



WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

April 2019

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee

WCGHA OFFICERS



President:
Cheryl W. Mingle



Vice President:
Marion Rhea Speaks



Secretary:
Donna Sullivan



Treasurer:
Allen Jaco



Past President:
Ann Brown

***Our office is located at
201 Locust Street
in the basement of the
County Administrative Building***

Our next WCGHA meeting

Will be on April 20
2:00 p.m.

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

Our guest speaker
Cody Prince



Will give a talk
About the History of
High's Funeral Home

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



Committees

Refreshments:

Christine Bouldin



Research:

Bonita Mangrum



Bobby Bond



Office:

Evelyn Wade



Wilma Davenport



Come Visit Us

**Our office
is open**

Monday &

Friday

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

931-474-4227

email:

[wgggha.tn@gmail.com](mailto:wcggha.tn@gmail.com)

On the Web:

www.tngenweb.org/wcggha

On Facebook:

Warren County
Genealogical & Historical
Association

And

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

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is located at

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McMinnville, Tennessee
in the basement of the
County Administrative
Building

A trail through McMinnville



Paul Matheny talked in great detail about the Trail of Tears. Here he talks about his cousin Dr. David Ross Youngwolf whom he gives credit for a lot of his research.

The March WCGHA meeting was once again attended by a large crowd. We welcomed as our guest speaker, Paul Matheny and his wife Victoria who presented a program on the "Trail of Tears".

Paul and Victoria are McMinnville natives and both taught at Warren County Senior High School. Paul was a member of the Navy reserve and that gave him a chance to go to OCS. After completing the OCS program he went on active duty and stayed 24 years.

After retirement Paul taught Navy JROTC at Hazel Green High School in Hazel Green Alabama for 11 years. It gave him the chance to teach Military and American History to ROTC cadets. "It was the most enjoyable part of my job as Senior Naval Science Instructor".

This story is written, in part, from the prepared text by Paul Matheny, as presented to our Association.



Mr. Matheny stated "My interest in the Trail of Tears did not come from anything we learned in history class in high school. I do not remember it being mentioned. It came from my cousin Dr. David Ross Youngwolf who was a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokees. David had done several years of research on various groups of Cherokees and found information I had never heard before".

Mr. Matheny started his discussion by pointing out that "we usually see American Indians as the John Wayne Indians wearing full eagle headdresses, sitting around the council fire saying wise things or ambushing the wagon

train, instead of seeing them as real human beings. There were 293 tribes in the lower 48 states and 200 in Alaska with different cultural beliefs. The dilemma in studying American Indians is probably best described as looking through the window of the American soul. We see ourselves at our best and worst".

Land was seen as the key to wealth in the early 1800s and the American Indians had most of it. To understand the removal of American Indians from the southeast, you really should start with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Thomas Jefferson believed that the land in the Louisiana Territory could be exchanged for Indian land east of the Mississippi River. The methods used by land speculators and the United States government to get the land were disgraceful.

The Indian Removal Act signed May 28, 1830 by Andrew Jackson started the process. The rationalization was "to save the Indians, they must be moved outside the reach of civilization." Jackson could grant unsettled land west of the Mississippi in exchange for existing Indian lands.

Discovery of gold in Dahlonega, Georgia in 1829



There were 3 land routes and one water route.

meant the Cherokee fate was sealed. The illegal treaty of 1835 gave the Cherokee two years to relocate. The forced removal started in 1838. There was a massive force of soldiers gathered to go to war against the Cherokee, but there was no war.

The Trail of Tears event was not just a Cherokee event. The Choctaws, Creeks, Seminoles, Chickasaws, Shawnee, Sauk and Fox, Potawatomie, Ottawa, Omaha, Miami and several other smaller tribes were part of this removal.

Warren County and McMinnville will always be part of the Trail of Tears story. It was part of the Northern route which was about 900 miles to Indian Territory.

(Continued on page 4)

A Trail Through McMinnville (Continued)

From June 6 through December 5, 1838 more than 15,000 Cherokee in 17 detachments were forcibly removed from their Southeastern ancestral homelands and sent to Indian Territory.

Chief John Ross and his brother Lewis got the contract to move the Ross faction to Indian Territory. Lewis was probably the richest man in Georgia at the time of the removal. The brutal tactics at the stockades ceased after Ross and his brother took over the removal. There were 3 land routes and one water route.



Victoria sang a beautiful version Of Amazing Grace in native language.

A detachment led by Situwakee and the Jones brothers, Peter and Evan, came up from the south from Sequatchie County and passed by McMinnville on Oct. 27, 1838, per some accounts. The main body, consisting of 62 wagons, 560 horses and 1250 people passed through about 1 mile from McMinnville. Little has been said about it in local literature. They were headed for Cannon County and Murfreesboro.

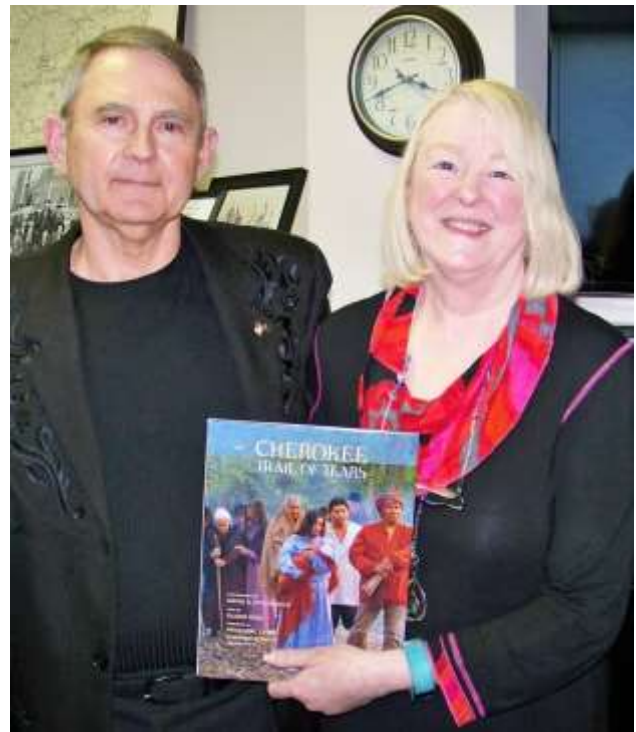
The first group to come into Warren County was led by James Bushyhead and Roman Nose. James Bushyhead was an ordained Baptist minister and a school teacher. Born in Cleveland, TN, he became Chief Justice of the Cherokee Nation and died in 1844. The rousing sermons he preached were mentioned by some of the locals.

They came through the Rock Island area and camped at Shellsford for several weeks. Bushyhead departed with 950 people, 48 wagons and 430 horses. He entered Indian Territory with 898 people.

They found a place protected on four sides by the Ben Lomand Mountain on the west, Cumberland Ridge on the south and east, and the Cardwell Mountains on the north. While at Shellsford, they hunted, fished, and bought supplies from local farmers. They stayed there from late October until the health of sick members of the detachment improved.

The Taylor detachment that camped in the area had 1029 people, 51 wagons and 460 horses. It cost \$106,710 to move them to Indian Territory. They also used the same trail which passed by McMinnville as the Situwakee/Jones group.

According to Dr. Youngwolf, about 1200 died on the trail and the rest of the 4,000 or so, who were exhausted and sick, died in the internment camps or passed when they got to Indian country. A lot of children and older people died after the arrival in Indian country.



Paul and Victoria are shown with the book "The Cherokee Trail of Tears" they donated to WCGHA in memory of Dr. David Ross Youngwolf, Eastern Band Cherokee.

*Signed:
"Always Follow the Data"
Paul D. Matheny Jr.
CDR, USN (Retired)*

They traveled through Tennessee, Kentucky, Southern Illinois, Cape Girardeau, MO and Crawley's Ridge, Arkansas to Indian Territory.

In 1987 congress designated the Cherokee Trail of Tears a national historic trail. The National Trail of Tears Association was created in 1993 by the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. There are 9 states involved.

***"Those who cannot remember
the past
are condemned to repeat it"***

George Santayana

***WCGHA is requesting old documents, pictures,
and/or stories relating to Grange Hall Cemetery
and/or School and Bernard Swimming Pool.***



Attending our March meeting were Former Sheriff Jackie Matheny (brother to Paul); Former Mayor of McMinnville, Warren County Executive and County Historian Jimmy Haley along with Paul Matheny.

Turn Your Radio On



WCGHA was represented as guests on “Town Talk” for the March 14 program. The show is broadcast on radio WBMC 960 AM-FM in McMinnville and is co-hosted by Kelly Marlow and Jason Hillis. Pictured, l-r are Marion Rhea Speaks, Kelly Marlow, and Doyle Speaks. “Town Talk” is broadcast Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Tune in on Thursday, April 18 at 8:30 a.m. when WCGHA will again be a guest on the show.

Wonderful Refreshments



Once again we had great refreshment at our March meeting. Carolyn Lance and Ann Brown prepared the great treats. On board for the April meeting are Christine Bouldin and Bettye Pack.

The Heritage of Warren County, TN Available Again!



The Heritage of Warren County, TN, published in 2005, is now available for sale again. Recently the WCGHA purchased from the publisher, County Heritage, Inc., the last of these informative, hardback books, which were thought to be out of print. This book can be purchased for just \$72.00 plus \$7.00 shipping and makes a nice gift. Make checks out to WCGHA and mail to: WCGHA, P.O. Box 411, McMinnville, TN 37111. Or come by the WCGHA office on Mondays or Fridays 9-3 p.m., County Administrative Building, 201 Locust St., McMinnville, Tennessee.

Pioneer Family Certificates Presented

85 Have Been Awarded



WCGHA President Cheryl Watson Mingle and Vice President Marion Rhea Speaks presented John B. Brown with his second Certificate. His qualifying ancestor is John Byars Webb.



John B. Brown Jr. received his certificate from President Cheryl Watson Mingle and Vice President Marion Rhea Speaks. His qualifying ancestor is Absalom Brown. John Jr. is the son of WCGHA member J. B. Brown.



John B. Brown III received his certificate from President Cheryl Watson Mingle and Vice President Marion Rhea Speaks. His qualifying ancestor is Absalom Brown. John B. III is grandson of WCGHA member J. B. Brown.



Wesley Rhea Brown received his certificate from President Cheryl Watson Mingle and Vice President Marion Rhea Speaks. His qualifying ancestor is Absalom Brown. Wesley is the grandson of WCGHA member J. B. Brown.

To Qualify for A Pioneer Family Certificate

The applicant must be directly descended from an ancestor who settled in Warren County prior to 1820. The applicant must be able to prove descent from the ancestor (male or female) by an official record or records for each generation, including proof for the applicant. Current Tennessee residence is not necessary.

Applications must be based on credible genealogical research such as, birth, marriage, death certificates, obituaries, census records, wills, court records, family Bible records written before 1970.

If your application is based on a previously approved application (such as a parent, sibling, grandparent, aunt, etc.) it is not necessary to resubmit documentation for overlapping generations. You need only send proof of descent for generations needed to link you to the previously approved applicant.

Bonner FCE Visits WCGHA for A Genealogy Workshop



Ann Brown, WCGHA past president, presented a program on genealogy research to the ladies from the Bonner FCE. The one hour program titled "Tracing Our Ancestors" was presented on April 1. Printed folders were presented to each attendee to follow along with the computer generated slide show. J.B. Brown assisted with computer operations.



Attending from the Bonner FCE are, L-R, first row: Donna Dunlap, Sue Adcock, Wanda Evans, Janice Darnaby, Alda Bandy, Frances Hobbs, and Joyce Mabery. Second row, L-R: Julie Heard, Mildred Vaughn, Sandra Blair, Violet Turner, Janice Boyd, Lisa Keener, Brenda Mitchell and Ann Brown who presented the program.

Warren Co. Genealogical & Historical Association

Facebook.com/Warren County Genealogical & Historical Association

Members Meeting Agenda

April 20, 2019

2:00 p.m.

WCGHA Office

OFFICERS

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

COMMITTEES

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Wilma Davenport

Programs:
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Bulletin Editor:
Chris Keathley

Newsletter Editor
Doyle Speaks

Webpage Editor
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

- WCMS History Club Workshops
- Bonner FCE Genealogy Workshop
- Scanner Updates
- Welcome Packet Approval
- Monty Wanamaker Memorial Display

NEW BUSINESS

PROGRAM

**April 20 – High Funeral Home
Cody Prince**

WBMC Town Talk – April 18th at 8:30, Marion Speaks
Adjournment
Refreshments: Christine Bouldin – Bettye Pack

Webpage: www.tngenweb.org/wcga

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.

1966-67 Irving College School



Submitted on February 27, 2018