



# WCGHA Newsletter

APRIL  
2024

201 LOCUST ST., MCMINNVILLE, TN 37100



President

Mary Don Bixby



Vice President

Mary Oaks



Secretary

Barbara Bates



Treasurer

Ann Brown



Past President

Ann Brown

**Come Join Us  
on April 20**  
**For the next WCGHA Meeting**

**“Falcon Rest”**  
**By George McGlothlin**

We will meet in the Early Voting  
room located in the Warren County  
Administration building,  
201 Locust Street

No refreshments will be served.

*Mary Don Bixby, WCGHA President*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello, Friends:

I hope that all of you are as happy as I am to see spring in Middle Tennessee! For those of you who don't live here, I advise that you plan your next visit at this time of year. The dogwoods and redbuds, the cherry trees and the iris are so beautiful, and they remind me why I love living in this area.

I also hope that you have been seeing the old school pictures being published in the Southern Standard. Thank you, Gail Woodlee, for arranging this with the newspaper. Also, a big thank you goes to Ann Brown for numbering and preparing the photos for publication. We have had lots of interest in this feature, and folks seem delighted to help identify the students.

Don't forget that a wonderful way to honor and/or memorialize friends and family is to give a contribution to WCGHA. Books, pamphlets, documents, maps, and money gifts are such a lasting gift. Soon, we will be recognizing contributions on our website, the Bulletin, the newspaper and in our new Honor Registry.

We would be thrilled for you to help the organization in a way you would enjoy. We have fun at the office while still accomplishing a great deal. Join us!

Hope to see you on April 20!

Mary Don

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Apr 11th—**WCGHA Board of Directors**

Apr 17th—**WBMC's Town Talk**

Apr 20th—**George McGlothin, "Falcon Rest"**

May 9th—**WCGHA Board of Directors**

May 15th—**WBMC's Town Talk**

May 18th—**Charlotte Boyd, "History of Beersheba Springs"**

# Falcon Rest Mansion & Gardens

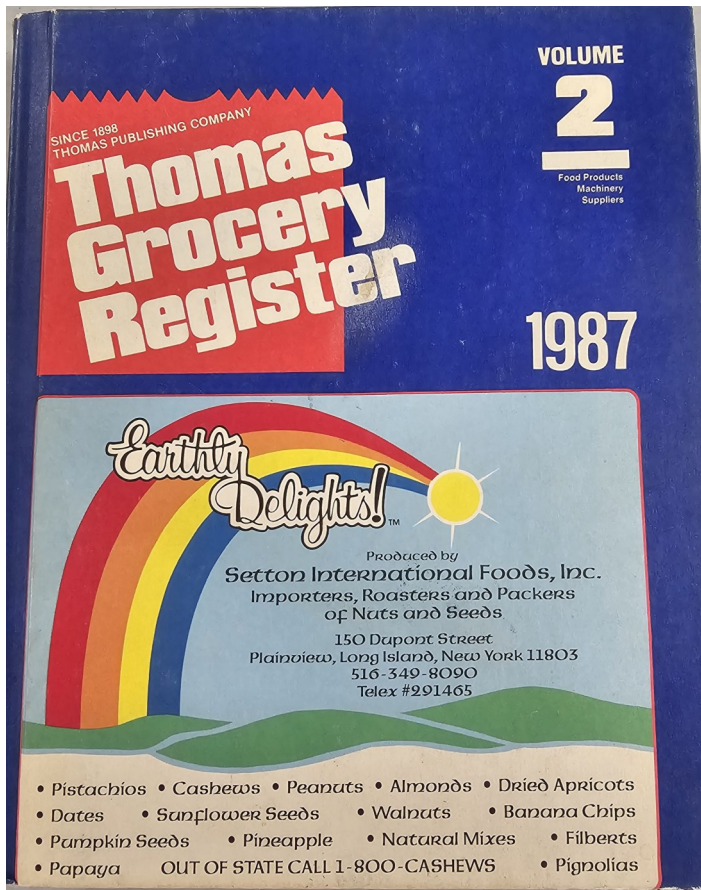


**WHERE HISTORY  
IS FUN**

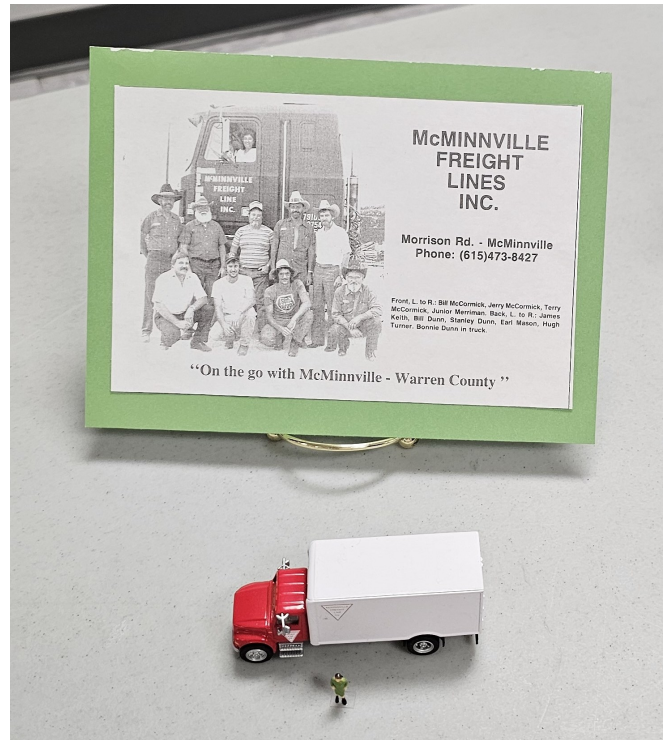


## MARCH 16, 2024 MEMBERS MEETING

Morris Hillis, local hobbyist, was the speaker for our March 16th meeting. He brought his extensive collection of miniature vehicles and figures, and shared with us how he got started in this interesting hobby. While most collectors just buy the items they collect, Mr. Hillis creates these authentic-looking miniatures. Using the Thomas Grocery Register published in 1987, he obtains the logos that he then converts to labels. After hand painting the vehicle, he then cuts and applies the label to create a miniature version of a company vehicle. As you can imagine from the following pictures, Mr. Hillis has spent many, many hours of tedious work on his collection and is truly dedicated to his craft!







## Somewhere In Tennessee

Nationwide documentary on the Tennessee Maneuvers to be broadcast next year.

“Somewhere in Tennessee.” In seven large-scale maneuvers between 1941 and 1944, this tag described the location of more than 800,000 U.S. Army troops (thank goodness not all at one time) training in Middle Tennessee for the invasion of Europe. Why here? The War Department considered the area’s terrain similar to that of France and Germany, making it the perfect place for war games.

General George S. Patton used the Manchester area in 1941 to prove the value of mechanized armored cavalry—tanks—in warfare. Across the entire maneuvers area, farmland was churned up, fences toppled, and roads were rutted, but the government promised compensation.

Warren was one of eventually twenty-one counties within the maneuvers area. Citizens were awed at the sight of soldiers, jeeps, half-tracks, and tanks on their farmland and city streets. Soldiers from above the Mason-Dixon were likewise awed by Southern hospitality.

“K-rations will win the war—if we can figure out how to get the Germans to eat them.” So wrote one soldier to his Tennessee hosts. Many families fed or took in the boys—some homesick—and provided them with a weekend of fellowship. Letters show that hot biscuits, fried chicken, and country ham were long remembered.

Next year filmmaker Kelly Magill will have finished a three-part documentary on the maneuvers to be broadcast on national television. She and the film’s researchers are seeking period photographs of McMinnville and outlying communities, letters, diaries, and funny/serious accounts to tell the story. Photographs are especially important. Original materials will be scanned and returned to the owners. If there is enough interest, the scanners will visit Warren County. Utmost respect and care will be given to the materials.

Contact Susan Gordon at (615) 944-9338 or send items to 1404 Holly Street, Nashville, TN 37106.

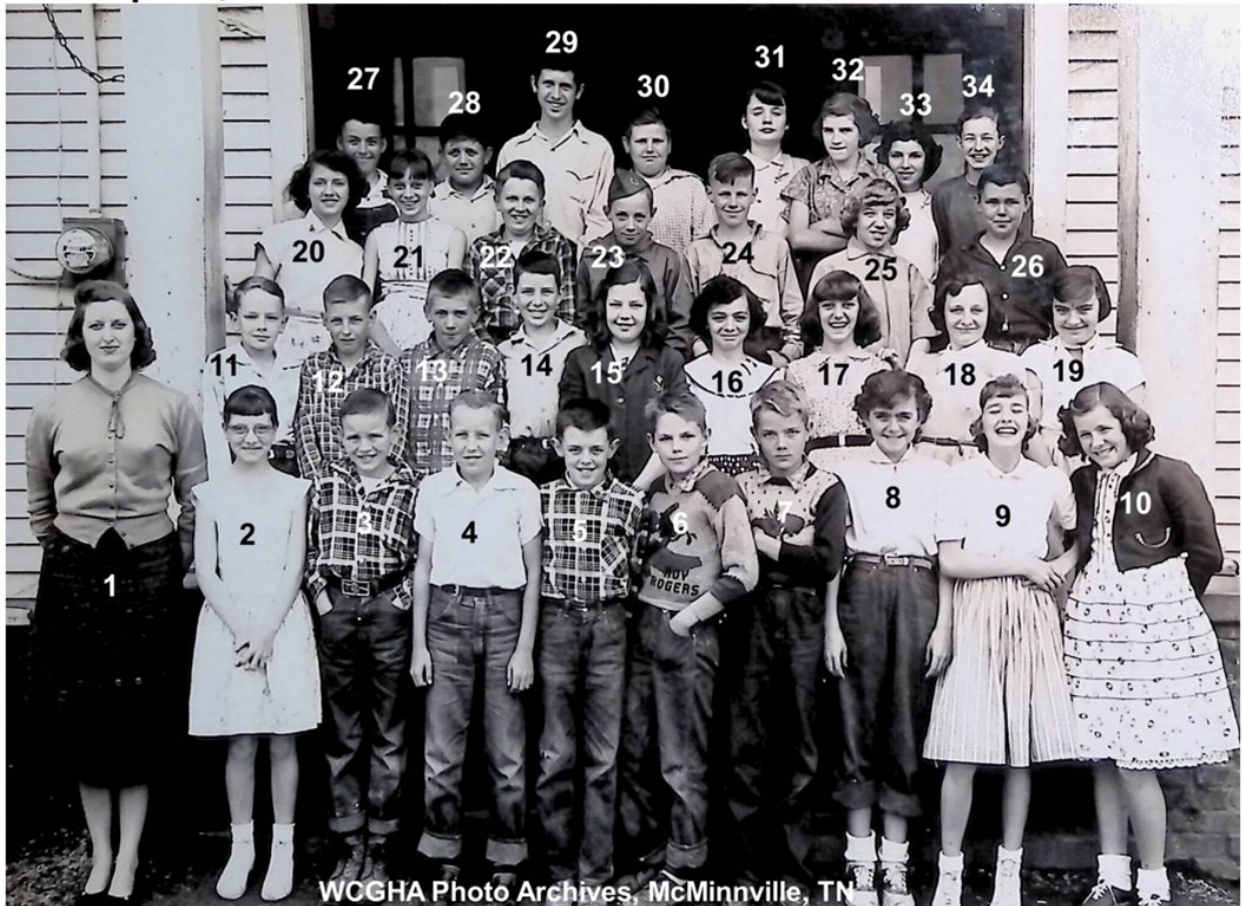
## Do You Remember

Here are the school photos published in March in the Southern Standard.

We missed one week but we've had some really great response from the photos posted!

Identified!

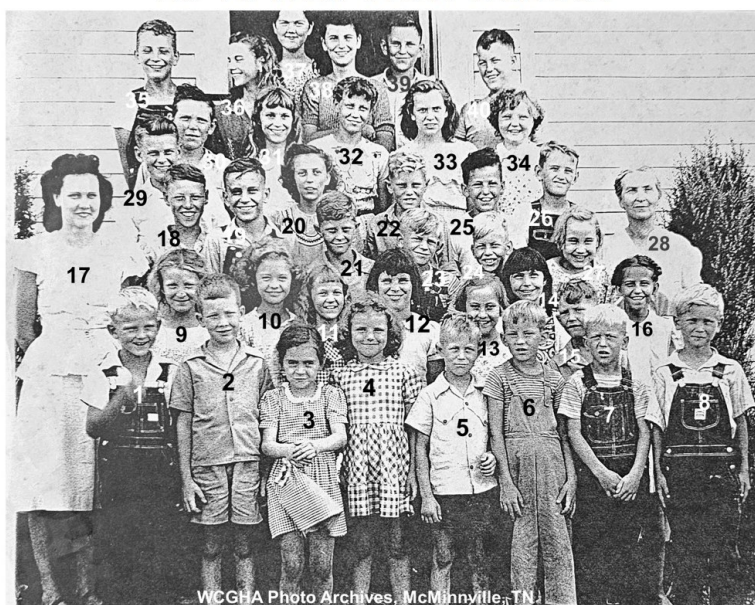
### April, 1956 Fairview School – Class # 7



(1) Mabel Curtis (2) Agnes Hitchcock (3) Wade Melton (4) Lonnie Roberts (5) Lyndon Bottoms (6) Junior Smith (7) David Smith (8) Linda Christian Cope (9) Mary Frances Hodges (10) Nancy Keel (11) Andy Myers (12) Asa Ferrell (13) Houston Green (14) Kenneth Priest (15) Mary Janice Evans (16) Betty Jean Ware (17) Brenda Green (18) Treva Bottoms (19) Ruby Bess (20) Paulette Hale (21) Wanda Roberts (22) Woody Byars (23) Jimmy Passons (24) Leonard Keel (25) Carolyn Summerall (26) Billy Whiteaker (27) Tommy Smith (28) Clifford Starkey (29) Carl Fults (30) Jimmy Morton (31) Ruth Roberts (32) Carrie Jane Pyburn (33) Hilda Barnes (34) Gladys O'Neal (2024.02.23)

## Identified!

### 1946 Mt. View School



(1) Junior Bratcher; (2) Haskell Knight, Jr.; (3) Linda Vandergriff; (4) Jackie Harding; (5) Tommy Dodd; (6) Earl Wayne Smith; (7) Silas Cantrell; (8) Wendell Adcock; (9) Martha Bratcher; (10) Linda Thurman; (11) Linda Dodd; (12) Nora Adcock; (13) Thelma Jones; (14) Joan Veal; (15) Glen Turner; (16) Jenel Smith; (17) Eula Allen, Teacher; (18) Pete Holt; (19) Lavern Jones; (20) Sue Allen; (21) Dan Turner; (22) Don Turner; (23) James Cantrell; (24) Aaron Cantrell; (25) Butch Evans; (26) Billy Jones; (27) Velma Jones; (28) Virginia Ramsey, Teacher; (29) Kenneth Vanhooser; (30) Jimmy Veal; (31) Velma Adcock; (32) Dorothy Dodd; (33) Gail Gilley; (34) Joyce Burks; (35) Harold Womack; (36) Omega Cantrell; (37) June Knight; (38) Eileen Adcock; (39) Sonny Barrett; (40) Charles Knight (2024.04.05)

### 1929 Viola Students



You can view all the photos on our web page at: <https://tngenweb.org/wcgatn/photo-archives/>



**MORE PUBLICITY FROM THE SOUTHERN STANDARD!**

## **WCGHA salutes pioneer families**



Photo provided

**The Warren County Genealogical and Historical Association welcomes Warren County residents to join the Pioneer Family Program. The program has been established to honor McMinnville and Warren County pioneers and their descendants. Pictured are, from left, WCGHA President Mary Don Bixby, Evelyn Wade and Marie Blair, chairperson for the Pioneer Family Program. Wade received certificates recognizing Elijah Fletcher as a Pioneer Ancestor of Warren County as gifts for her daughters, Sebrena and Trena Wade. To qualify, an applicant must prove their ancestor lived in Warren County during the 1807-1820 timeframe, and prove their line of descent from the ancestor by official records for each generation. A list of already established pioneers as well as applications and guidelines are available at [tngenweb.org/wcgatn](http://tngenweb.org/wcgatn).**

## Office News

Our volunteers racked up 168 3/4 hours in the month of February! Our committees have been busy and the office has seen several visitors in this months.

## Research

We had visitors researching the Daylight Post Office, Centertown School, Fairview School, and surnames Lance, Bates, Davenport, Prater, Pack, King and others. One of our visitors was here all the way from Minnesota—thanks to Carolyn Lance and Bettye Pack who helped her with her research.

## Contributions

George Nicholson Photo Collection	Photo Archives	Nicholson Daughters
Dibrell school photo and other memorabilia		Grace Davidson
Casey family file	Family Files	Judy Hoover
Taft & Myers ESSO Station Photo	Photo Archives	Richard Myers
Boyd Nursery Company Letters	Business Files	Larry Boyd
Topo Maps, 1862 McMinnville Map	Archives	Carolyn Lance
Southern Standard Magazines	Archives	Rachel Killebrew
History of Viola	Community Files	Linda Prater

## It's time to renew your 2024 Membership!

2024 Membership dates are March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025.

Many of you have already renewed, thank you for your support! Membership dues are the primary monetary support for the Association which fund our bulletins and office requirements.

We will be mailing out final renewal notices to members who have not renewed in the next few days.



## **Come Visit Us**

**Our hours are  
Monday & Friday  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
931-474-4227**

**Email:**

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

**On the Web:**

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

**On Facebook:**

Warren County Genealogical  
& Historical Association  
and

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

Our office is located at  
201 Locust Street  
McMinnville, Tennessee  
in the lower level of the  
County Administration Building

## **Committees**

**Membership:**

***Ann Brown***



**Historian:**

***Chris Keathley***



**Programs:**

***Mary Don Bixby***



**Web page/FB Admin:**

***Ann Brown***



**Research:**

***Bonita Mangrum***

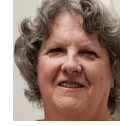


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