



# WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

**August 2020**

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee

## WCGHA OFFICERS



**President:**  
**Cheryl W. Mingle**



**Vice President:**  
**Marion Rhea Speaks**



**Secretary:**  
**Donna Sullivan**



**Treasurer:**  
**J.B. Brown**



**Past President:**  
**Ann Brown**

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

## The August 15, 2020 Meeting of WCGHA

# HAS BEEN CANCELLED

It's now 5 months out and Covid-19 is still controlling much of our lives. We're forced to check the rules each day to see what State and Local Government guidelines have been announced.

The decision has been made to cancel the August WCGHA meeting. Our meeting room in the Warren County Administration Building has been closed and to congregate elsewhere is not a wise decision. We must always keep the health of our members and the public a top priority.

We will continue to follow the guidelines and hopefully this pandemic will subside.

I miss seeing everyone and am looking forward to the September 19 meeting.

*Continued prayers and concern for everyone.*

Cheryl Watson Mingle, WCGHA President

## Committee And Chairs

### Membership:

*J. B. Brown*



### Circulation Manager:

*Debra Wilcher McBride*



### Programs:

*Marion Rhea Speaks*



### Bulletin Editor:

Position Open

### Newsletter Editor:

*Doyle Speaks*



### Publicity:

*Ann Brown*



### Refreshments:

*Christine Bouldin*



### Research:

*Bonita Mangrum*



*Mary Oaks*



### Office:

*Evelyn Wade & Ann Brown*



### Historian:

*Brad Walker*



*Come Visit Us*

**Due to Covid-19  
Our office is  
Presently closed**

**Our normal  
hours are**

**Monday  
&  
Friday**

**9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
931-474-4227**

Email:

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

On the Web:

[www.tngenweb.org/wcggha](http://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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## FROM YOUR EDITOR:

*Dear Members,*

*It's hard to believe we have not had a meeting since February 15 and this social distancing thing hasn't been easy to live with. I wake up every morning and thank God that we live in a country with so much freedom and I sure do miss that.*

*I've wondered how we would have handled this pandemic without the internet, cable TV and smart phones, not to mention the many forms of transportation. I guess that would have been shades of the Walton's.*

*I have strived to once again prepare a Newsletter for you all. I hope you are not disappointed with its content. I have included another entry to "cemetery art" and hope you find that of interest. Along with that feature I have done a short history and pictures on one of our older Warren County churches.*

*The stories inside this issue show the Cemetery Project dominating the activity of several of our members. The purchase of cemetery signs is off to a good start and several members have worked very hard cleaning cemeteries and comb graves.*

*I've added a new feature on "older church congregations" and have chosen the Shellsford Baptist Church for this issue.*

*Several of our members have been blessed with wonderful vegetable gardens and agreed to share their photos on preserving their bounty.*

*Hopefully we will see you all at the September meeting. In the meantime, stay safe and be very vigilant in efforts to control the spread of Covid-19.*

*Doyle Speaks, Newsletter Editor  
Speaksanddm@aol.com*

# Project Update - Cemeteries of Warren County

We have the first two signs here ready to be installed. We are considering an option for cemeteries that are located on private property in an effort to alleviate liability concerns of property owners.



Donations must be received by the **21<sup>st</sup> of August** to be included in the next batch of signs ordered. We have obtained a special price for the next order of \$30.00 per sign. You can donate for a specific sign or make a donation in general. Contact Ann at 931-205-0451 or J.B. at 931-607-34446.

Cemetery	Donated by:
Adcock Cemetery	
Atkinson Cemetery	
Bailey Cemetery	
Bonner Cemetery	
Boren Cemetery	
Campaign Cemetery	
Capshaw Cemetery	
Cardwell Cemetery	Barbara Bates
Cotton Cemetery	
Crisp Cemetery	
Douglas Cemetery	
Elder Family Cemetery	
Evans Cemetery	
Flatwoods Cemetery	Cheryl Mingle
Foster-Scurlock Cemetery	
Fountain Spring Cemetery	
Fuston-McGee Cemetery	
Garmon Cemetery	
Goodson - Mullican Cemetery	
Green Cemetery	
Hammer Cemetery	
Hash Cemetery	Doyle Speaks
Herndon Cemetery	
Hulett Cemetery	
Jaco Cemetery	Allen Jaco
Johnson Cemetery	Donna Sullivan
Kell Cemetery	

King Cemetery	
Lance Cemetery	Bobby & Carolyn Lance
Leesburg Cemetery	
Macedonia Cemetery	
Marbury Cemetery	
McKey Cemetery	
McWhirter Cemetery	
Neal Cemetery	Vicki Stoner
New Rocky Cemetery	
Old Concord Cemetery	
Old Philadelphia Cemetery	Marion Rhea Speaks
Old Rocky Cemetery	
O'Neal Cemetery	
Overton Cemetery	
Ramsey Cemetery	
Romans Cemetery	Betty Pack
Sanders Cemetery	Dewey & JoAnn Cantrell In Memory of Lee Cantrell
Shellsford Cemetery	
Slaughter Cemetery	
Smith Cemetery	
Street Family Cemetery	
Wagner Cemetery	



**Water Spider Lily also known as Carolina Spider Lily – Ann Brown**



**Red Spider Lily – Doyle Speaks**



# Woods Cemetery Cleanup



Cleaning up Woods Cemetery, located here in Warren County, was on the agenda for J.B and Ann Brown as well as Thomas and Cheryl Watson Mingle a week or so ago. Ann cleaned the one existing tombstone identifying one of two comb (tent) graves. Thomas and Cheryl spent time removing overgrown bushes and vines from the other graves. This overgrown bush was the direct result of one planted by the graves and left unattended.



# Cemetery Art



**This is the beautiful tombstone for Brenda Stotts Muncey 7-12-1947 – 7-14-2019. Photo of the back of the stone is at the right. It is located in the Mt. Zion Cemetery in the Viola area of Warren County.**



*These unique stones are shipped and are polished and scribed by a local monument company.*



**Tombstone for Penny Ann Muncey 5-20-1973 – 1-23-2018, daughter of Eddie and Brenda Stotts Muncey. Photo of the back of the stone is at the right. It is located in the Mt. Zion Cemetery in the Viola area of Warren County.**



*This is the second in a series of unique grave markers you will find in some of our local cemeteries.*

*Let me know if you run across one of interest*

# Preserving Our Bounty

WCGHA members J.B. and Ann Brown are getting prepared for cold weather. They recently took



advantage of an abundance of fresh vegetables by freezing 8 dozen ears of corn, ½

bushel of okra and canned a bushel of green beans. It's been a good year for gardens in Warren County. Very warm humid weather, along with an abundance of rain has made that possible. J.B. is WCGHA Treasurer and Ann is Past President of the Association.



*J.B. and Ann Brown photos*



**MEMORIES OF MY CHILDHOOD -- A special breakfast on weekends was "hickory cane" corn over biscuits (rather than gravy) with sliced tomatoes. I think Mom and Dad might have had bacon also. And yes, there is a biscuit under that corn. Thanks, Mom!**



*Ann Brown*



# A Recipe You Might Enjoy



*It's a great time of the year to try this dish with so many fresh vegetables available. Marion Rhea Speaks shares her mother, Frances Durham Bradley's old Southern recipe for this veggie medley.*

## **Garden Delight**

*3 medium sized potatoes*

*1 medium onion*

*2 medium green tomatoes*

*2 crook-necked squash*

*1 bag frozen breaded okra*

*1/2 cup shortening or vegetable oil*

### **Directions:**

*Peel the potatoes and cut into 1 inch squares and fry in ¼ cup shortening until almost done. Cut the green tomatoes and squash into similar size pieces. Slice the onion into ¼ inch slices. Mix these ingredients into the skillet with the potatoes and continue frying until soft. In a separate skillet with the remaining shortening, fry the breaded okra until lightly browned. Add all ingredients together and continue frying until done.*

*Serve with some fresh ripe sliced tomatoes and your favorite main dish.*



*You're invited to submit a recipe to be published in future Newsletters. Please send to:  
Newsletter Editor  
[Speaksanddm@aol.com](mailto:Speaksanddm@aol.com)*

# History of Our Older Churches

## SHELLSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

Attending church is an integral part of so many of our lives and I felt it would be good to do a series of history from several of our older congregations. The churches chosen are in no certain order and here is the first in this new series for the Newsletter.



I met with Don Yancy, chairman of the deacons, for a tour of the church property at 121 Bottoms Road, McMinnville. My intention was to hopefully copy a few older pictures and gather enough information for a short story. Thanks to Dan, he gave me a story on the church history written in 1993 by church member Zora

Waldrop. I couldn't have written it better.

### *A Brief History of* **THE SHELLSFORD BAPTIST CHURCH** *1810-1993*

**By Zora Waldrop**

*The Shellsford Baptist Church, the largest rural congregation of Baptist in Warren County, has a membership in excess of 600. The Shellsford Church was established in 1810 when Rev. William Thompson and Rev. George Stubblefield came from the Blue Springs Baptist Church on Hickory Creek, near Viola, and held a brush arbor meeting near what was known as Buck Springs.*

*After the brush arbor meeting, a house of split logs, put together with wooden pegs, was built. The cabin supposedly had one door, two windows and a fireplace. It was used until about 1857 when it was replaced with a frame building. The original log church building was sold in 1861 for \$4.00.*

*The original name of the Shellsford Baptist Church was Buck Spring Baptist Church on the Collins River.*



**This is the original pulpit from the Shellsford Baptist Church "third building." The congregation used this building from 1900 to 1947.**

*The original name of the Shellsford Baptist Church was Buck Spring Baptist Church on the Collins River.*

*According to tradition, the spring for which the original church was named got its name because of hunting success at the location of pioneer settler Jordon Sellers. Sellers, who lived in the vicinity, would go to the spring and wait nearby in the early morning hours for deer to come and drink, then take*

***Continued on the following page***



Photo of several early church members.

## SHELLSFORD CONTINUED

*a bead on them down the barrel of his trusty rifle. He furnished his larder with so many deer from the site that, not only the spring, but the entire surrounding area became known as Buck Spring.*

*Shellsford was named for Christian Shell who owned and operated a mill only a short distance down the Collins River. Shellsford was one of the earliest settlements in Warren County, and sometime between 1820 and 1855 the name of the church was changed to the Baptist Church of Christ at Shellsford.*

*Organized as a Primitive Baptist Church, Shellsford was reorganized as a Separate Baptist and finally became a Missionary Baptist Church. Shellsford affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention in 1879 and remains as a member of the*



**Baptism held at the Collins River in 1960 – Bro. Donald Owens is shown baptizing Donald Roberts. Also baptized that day were James Huston Bond, Winnett Driver Ballard and Dorothy and Winston Driver. Dated July 3, 1960, transcribed by Violet Bond.**

*religious body. It has belonged to several associations, and is now a member of the Central Association of Tennessee Southern Baptists.*

*Earliest minutes of the church have been lost or misplaced. Minutes, which the church now has, start with one entry for 1854, then go to January 1855. These continue until 1879, then skip to 1895 and continue to 1921. Records between 1921 and the early 1940s have been lost or misplaced. Minutes from 1943 to the present are complete. Each early entry, and on up to about 1950 begins “The Baptist Church of Christ met at Shellsford Saturday before the second Sunday...”*

*Shellsford originally met once a month, Saturday and the second Sunday; the Saturday session being held to conduct business and the Sunday gathering for worship. This practice continued until the 1930’s when Sunday School was instituted on the every-Sunday basis but with preaching only on the Second and fourth Sundays. It became a full time, every-Sunday church shortly thereafter.*

*As with most churches in the early days, money was hard to come by and the preacher’s salary, or whatever he received for his services, was by subscription on the part of church members. Records indicate the subscription of male members in 1870 was 25 cents a quarter with women paying 10 cents a quarter, or every three months.*

*It appears the first annual salary of a preacher at Shellsford was voted in 1909, the amount being \$100 a year.*

*Each time a new building was erected it was moved farther from the spring and closer to the main road. Today’s church building is within sight of the Shellsford-Fairview Road.*

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Bro. Gene McClure, Pastor

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting	6:00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome



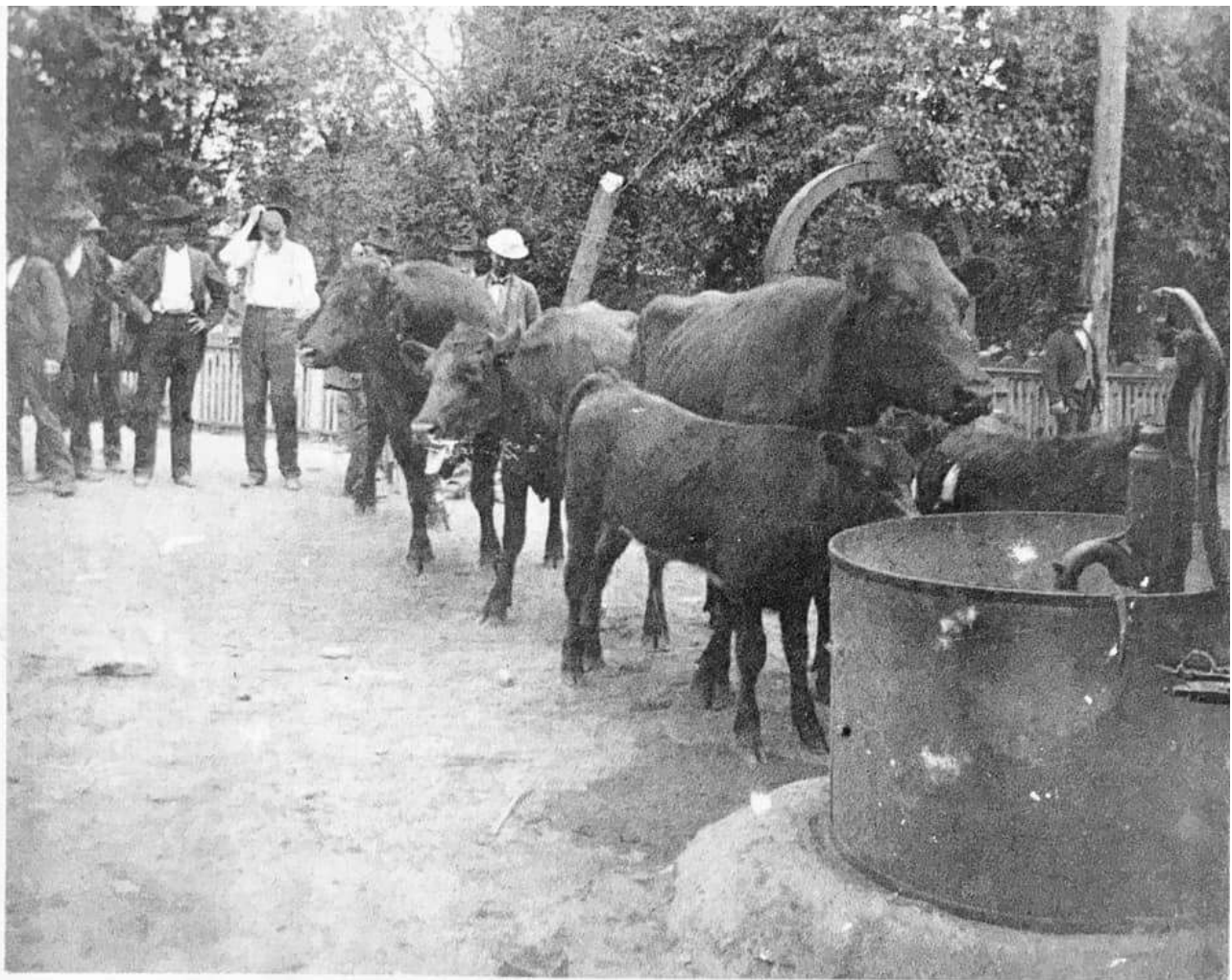
## From the Facebook files of

### 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.



### **Watering Hole**

A cistern served as a local watering hole in Mc-Minnville for P.H. Winton's stock when this picture

was made in 1899. The cistern was located where the Town Shop is today on Court Square.

Submitted by Tommy D. Fairbanks June 30, 2019

**WCGHA's Old Warren County, TN Family History/Photos**  
**MONTHLY INSIGHTS**  
**July, 2020**

4,527 Group Members (+20 this month)

Gender: 68% Women – 32% Men

16 Posts	166 Comments	946 Reactions
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**Top Contributors**

Lucas Holt  
Jimmie Cope  
Jill Nock  
Tommy D Fairbanks  
Charles Page

**Top Post**

DonaldandJeannineMiller: 1964 Magness Drugs Ruler with McMinnville City & McMinnville Central Football Schedules  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WCGAoldwarrencountytntfamilies/permalink/2984932108290150/>

Comments: 16  
Likes: 103  
Shares: 2  
Reactions: 1.9

**Peak Time:** Friday, 5 p.m.

Don't forget to follow our Facebook page at  
Warren County Genealogical & Historical Association  
for information about our Association, upcoming events, and posts and links relating to genealogy and history

**Be Safe...**

**Wear a mask**

**Honor the 6 ft. distance rule**

**Avoid crowds**

**Stay home when possible**

## BOOKS for SALE

Warren County Genealogical & Historical Association

P. O. Box 411

McMinnville, TN 37111-0411

<b>WARREN COUNTY</b>	<b>Visitors</b>	<b>Members</b>
The Heritage of Warren County (1807-2005)	\$72.00	\$57.60
<b>BIRTH, DEATH, &amp; FUNERAL RECORDS</b>		
Warren County Funeral Notices 1878-1913	\$15.00	\$12.00
Warren County Death Certificates & Death Records 1914-1925	\$25.00	\$20.00
Warren County Births & Deaths 1926-1938		
Warren County Death Records 1927-1937	\$20.00	\$16.00
Funeral Home Records: Jacobs & Jarrell Store & Funeral Home, Morrison, TN 1902-1904	\$15.00	\$12.00
Some Early Coffee Co. Deaths & Guardianship Book 1838-1869	\$8.00	\$6.40
Van Buren County, TN Death Records 1914 - 1919	\$10.00	\$8.00
<b>CENSUS RECORDS</b>		
Warren County Census 1860	\$25.00	\$20.00
Warren County Census 1880	\$25.00	\$20.00
Warren County 1891 Tax Record	\$20.00	\$16.00
Warren County Census 1900	\$25.00	\$20.00
<b>MARRIAGE RECORDS</b>		
Warren County Marriages 1852-1900	\$25.00	\$20.00
Warren County Marriages 1900-1950	\$25.00	\$20.00
Warren County Marriages 1950-1975	\$25.00	\$20.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS TITLES</b>		
John Hammon Lawsuit	\$15.00	\$12.00
Mt, Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1809- 1930	\$8.00	\$6.40
Old Philadelphia Church History by James Dillon	\$5.00	\$4.00
<b>TOUR BOOKS</b>		
Plainview Tour Book (2007)	\$12.00	\$9.60
Rebel Hill/McMinnville Original Lots Tour	\$8.00	\$6.40
Viola Tour Book (2005)	\$10.00	\$8.00
All Three Tour Books	\$25.00	\$20.00
Riverside Tour by Rachel Hillis	\$5.00	\$4.00
<b>WCGHA Bulletins</b>		
WCGA Bulletins 1992 thru current	\$15.00	\$12.50
Add Shipping: Heritage of WC: \$7.00 All others: \$3.00 for first book; \$1.75 each additional book.		



# Youth Hard at Work

Shayna Jacobs and sister Shy Jacobs are pictured working their garden. They are the children of Shonda and Shane Jacobs and granddaughters of WCGHA President Cheryl Watson Mingle. This is the way they raised money this summer. Cheryl is so, so proud of them.



Shayna Jacobs



Shy Jacobs

