



NEWSLETTER

April 2012
Vol. 34, No. 2

2012 Membership Meeting and Dinner

If you're new to the area, come and learn a little about its history. If you're an old-timer, come and renew your memories. Either way, come and share good company, good food and a good time as the Society celebrates its 76th year.

**Historical Society
of Washington
County, VA**

**2012 Membership
Meeting and
Dinner**

Buffet, cash wine bar,
Music by Tom Deaton,
Casual dress

Program by Joe Tennis
Washington County: Then and Now

Date: May 4, 2012
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Heartwood

276-623-8337
or
hswcv.org

Tickets: \$25/person

The evening begins with a social hour, hors d'oeuvres, and a cash wine bar. Guitarist Tom Deaton will be playing a mix of classical, bluegrass, and country music.

During a short business meeting, the following slate of candidates for the three openings on the Board of Directors will be presented for approval:

James Hagy	2012-2015
Mark Hagy	2012-2015
Carol Hawthorne-Taylor	2012-2014 (unexpired term of Fred Keller)

After the Business meeting, there will be a buffet dinner.

Joe Tennis will then entertain us with tales from his experiences writing *Washington County: Then and Now*, accompanied by a slide show of illustrations from his book. He will also be signing copies, which are for sale at the Society office or at Heartwood.

The evening will conclude with a drawing for door prizes.

Tickets are available at the Society offices or online at hswcv.org.

Martha Keys, President

1940 U.S. Census

On April 2, 2012, the National Archives and Records Administration of the United States made the 1940 U.S. Census publicly available in a first-ever online U.S. census release.

This census is the largest, most comprehensive, and most recent record set available that records the names of those who were living in the United States at that time. Unlike previous census years, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census are available as free digital images.

Users are able to search, browse, and download the 1940 census schedules, free of charge, from their own computers or from the public computers at National Archives locations nationwide through the new 1940 census website: www.1940census.archives.gov.

The 1940 census included several standard questions, such as: name, age, gender, race, education, and place of birth. But the census also introduced some new questions. One example is that the enumerator was instructed to mark (with a circled x) who in the household responded to the census questions.

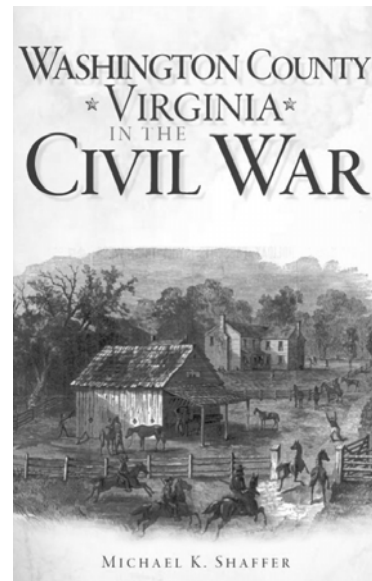
Other new questions included whether the person worked for the CCC, WPA, or NYA the week of March 24-30, 1940; their income for the 12 months ending December 31, 1939; where they lived 5 years before the census; and their highest educational grade achieved.

Interest in the 1940 U.S. Census is significant and sentimental because it documents what is often referred to as "The Greatest Generation" of U.S. citizens. As a group, these are individuals who:

- Survived the Great Depression
- Fought in the Second World War
- Innovated technology (TV, Microwave)
- Practiced thrift and compassion
- Sacrificed in the name of freedom
- Understood hard work and industry

The 1940 Census is not yet indexed by name. In order to locate someone, you will need to know his or her address and the Census enumeration district in which that address was located.

Washington County, Virginia in the Civil War



By Michael K. Shaffer

In his impassioned speech at the Virginia Secession Convention, Washington County's delegate, John A. Campbell, concluded his fiery rhetoric with a call to arms: "I don't know but that from this hour forward my way may be lighted by the blaze of civil war." Soon his sentiment was fully

embraced by his previously undecided constituents. Though no major battles were fought on Washington County's soil, the region became a key supply area for Confederate armies, thereby prompting several Union attempts to destroy the area's vital resources. Join Civil War historian Michael Shaffer as he reveals Washington County's Civil War sacrifices and heroism, both on and off the battlefield.

Now available at the Historical Society and in the society's online store.

Have You Run Into a Brick Wall, Genealogically Speaking?



Leighann Lloyd indexing newly scanned documents

of historical interest. The third index lists digitized images of documents of historical interest, including marriage certificates, obituaries, military documents, letters, newspaper articles, etc.

Copies of photographs and images of documents can be ordered by mail or picked up from the Historical Society Library. Photographs are \$4.00 per image for non-commercial use and documents are \$3.00 per page for non-commercial use. Please contact the Society for more information on commercial rates. Visit our website for further information at <http://hswcv.org/Library>.

Have you exhausted all the research options that you can do from your home computer? Don't forget that those Washington County, VA brick walls can possibly be broken through using the resources at the Historical Society. Every day new documents and photos are being digitized. Donations of books and family histories are coming in on a monthly basis.

The Historical Society has over 24,000 photographs of people, buildings, and other images, and over 50,000 pages of documents, all of which are viewable at the Historical Society Library in Abingdon, Virginia. Each image has a Picture ID Number. Use this number to reference specific images in our database. General questions regarding digitized images may be sent to: office@hswcv.org.

The Society maintains master indices listing the digitized images that we have in our holdings. These images are divided into three main categories: people, places and objects, and documents. The master index of people lists digitized photographs of people in varying scenes both posed and candid. The places and objects index lists the images we have digitized of historical scenes, railroads, churches, houses, schools, bridges, mills, tombstones, and other objects



EVERYBODY HAS A HISTORY...

FIND YOURS AT THE

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON CO., VA

Purchases for the Library

Ewing Young, Master Trapper, by Kenneth L. Holmes
Pictorial History of Johnson County, TN 1836-2011, from Johnson County Historical Society
Washington County, VA – Then & Now, by Joe Tennis with the Historical Society of Washington County, VA
Washington County in the Civil War, by Mike Shaffer

Donations and Acquisitions

Partisans and Redcoats, 1776, The American Revolution, from Mike Shaffer, Kennesaw, GA
Jefferson County Journals, Family Tree Magazine, from Phil Ernst, Abingdon, VA
Indenture documents, from Nina C. Taylor, Indiantown, FL
Patrick Henry Yearbooks, from Sandra Taylor Rivera, Abingdon, VA
Computer Monitor from Robert Leasure, Abingdon, VA
Pension Application for Minnick, from Nancy Laurino, Los Altos, CA
Various articles and papers from Judge Walter H. Robertson and The Scribbler – 1906, from Mr. Tom McConnell, Abingdon, VA

Copy of a death certificate from Pike Co KY of **Wm. Hogston**, b 1843; copy of James **WHITE** Complt. vs. Thomas **MOFFETT** & Mary his wife & others heirs of Robert **BROWN** decd. Defts.: In Chancery, by Jack Hockett

Saltville District New Draft of 01 Oct 2010/21 Mar 2011: 08 Aug 2011: Updated 12 Feb 2012, by Jack Hockett

New book, *WASHINGTON CO. VA SELECTED DEATH RECORDS, ANNOTATED, VOLUME THREE, JUNE 1915-APRIL 1926*, researched by Thomas Jack Hockett, compiled by Donald Helton, 2012, iv, 504pp, every-name index (8.25" x 10.75" paperback). The authors have continued to research and record the Washington County death records with this new annotated volume, carrying their research up through 1926. Included is the large number of Washingtonians who perished in the great 'Spanish Flu' or influenza epidemic which struck the United States in 1918 and following the First World War.

Monetary Donations

Roy C. Brown, New York, NY; **Pauline DeFriece Fund**, Philadelphia, PA; **Jane Matthis**, Abingdon, VA; **Mary Cox Pippin**, Bristol, VA

Picture & Document Donors

Charlie Barnette, Bristol, TN; **Kim Eller**, Saltville, VA; **Pam Garrett**, Abingdon, VA; **Charles Gray**, Abingdon, VA; **Kitty Hennigar**, Abingdon, VA; **Ken Kestner**, Abingdon, VA; **Phillip Kestner**, Kingsport, TN; **Leighann Lloyd**, Glade Spring, VA; **George Metcalf**, Abingdon, VA; **Ed Mitchell**, Bristol, TN; **Lue Murray**, Abingdon, VA; **Scott Seagle**, Chattanooga, TN

ADDRESS BEFORE SYCAMORE SHOALS CHAPTER OF D.A.R.

Bristol, VA April 1, 1925

Given by Judge Walter H. Robertson

(An excerpt)

Some time prior to 1748, George II of England granted to Col. James Patton, who had been a lieutenant in the British Navy, 120,000 acres of land to be west of the Alleghany Mountains in Virginia.

In April 1745, Col. Patton organized a party to go into this vast unknown country and explore it.

One of the party was Col. John Buchanan, a son-in-law of Col. Patton, and another was Dr. Thomas Walker. Another was Charles Campbell. This party of hardy pioneers passed through the present counties of Rockbridge, Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, Pulaski, Wythe, Smyth and Washington, in Virginia and Sullivan, Hawkins, Granger and Claiborne in Tennessee and on to the Cumberland Gap and to the summit of the mountain.

In 1748 Col. James Patton, Dr. Thomas Walker and others organized the "Loyal Land Company" based on a grant of 800,000 acres of land to lie north of North Carolina line and west of the mountains. The company was incorporated in June 1749. (Preston – Reminiscences of Octogenarian p.155). Only recently I abstracted the title to a tract of land near Saltville that goes back, step by step, direct to a grant from the Loyal Company.

On February 21, 1749, John Buchanan, surveyor, located and surveyed a tract of 1960 acres called "Sapling Grove". This tract was claimed by one John Taylor. He assigned it to Col. James Patton (who was one of the organizers of the Loyal Company). James Patton assigned it to John Buchanan. John Buchanan did not obtain a grant for it. After his death, his executors William Campbell and William Preston laid the survey before the Court of Appeals and the Court ordered the survey to be established and on December 23, 1779 the tract was granted by Thomas Jefferson, Governor of Virginia, to William Campbell and William Preston, executors of John Buchanan. Both of the executors died before the grant was transferred to Buchanan's heirs and this duty was performed by Francis Preston, executor of William Preston, in 1797 or 1798. This Sapling Grove tract of 1960 acres was afterwards owned by the Rev. James King and on it are located today the cities of Bristol, Virginia and Bristol, Tennessee. (Preston – Reminiscences of an Octogenarian p.13)

Genealogical Connections

George Foster - dgfoster@qnect.net

Researching Rebecca, Mary Shaw family, lived in Abingdon /Saltville/Mendota area from 1800 to 1860. Connected families are McNew, Moore, Henderson, and Worley. Need info more on Mary and Rebecca than children. Have not been able to find death records or burial records.

V Kysh - kysh76@gmail.com

Researching the John Wright (1809) Family.

Linda Jindra – ljindra@cox.net

Researching Winstead Luttrell, b. Abt. 1811, m. Margaret Phipps.

To list your Family Research surnames, please email your name, email address and surnames to Karidancer@aol.com

Dear Members:

In our ongoing efforts to contain expenses, the cost of postage is being examined. The Post Office charges us to send you mail, and to return that mail to us when undeliverable. Then we pay again to send it to you at a new address. This adds up.

Please help us by:

- sending a change-of-address card when you move,
- or calling our offices at 276-623-8337,
- or e-mailing us at office@hswcv.org

Remember, you can receive your Newsletter by e-mail, or read it on our Web site (hswcv.org).

Beginning June 1, 2012, if your Newsletter is returned to us, it will **not** be forwarded to you. However, the Membership Chair will change your address in our records, if the Post Office includes your new address with the return message.

Your membership in the Historical Society is appreciated. Please help us stay in touch with you!

On Every Lady's Wish List ???

DR. WARNER'S * CORALINE CORSET. *



Patented Nov. 27th, 1878, April 20th and Nov. 23d, 1890.

ITS ADVANTAGES ARE:

1st.—It cannot be broken. A REWARD OF TEN DOLLARS will be paid for every Corset in which the Coraline breaks with six months' ordinary wear.

2d.—It is more pliable than whalebone, and so adapts itself more readily to the movements of the body. This makes it much more comfortable and healthful.

3d.—It is not affected by cold, heat or moisture. A Corset boned with Coraline will last one-half longer than one boned with whalebone.

The following standard Corsets are boned with Coraline: Dr. Warner's Health, Nursing, Flexible Hip, Coraline and Misses' Corsets.

The public are cautioned against worthless imitations boned with common cord.

FOR SALE BY

J. R. ANDERSON & CO., Bristol, Tenn.



**Historical Society
Of Washington
County, Virginia, Inc.**
P.O. Box 484
Abingdon, VA 24212

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ABINGDON, VA
PERMIT NO. 106

Family Reunions:

Dryden Family Reunion:

Everyone is welcome at our reunion on Saturday, June 30. We'll meet at Parks Mill for lunch at 11:30 am and then proceed to the Dillow/Dryden Homestead for tours, talks, and story telling. Keith from Washington State will tell us about the West Coast Dryden Reunion in May. Leigh will talk about the famous L .A. gardens of Virginia Dryden Robinson (David/Nathaniel /Frederick /Nathaniel /Virginia). The general discussion will be on migration and where and why did some Dryden branches leave this beautiful location on the Holston. More information—Leigh Van Blarcom, leighvan1780@comprium.net, 803-493-2474 c; Blair Keller, 276-628-3070

National Jessee Family Reunion is August 3 and 4, 2012 in Lebanon, VA [See information at www.jessee.org as it develops].

On Friday, August 3 we are planning an informal get together at the Senior Citizens Center in Abingdon (300 Senior Drive) from 6-10 pm. We will have a band and snack foods (bring an instrument and/or snack food and join if you like).

Also, until April 15, 2012, the Quality Inn at Abingdon is holding rooms for the reunion @ \$99.00 per night. The next board meeting is at the Quality Inn in Abingdon on June 9, 2012, at 10:00 am.

If you have a family reunion taking place this year, we welcome your family notice in our newsletter. Please submit your request to Karidancer@aol.com

Electronic Mailing

Please give us your email address so that we can inform you when the latest newsletter can be found on the web site <http://www.hswcv.org>. With your email address we can also let you know of events which might be scheduled too late to be included in the newsletter.

Come join us in learning, sharing, and preserving Washington County, Virginia history.

Annual dues are \$30 per year for individuals/families, \$50 for businesses, and \$300 for individual life membership. Members receive one *Bulletin* and four newsletters per year. To become a member of the Society, send your check to the Historical Society of Washington County, VA, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 484, Abingdon, VA 24212-0484, or visit the Society's website www.hswcv.org and join online.

Hours for the Library

The Historical Society Library hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 a. m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Closed for legal holidays and inclement weather.

The *Newsletter* is published four times a year by the Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia, P. O. Box 484, Abingdon, VA 24212-0484. For information, call 276-623-8337, email office@hswcv.org, or visit our website at www.hswcv.org.