



201 LOCUST ST., McMINNVILLE, TN 37100

# WCGHA

## Newsletter

JUNE  
2025



President

Mary Oaks



Vice President

Bettye Pack



Secretary

Barbara Bates



Treasurer

Ann Brown



Past President

Mary Don Bixby

**Come Join Us  
on June 21  
at 2 p.m.**

***For the next WCGHA Meeting***

***“The Battle of  
Rock  
Island”***

***By Dr. Troy Smith***

We will meet in the Early Voting Room  
located at the back of the Warren  
County Administration building,  
201 Locust Street

*Mary Oaks, WCGHA President*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### Dear Fellow Members!

We were disappointed in the turn out for Gratia Strother's presentation on the Methodist Archives last month. We encourage our members to attend if possible and invite visitors. Those who did not attend missed an excellent program!

We have another interesting program planned for June and we hope that our members will be able to attend.

We are almost halfway through the year and July will be Show & Tell so start making plans for something to share with the group. It's always a fun time!

Stop by and visit with us in the Association office on Monday and Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

We hope to see you on the 21st!

Mary

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Jun 11th—**WCGHA Board of Directors**

Jun 18th—**WBMC's Town Talk**

Jun 21th—**The Battle of Rock Island (the last of the significant engagements of the Chickamauga Wars) by Dr. Troy Smith**

### This day in June:

June 2, 1953 - Elizabeth II's coronation took place in Westminster Abbey

June 5, 1968 - Senator Robert F. Kennedy was shot by Sirhan Sirhan at the Ambassador Hotel

June 6, 1944 - The D-Day invasion of Normandy by allied troops took place to liberate France and Western Europe from German occupation

June 11, 1987 - Margaret Thatcher became the first British Prime Minister in 160 years to win a third consecutive term

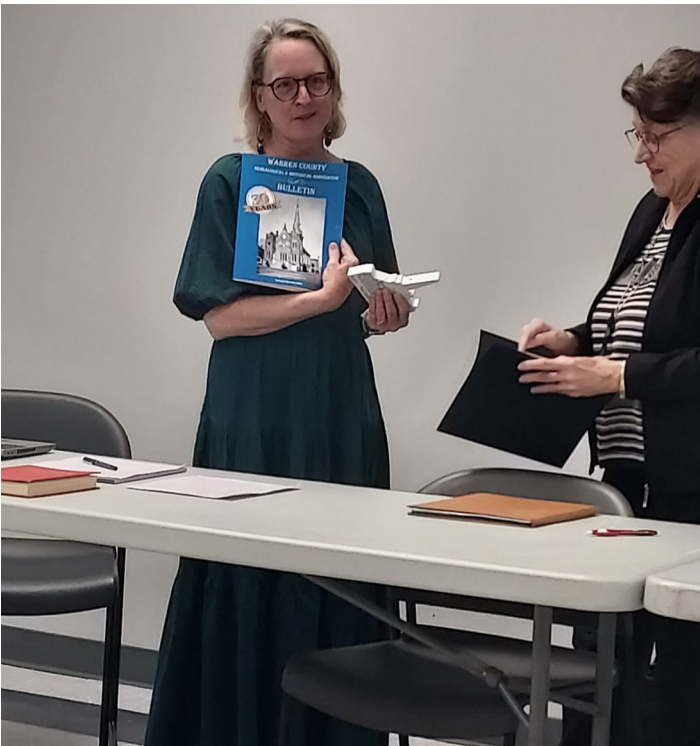
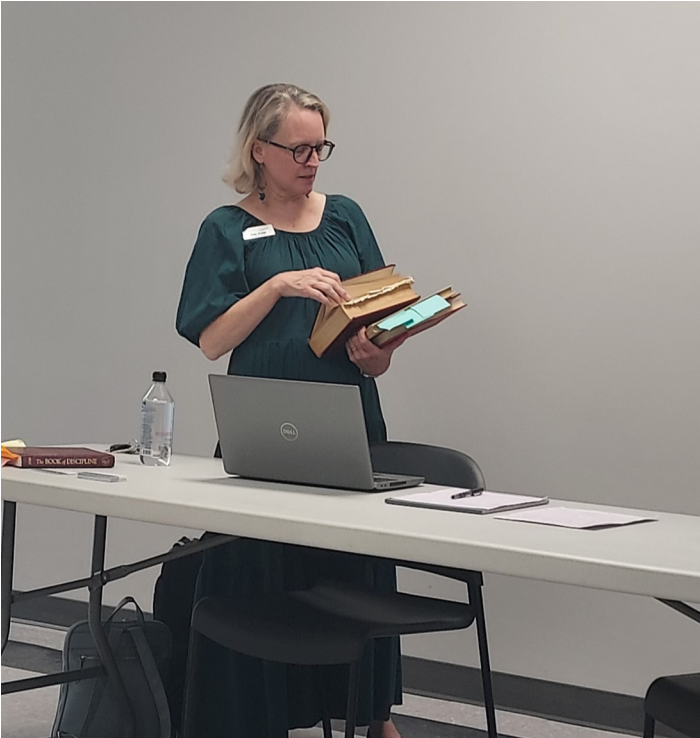
June 18, 1815 - British and Prussian forces led by Field Marshal Gebhard Von Blucher and the Duke of Wellington defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in Belgium





## May 17, 2025 Members Meeting

Our speaker was Gratia Strother, Archivist of the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church, who also serves on the U.M.C.'s Southeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History. She gave a detailed presentation of the clerical and laic hierarchy of the Methodist Church, providing insight into the various historical church documents that could be useful in our genealogical research.



A LETTER RECEIVED BY BONITA MANGRUM

Frederic POCHAUVIN

20 rue Laennec

29850 GOUESNOU

France

Madame,


I am a french genealogist and I am researching the family of a soldier who died in 1944 during World War II in Guipavas, near Brest, France, named Floyd William Jr. Holder. My searches on "Findagrave" led me to contact you, Bernice Driver, who recommended I write to you because you are related to this soldier. My goal is to learn about his story, his descendants, or close family, in order to trace his life. Indeed, my town has a project to honor these American soldiers who died in combat, here in France, but more specifically in Brittany. I am attaching the link to the project. The ultimate goal would be to welcome you, or someone in your family, to the inauguration of this memorial.

Thank you in advance for your invaluable help.

See you soon.

Memorial project : <https://www.gouesnou-us-memorial.com/>

Fred

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fred', with a large loop and a long horizontal stroke.



## FROM THE MEMORIAL WEBSITE



During the summer of 1944, more than 200 American soldiers fell in the commune of Gouesnou in Finistère, between the first day of the siege of Brest and the battles of Bourgneuf-Fourneuf and Kergroas.

As part of the celebration of the 80th anniversary of Victory, so that their sacrifice is never forgotten and the tragedies of the past are not repeated, the City of Gouesnou has decided to erect a memorial in honor of these Freedom fighters.

Thanks to your support, this monument will honor the memory of each of these men and offer families a true place of remembrance.

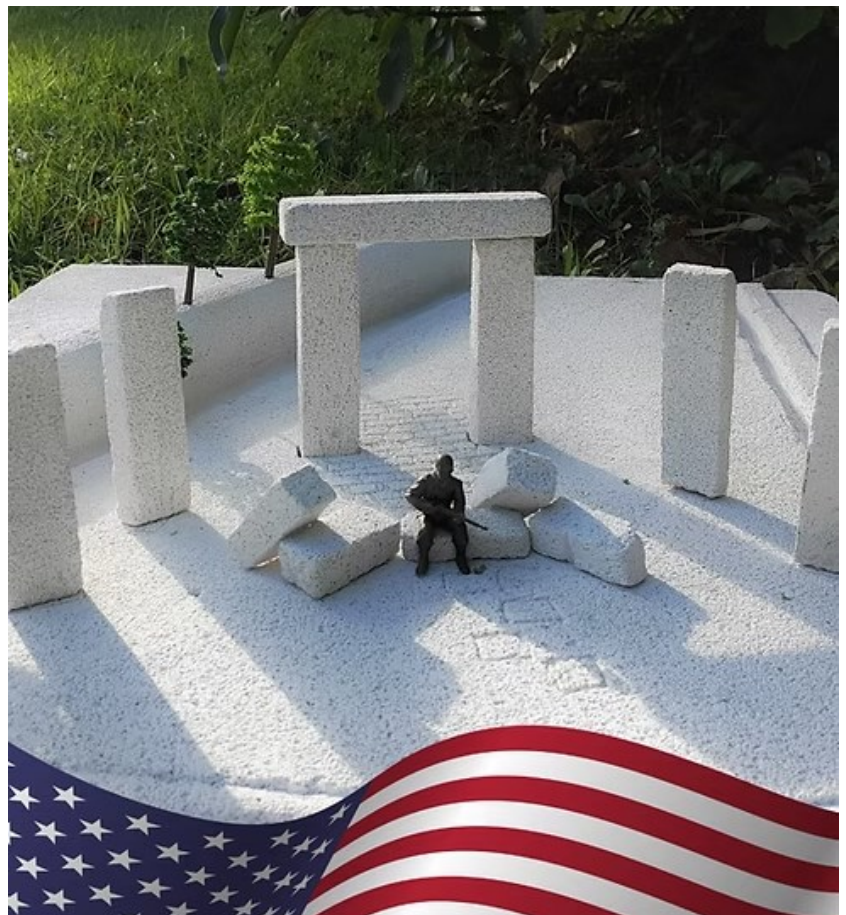
Stéphane Roudaut,  
Mayor of Gouesnou

The work depicts a life-size sculpted American soldier, an exhausted soldier sitting on a pile of stones, holding his rifle in his hands.

His bayonet rests beside him. Behind his back stands a monumental door on which the names of all his comrades in arms are engraved.

A door, a symbol of freedom, of transition, of the passage from darkness to light, of the heavy sacrifice of these men who came from the other side of the Atlantic to drive out the enemy and help us regain our freedom.

Jean-Philippe Drevillon, sculptor





During World War II, Brest was liberated from German occupation on September 18, 1944. Before reaching Brest, several battles took place on the outskirts of the city, notably in Gouesnou between August 7 and September 4, 1944, notably on two strategic points known as "strong points": the ridge lines of Bourgneuf-Fourneuf and the fortified farm of Kergroas. Two American infantry divisions were engaged in these battles and many American soldiers lost their lives.

To reconstruct the story of the events and identify the military and civilian victims, the City of Gouesnou initiated an investigation with the help of numerous partners.

Ahrens Clarence R - Aita Joseph Jr - Albano August - Amerine James C - Andrews Joseph S - Armsden Robert M - Arthur Thomas W Jr - Atkins James E - Averitte Archie F - Babcock Robert W - Baber James W - Bajzik - John F - Barnett Lathan J - Barrett Robert M - Baur Patrick R - Bell William E - Bernhardt Herbert F - Blechschmidt Hubert E - Bodan Milton H - Bone Luther L - Bradford Wilbur L - Brignola Salvatore F - Brown Earl L - Brown Robert O - Bryant James A Jr - Bryk Daniel A - Rzoska Edward - Buechner Joseph A - Bukowy Edward - Butler Gordon M - Campana Lawrence D - Carlson Raymond W - Celona Salvatore J - Clark Marshall L - Clingan David A - Cochran Dale W - Cohen Charles - Colautti Americo - Cole James A - Conn Tom - Cook Pearson - Cooper Edward C - Coppa Anthony J Jr - Crockett Edgar O - Cross Richard V - Croxton Thomas W Jr - Cruder Victor W - Czachor Bruno F - Daley Sherman W - De Clemente Armand P - De Loach Robert E - De Mint Joseph R - De Yonghe Roy A - Dement Lonie - Dempsey Harley F - Dillon John T Jr - Dippel Edward G - Dodd Macey C - Donnell Robert T - Duncan Edward W - Earing George H - Edwards Aubrey L - Ellwein - Clarence E - Esposito Ciro P - Faselli Frank J - Fletcher Malcolm D - Flint Justus S - Forquer Edward L - Fox David E - Friberg Knut - Futch James A Jr - Gabelman Frank L - Garner William B - Gorsich Carl C - Gregg Jesse D - Grella Matthew - Grguric George P - Groves Elmer J - Gruszczynski Edward - Guiry James C - Hamilton Frederick W - Harris Hubert - Heidorn Calvin H - Heidrick Harry L - Hescher James E - Hewitt Richard J - Hilferty Hugh A - Hinkle Arnold L - Holder Floyd - Holsopple Paul H - Hoover George F Sr - Horosieski Chester J - Hughes Richard W - Jasas Martin - Jericho Frank A - Jescovitch Anthony A - Jezsik Louis C - Johns Ralph A - Kellmann Rudolf A Jr - King Melvin L - Klein David - Knowles Joseph W - Koski Raymond N - Kreger Lewis E - Kriloff Philip M - Kwiatkowski Chester - La Chance George E - Lansdon Earl V - Lathrom Lloyd E - Lee George W - Lehan John - Loffi Robert R - Long William B Jr - Lorentz Aloysious J - Lucas Stanley F - Ludwig Frank L - Madsen Harry E - Makolinski Frank E - Martin Joseph R - Martinez Gilbert - Marvin Lester F - Matteson Raymond E - Mc Colligan Harry E - Mc Corkle Walter W - Mc Cormick David - Mc Cormick Donald E - Mc Grath Robert J - Mc Millen William C - Mealing Robert C - Messick Joseph A - Minick George A - Mitchell William N - Mohwinkel James H - Montanez Pascual - Monti Donald J - Morton Paul E - Muckle Matthew S - Munro John E - Murdock Charles I - Murray Thomas - Myers Louis E - Nadeau Leonard P - Needham Dennis P - Nicholson Curtis E - Nicholson Jack M - Nicholson Paul R - Nitterhouse Ralph L - Guiry James C - Hamilton Frederick W - Harris Hubert - Heidorn Calvin H - Heidrick Harry L - Hescher James E - Hewitt Richard J - Hilferty Hugh A - Hinkle Arnold L - Holder Floyd - Holsopple Paul H - Hoover George F Sr - Horosieski Chester J - Hughes Richard W - Jasas Martin - Jericho Frank A - Jescovitch Anthony A - Jezsik Louis C - Johns Ralph A - Kellmann Rudolf A Jr - King Melvin L - Klein David - Knowles Joseph W - Koski Raymond N - Kreger Lewis E - Kriloff Philip M - Kwiatkowski Chester - La Chance George E - Lansdon Earl V - Lathrom Lloyd E - Lee George W - Lehan John - Loffi Robert R - Long William B Jr - Lorentz Aloysious J - Lucas Stanley F - Ludwig Frank L - Madsen Harry E - Makolinski Frank E - Martin Joseph R - Martinez Gilbert - Marvin Lester F - Matteson Raymond E - Mc Colligan Harry E - Mc Corkle Walter W - Mc Cormick David - Mc Cormick Donald E - Mc Grath Robert J - Mc Millen William C - Mealing Robert C - Messick Joseph A - Minick George A - Mitchell William N - Mohwinkel James H - Montanez Pascual - Monti Donald J - Morton Paul E - Muckle Matthew S - Munro John E - Murdock Charles I - Murray Thomas - Myers Louis E - Nadeau Leonard P - Needham Dennis P - Nicholson Curtis E - Nicholson Jack M - Nicholson Paul R - Nitterhouse Ralph L - Norris Felix J - Norwood Floyd - Nye Wendell A - Orsich Albert - Ortali Nettuno P - Osgood Albert M - Ostrowski John F - Page Wilburn L - Parker Jack T - Peter Ernest T - Phenix Roger M - Phillips Le Count W - Picinich James L - Pitcher Henry H - Pokrzywa Frank J - Prehodick Steve - Rafie Anthony - Randall Richard L - Randles Robert - Reinhart Terrence F - Rhodes Walter F - Rice Raymond C - Richards William C - Riegler John F - Roberts Eugene - Robinson Darl T - Rolfe Robert W - Rutherford John W - Salitsky Daniel M - Salois Roger U - Saunders Moses W - Sawicki Chester J - Scarbrough Raymond L - Schleck John K - Scott Raymond C - Shavkey Ralph A - Shelton James P - Silva Willie - Silvey Hurley R - - Smith Douglas P - Smith Robert M Jr - South Harry O - Squirrel Joe L - Stader John W - Stinnette Robert C - Stoddart Clayton G - Sullivan George F - Suttle Arthur W - Teasley Alfred A - Thomas Douglas - Thomas Gustavis E - Julian Jarvis - Thomas Joseph H - Tippet Thomas J - Turner Woodrow W - Usrey Thomas C - Wassel Walter - Weber Elmer G - Weidenbach Albert L - Whooten Wellesley R - Wilder Fred G - Winiarski Stanley F - Workman William G - Wright Ross - Yearwood Walter M - Zabłudowski Michael - Zitkovich George - Zulawinski Steve B

## The Bookshelf

by Mary Don Bixby

Sometimes we rediscover books on our shelves that are true classics worthy of a new look. This is certainly the case with Tennessee - A History 1673 – 1932.

This title is a four-volume set, published in 1933 by The American Historical Society, Inc. It was written and edited by Philip M. Hamer, Ph.D. who was a professor of history at the University of Tennessee. This set was donated to the WCGHA by Bonnie Davis.

Volumes I and II describe the land, politics, farming, industry, war, transportation and many more topics. Volumes III and IV are both filled with short biographies of Tennesseans. All four books are beautifully bound and published with high-quality paper and wide margins and are filled with photographs of people and places.

In the Foreword the publishers stated the following:

“Dr. Hamer’s name as author furnishes all necessary evidence as to the quality and scope of the history of Tennessee that is planned and that is tentatively outlined in these pages. All that remains for the publishers is to pledge the cooperation of an organization highly trained in the production of historical works, to the end that the State may have a history worthy, in content and form, of its proud record. No effort will be spared to make the present work one unsurpassed in its field.”

## In Memory Of



MAURINE CRIM SIMPSON

DECEMBER 14, 1923 — MARCH 26, 2025



*Remembered by:*

*Levy Simpson on May 1, 2025*



# In Memory Of



GARY BRUCE PACK

NOVEMBER 26, 1951 — OCTOBER 18, 2016



*Remembered by:*

*Bernice Williamson Driver on May 2, 2025*

# In Memory Of



DR. NORMAN WAYNE RONE

DECEMBER 10, 1935 — MAY 12, 2025

*Remembered by:*

*J. B. and Ann Brown on May 30, 2025*



## **Office News**

May was a busy month for our office volunteers. Mary Oaks and Mary Don are our Monday regulars and Bonita and Evelyn are our Friday regulars. Ann is usually there both days for the Warren County Archives in addition to the Association. Also in this month were Barbara Bates, Freda Clifton, Marie Blair, Susan Driver, Chris Keathley and Jimmy Haley. We logged a total of 206 volunteer hours this month!

## **Research**

Ronny Roberts — Dixie Roberts; Kyle & Claire Wille — Stallings and Coca Cola; Lauren Vazquez — Weaver Cemetery; Jeff Hinkley — William Clarence Cunningham; and L. J. Skillman — Tubb, Bates and Parton.

### **Contributions—Photo Archives**

Holmes Hotel — South Pittsburg Historical Society, Inc.

School Play—Livy Simpson

Group of Men and Grizzle Home Pen & Ink—Lynette Moore

### **Contributions—Resource Library**

Hancock's Diary — Bernice Williamson Driver

Historical Preservation Overton Retreat, The McGregor and Overton Families

— Carol Menth



## **Come Visit Us**

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

**Email:**  
[wcgaha.tn@gmail.com](mailto:wcgaha.tn@gmail.com)

**On the Web:**  
[www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn](http://www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn)

**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:**

***Bettye Pack***



### **Web page/FB Admin:**



***Ann Brown***

### **Research:**

***Bonita Mangrum***

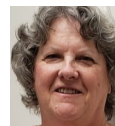


***Mary Oaks***



### **Newsletter Editor:**

***Susan Driver***



[susandriver801@gmail.com](mailto:susandriver801@gmail.com)

**931-314-6959**

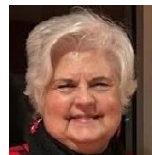
### **Bulletin:**

***Ann Brown***



### **Publicity:**

***Freda Clifton***



### **Office:**

***Evelyn Wade***



***Mary Oaks***

