



WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

June 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 meeting

Will be June 15

2:00 p.m.

201 Locust Street

Located in the basement of the
County Administration Building
McMinnville, TN

Our guest speaker
Rickey Burks



Will give a tour of the
Mountain View Cemetery
McMinnville, TN

A short business meeting will be held at the office
prior to meeting at the cemetery for the tour.

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:

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

201 Locust Street
McMinnville, Tennessee
in the basement of the
County Administrative
Building

Wealth of Knowledge

Brad Walker Talks Genealogy



CHERYL WATSON MINGLE PHOTO

Brad Walker presented an outstanding program at our May 18 meeting.

A genealogy program on the use of Deeds, Grants and Family Bibles was presented by Brad Walker to another large crowd at the May 18 meeting of the WCGHA.

This story was written with the help of slides Mr. Walker used in his Power Point presentation.

The United States historically gave out numerous land grants to people desiring farmland. Those grants were usually gifts for services rendered, such as military, or persons who could afford to build on the property and eventually pay taxes on it.

Grants are the first transfer of property, usually from the federal government, military, state and county.

Mr. Walker, who has transcribed for over 35 years explained that researchers can generate a great deal of information from those records.

A land grant is a grant of land – held by a government to hold until the land it granted to a person. In America, starting in the 16th century, land grants were given for the purpose of establishing settlements, missions, and farms. As English colonial law developed, headrights became patents and a patentee had to improve the land. Under this doctrine of planting and seeding, the patentee was required to cultivate 1-acre of land and build a small house on the property, otherwise the patent would revert to the government.

The two types of early Tennessee grants were:

West Tennessee: purchase grants based on an Act of Congress authorizing Tennessee to perfect titles To vacant and unappropriated lands south

(Continued on page 4)

Deeds, Grants and Bibles

(Continued from page 3)

and west of the Congressional Reservation line; entered through county land offices at \$.125 per acre for land in the Western District, west of the Tennessee River.

Mountain District: Made on the basis of Tennessee Acts 1827 which established a registers office in Sparta for new region called the Mountain District; this new land office apparently replaced those of the old Third Surveyors District, which were closed; purchase grants at \$.01 to \$.125 per acre up to 5,000 acres; these grants covered counties of White, Franklin, Warren, Marion, Bledsoe, Overton, Fentress, and Jackson and were designed to dispose of remaining surplus public land on the Cumberland Plateau (and from the state's standpoint, get it on the tax rolls); this district, perhaps more than any other was subject to gross fraud and speculative abuse in the issuance of grants.

Plats are drawn up from the grants. A plat is a map, drawn to scale, showing the divisions of a piece of land.

Most plats are drawn up by surveyors. This presents a language all of its own.

Ancient surveying systems used the **Metes and Bounds** system that described the perimeter of a parcel of land in terms of its bearings and distances and its relationship to natural features and adjacent parcels. In this system, property descriptions contained several types of information:

Survey lines Consisting of a direction and a distance; an example is "N23E 100 poles". Two survey systems were used: degree and compass point.

Descriptions of the creeks, trees and other natural features encountered along the boundaries of the property. Particular attention is paid to trees or other markers at the corners of the property. An example is "to two black oaks on the creek". Attention is also paid to any creeks and which direction they flow.

Names of abutting property owners (the neighbors). An example is "with Johnson's line".

Surveying lines are listed as poles, rods and chains.

Poles and rods are a unit of length and area. As a unit of length it is equal to 16.5 feet. A mile is 320 poles. As a unit of area it is equal to a square with sides one pole long. An acre is 160 square poles.

Chain is a unit of length commonly known as Gunter's chain, equal to 100 feet.

Acre is a unit of area equal to 43,560 square feet, or 10 square chains or 160 square poles. A square mile is 640 acres.

Deeds are usually made after the sale of part, or all, of a plat from the original to others. It includes the complete information and abstracts only include part of the information.

A deed is what shows that you are the owner of the property and gives a legal description of what property is owned.

The 3 most common deeds used to take title in Tennessee are: **Warranty Deed** – provides the buyer with the guarantee that the property is free and clear of any liens and that the seller has the authority to sell the property; **Special Warranty Deeds** -- are commonly used in the transfer of foreclosures and bank owned properties; and **Quit Claim Deeds** -- are often used to convey property from one person to another or to add additional people to title..

Deeds usually include 2 to 3 generations of information. This is a great place to help with your genealogy research.

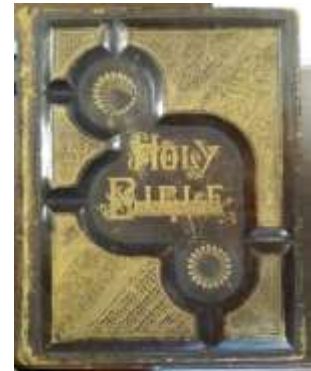
Old **Family Bibles** usually contain 5 generation forms. This is a great place to find that great, or great grandparent's maiden name.

Take caution to check hand writing to be sure it was not passed down and filled out by another person.

Be careful of copied Bible records. They can be created from the use of blank sheets from old Bibles to create fake records.

Photo copies are not legal unless notarized. When making copies from a Bible, be sure to get the cover page and date page and have your picture made holding it.

Brad Walker grew up in McMinnville and has worked with genealogy for over 35 years in Warren and surrounding counties. He is a Certified Tennessee Archivist and Certified Tennessee Public Library Manager. He worked as the genealogist for Magness Memorial Library for several years and is now the Director.



Word of advice from Brad: "Never loan a genealogical item to anyone."

501c3 Is Well On Its Way



Angela McCormack, standing far right, presented a program on 501c3 to the WCGHA Board of Directors on May 9. She is an Enrolled Agent with Pure Logic Tax Service. Her talk covered the subjects of “Why You Need to Be A 501C3 Association”, “The Benefits You Gain”, and the “Help You Will Need in Applying”. Angela has been contracted to help with this project and she has donated her time and expertise. If you have an interest or are in need of her services, she can be reached at 931-507-7008, email: angela@purelogictax.com.

Welcome New Members

Rickey Burks
1401 Highland Rd.
McMinnville, TN 37110
rlb@blomand.net
581-4415

Alma Lee Shoemaker
1381 Randall Hitchcock Rd.
Rock Island, TN 38581
strawberry11723@gmail.com
686-8863

Robert Lee Bates
2831 Pavilion Place
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
batesrl@comcast.net
615-330-2926



We have extended hours

Mondays 9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Fridays 9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Except Holidays

Additions to Our Historical Collection

WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY SUMMARY CONTRIBUTION RECORD

Month: May, 2019

Contribution	By	Date
Central High School - The Southerner 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957	Gail Askew	5/14/2019
Tennessee Historical Society 1997 #4, 1998 #4, 1999 #1, 2004 #1, 2006 #1, 2007 #2, 2013 #2, 2015 #3, 2016 #1, #3, #4, 2017 #1, 2018 #4	Barbara Bates	5/18/2019
Southern Standard (pdf version only) 1891_01_02_thru_1892_07_09 1893_05_27_thru_1893_11_18 1893_11_25_thru_1894_05_19 1894_05_19_thru_1894_11_10 1894_11_10_thru_1894_12_29 1947_01_10_thru_1947_03_28 1947_03_28_thru_1947_07_25 1947_08_01_thru_1947_10_31 1947_11_07_thru_1948_02_06 1966_01_04_thru_1966_06_28	Tom Bratcher Bonita Mangrum	5/31/2019
City School - Comet - May 1910 Smithsonian Institute (booklet) History of First United Methodist Church First United Methodist Church - 1980 Directory Official Souvenir Program McMinnville, TN Sesquicentennial 1810-1960 W. S. Lively & The Southern School of Photography for The Warren County Historical Society Warren County Historical Journal Vol III America's Heroes - A Salute to Veterans Warren County Answer Book	Diann Nunley Grissom	5/31/2019
L Virginia French's War Journal	J. W. & Connie Smith	5/31/2019
Collection of publications and documents (not completely inventoried)	Wanda Gant	5/31/2019



CHERYL WATSON MINGLE PHOTO

Serving refreshments at our May meeting were Evelyn Wade and Bonita Mangrum. Because of the Mountain View Cemetery tour scheduled immediately following a short business meeting, no refreshments will be provided for our June meeting. Don't forget to bring a bottle of water to the tour.

Turn Your Radio On

Representing WCGHA as guests on "Town Talk" for the May 9 program were Marion and Doyle Speaks. 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, Jason Hillis, and Doyle Speaks. "Town Talk" is broadcast Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Tune in on Thursday, June 13 at 8:15 a.m. when WCGHA will again be a guest on the show.

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.

Information on the Heritage Book:

- 618 pages
- 48 pages of Index
- 29,840 +/- names in Index
- Approximately 1,715 photos
- 1,730 numbered articles
- 6.2 pounds (weight)
- 12 3/8 x 9 1/4 x 2 inches (size)

For more information contact:

Allen Jaco, Treasurer @ allenjaco@blomand.net

or

Cheryl Watson Mingle @ ctmingle@blomand.net

Members Meeting Agenda

June 15th, 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

Membership:
Allen Jaco

Circulation Manager:
Wilma Davenport

Programs:
Marion Speaks

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 Board of Directors 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

- 501c3 Update
- Contributions
- Scanning Update
- Grange Hall

NEW BUSINESS

PROGRAM

***June 15 – Mt. View Cemetery Tour
Rickey Burks, Mt. View Historian***

WBMC Town Talk – June 13th at 8:30, Marion Speaks
Adjournment
Refreshments: No Refreshments - Tour

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.



Columbia School 1909

Go out to Lucky...toward Short Mountain. Cross Mt. Creek. Turn Right on Green Hill Rd. 3rd Brick house on the Right is exact spot! My Mom and Dad went there. Location provided by Mark Fuston.

Submitted by Carol A. Phillips, May 9, 2019