration days, contact information and Find-A-Grave cross-reference information.

Each file will also contain an **Inventory Sheet** which lists all the information contained in the file. Other

information includes a **Google Maps** electronic link to the cemetery, an **aerial view** of the cemetery, **driving instructions** to the cemetery, **appraisal cards**, **plat files**, copies of deeds, newspaper articles and references to other resource materials about the cemetery.

The Committee is not currently working on individual internments.

Project Chairman J.B. Brown indicates that this is a huge on-going project and along with committee members Ann Brown, Bettye Pack, Mary Oaks, Bonita Mangrum, Carolyn Lance and Evelyn Wade, the project is well on it's way.



**Don't forget ... WCGHA Membership dues
for 2019 were due on January 1, 2019**

Drop off at our next meeting or mail to:

**Warren County Genealogical and Historical Association
P.O. Box 411 McMinnville, TN 37111-0411**

Members Agenda

February 16, 2019

2:00 p.m.

WCGHA Office

OFFICERS

President: Cheryl Watson Mingle
Vice Pres: Marion Speaks
Secretary: Donna Sullivan
Treasurer: Allen Jaco

COMMITTEES

Membership:
Allen Jaco

Circulation Manager:
Wilma Davenport

Programs:
Marion Speaks

Bulletin Editor:
Chris Keathley

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Ann Brown

Publicity:
Ann Brown

Research:
Bonita Mangrum
Bobby Bond

Office:
Evelyn Wade
Wilma Davenport

Refreshments
Christine Bouldin

- Call to Order – President Cheryl Watson Mingle
- Approval of Previous Members Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer’s Report – Allen Jaco

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Membership – Allen Jaco
- Circulation – Wilma Davenport
- Programs – Marion Speaks
- Publicity – Ann Brown
- Research – Bonita Mangrum & Bobby Bond
- Office – Evelyn Wade & Wilma Davenport
- Bulletin – Chris Keathley
- Newsletter - Doyle Speaks
- Webpage - Ann Brown

OLD BUSINESS

- Scanner
- Printer
- WCMS History Club

NEW BUSINESS

- Bonner FCE Genealogy Workshop

PROGRAM

**February 16 – Carl T. Rowan
presented by Rachel Elkins Killebrew**

WBMC Town Talk – February 14th at 8:30, Marion Speaks
Adjournment

Refreshments: Barbara Bates and Jean Hobbs

From the Facebook files of

WCGHA's Old Warren County, TN Family History/Photos



This is an on-going series of photos from *WCGHA's Old Warren County, TN Family History/Photos*. The Public Group site was organized several years ago and is co-administered by Cheryl Watson Mingle, President of the Warren County Genealogical & Historical Association along with Ann Brown, Past President.

You're invited to join our Facebook group, comment and submit photos and history.



...The old Caney Branch School? Attending the school in September, 1930 were first row, from left, Dalton Burks, Lillard Vandergriff, Eugene River, Francis Wilson, Willard Vandergriff, Mildred Frazier, Nora Helton, Francis Argo, Lucille Shirley, Iris Burks and Nora Francis Parker; second row, Roland Whitlock, Estelle Argo, Charlie Latimer, Osle Lee Lassiter (teacher), Pauline Bonner, Maude Summers, Ruth

Helton and Irene Bonner; third row, Hazel Rains, George Summers, Nola Wilson, Valley Rains, five unknowns, Audrey Mae Burks, Clatie Wilson, Wilola Lassiter, Bess Helton and Mattie Ruth Helmer; fourth row, unknown, Harry Lee Bonner, Armstrong Summers, Doyle Frazier, Redden Bonner, Cecil Haley and Archie Bonner.

Caney Branch School 1930

Posted by Cheryl Watson Mingle