

# WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION



## Newsletter



January 2017

201 Locust Street

McMinnville, Tennessee



### 2017 OFFICERS

**President:** Cheryl Watson Mingle  
**Vice Pres:** Rachel Scott Hillis  
**Secretary:** Scarlett Griffith  
**Treasurer:** Allen Jaco

### WCGA Committee Chairmen

**Membership:**  
Allen Jaco

**Circulation Manager:**  
Wilma Davenport

**Programs:**  
Rachel Scott Hillis

**Bulletin Editor:**  
Chris Keathley

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Cheryl Watson Mingle

**Publicity:**  
Cheryl Watson Mingle

**Research:**  
Bonita Mangrum

**Office:**  
Evelyn Wade, Martha Holt

**Refreshments:**  
Christine Bouldin

**Webpage Administrator:**  
Ann Brown

## SHOW & TELL

The following members displayed interesting Show and Tell items for the group:



**Benjamin Lawson Hill IV ("IV")** a new member of WCGA was in town with his family visiting Hills Creek Cemetery where he had ancestors buried,

one being Isaac Hill. He also visited the grave of ancestor Confederate leader from Warren County, Benjamin Hill. He showed photographs from the Hill family, and a family tree showing his line.

and Lynda moved to Eagleville, Tennessee (Lynda's hometown) in 2011. He now works at Eagleville School with middle school students who have special education needs.



**General Benjamin Jefferson Hill CSA**  
1815-1880 Artist Illa Joshi  
Painting courtesy of Magness Library

IV was raised by his grandparents in Bridgeport, Alabama. He attended and graduated from MTSU, where he studied plant and soil and animal science. He also graduated from the Oklahoma State Horseshoeing School. IV worked for many years as a golf course superintendent at courses in South Pittsburg, Nashville, and Chattanooga. He also served as the plant manager of a bioconversion plant in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, which composted and recycled municipal waste. He married Lynda Motes in 1994 and they have one son, Isaac. After Isaac was born, IV worked as a farrier so he and Isaac could be together. Once Isaac started school, IV's volunteer efforts led to employment as a Pre-K teacher at the Bright School in Chattanooga. IV later created the curriculum for its Early Childhood Science program, teaching K-2 grade science. IV

# Hill



Isaac Hill Sr (1748-1825) &  
Lucinda "Lucy Wallace" (1746-1798)

Henry John Alexander "Harry" Hill (1774-1825) &  
Susannah Swales (Savage) (1767-1846)

Erven Hill (1796-1836) &  
Elenor Hyman Morgan (1799-1860)

Benjamin Winslow Dudley Hill (1828-1913) &  
Melvina Victoria Allen (1843-1898)

Benjamin Lawson Hill (1878-1935) &  
Matilda Lyda (1881-1972)

Benjamin Lawson Hill Jr (1915-1988) &  
Emma Olene Wells (1917-2000)

Benjamin Lawson Hill III (1942-2006) &  
Victoria Lunita Smith (1945-1994)

Benjamin Lawson Hill IV (1966- ) &  
Lynda Gayle Motes (1971 - )

Isaac Motes Hill (2000- )

## Photos of the Hill Family



### Benjamin Winslow Dudley Hill ("BWD")

BWD was the 6<sup>th</sup> child of Ervin Hill and Elenor Hyman Morgan Hill. He was born and raised in Warren County, but later moved to Jackson County, Alabama. He married Nancy Jane Dillard (date/location of marriage unknown) with whom he had 4 children: Elizabeth, William L., Nancy E. and Robert Lee.

BWD served in the Civil War as a First Lieutenant in the Alabama Infantry, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Co. K. He received a land grant of 160 acres located in Jackson Co., Alabama on May 20, 1862.

Nancy Jane died in 1876. BWD then married Melvina Allen in Jackson Co., Alabama on April 29, 1877. They had 3 children: Benjamin Lawson, Jonathan Jesse, and Alexander Stanton. After Melvina Allen died in 1898, BWD married Sarah Cartwright (daughter of Richard N Cartwright and Elizabeth Clendenon Cartwright) in Warren County on May 28, 1901. They had no children. Sarah died in 1920 and is buried in Warren County, Tennessee.



### Benjamin Lawson Hill ("Ben Sr.")

Ben Sr. was born in Jackson County, Alabama. He served as school teacher in Bridgeport, Alabama and as Jackson Co. notary public. In 1935, he died following complications from an injury that required the amputation of his leg. He and Millie Hill had five sons: Benjamin Lawson, Joseph W., William David, Daniel Henry, and James Alexander.



### **Benjamin Lawson Hill Jr. ("Ben L.")**

Ben L. and his wife Emma Wells Hill owned and operated a service station in Bridgeport, Alabama. He served on the electric cooperative board and helped bring electric service to the community. He and Emma had two children, Benjamin Lawson and Lynette.

### **Benjamin Lawson Hill III ("Ben" or "Benny")**

Ben attended Bridgeport High School and later attended and played football for Middle Tennessee State University. After graduation, he served as a teacher/coach and guidance counselor at North Sand Mountain High School. He attended Samford Univ. Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, Alabama. After obtaining his law degree, he received an appointment to serve as confidential assistant to the Alabama governor from 1970 to 1973. In 1974 he opened his law practice in Jasper, Tennessee while also teaching classes at Northeast State Junior College. Ben served as city judge for Jasper and Whitwell for more than 20 years. In 1990 he was elected Juvenile Court judge and was re-

elected in 1998, a position he held until retiring in 2001 due to health problems.



Ben and Victoria "Vicky" Smith had two children: Constance Lunita and Benjamin Lawson. Ben and Vicky divorced while Ben was in law school so the children moved to Bridgeport, Alabama to live with their grandparents, Ben L. and Emma. Ben later married Martha Jean Gunter.





## Antique Cooking Fork

This is a cooking fork or meat server which has been in **Barbara Brandon Bates** family for generations. She remembers her grandmother using it to fry bacon. It belonged to her mother, Billie Baldwin Brandon, her mother, Nellys Cardwell Baldwin and her mother, Sally Duncan Cardwell. Prior to those, it could have been farther back in the Cardwell or Duncan line. It is unique because of the handle – (ivory or deer antler - What do you think it is?) with a delicate metal scroll connecting the handle with the actual fork. After being in her kitchen drawers for decades she has decided to give it the proper care it deserves.



**Bonita Mangrum** showed the group old negatives. One of which her nephew had copied into an 8x10 of her Passions' family. She gave the following advice, "never throw away old negatives".



## Passons' Family (Photo Page 5)

Photo was made in 1923.

First grandchild Ernest Passons born in 1923.  
Seated left to right: Lola Belle Wilson Passons - wife of Dallas and son Earnest. Willie "Bill" Passons, Nina Passons Bratcher, Edwin Passons Prater & Reese Passons.

Standing left to right: Mary Dycus Passons (wife of Lester), Vernon Passons, (Mother) Jennie Austin Passons, (Father) William Bluford Passons.

Back Row- Left to right: Lester or Charlie, Erby, Dallas, Zettie Hudgens Passons, wife of Arlas, Arlas T. A. Passons (beard) Thomas Austin father of Jennie. Tall in the back, Lester or Charlie Passons. Per Bonita Mangrum.



**Trina White** brought a chain which the group helped her figure out it was a "trace chain." Webster dictionary - "trace n (noun) states: 1. Either of two straps, chains or lines of a harness for attaching a horse to something (as a vehicle) to be drawn." She found the chain in a creek. Mr. Hill stated it was probably hand forged in a blacksmith shop.



**Rachel Scott Hillis:** Displayed an old Avalon Dairy glass milk bottle, she found at a local yard sale.



**Scarlett Griffith** showed a very old quilt with an eight point star. One lady said it was a "Lone Star" as in lone star state. Another said a Texas star. IV "Ben" Hill looked it up on his phone and stated it was "The Star of Redemption", based on the 8th day of Jesus life.



Scarlett Griffith & Cheryl Watson Mingle



**Allen Jaco:** A definition of fossil: “The evidence in rock of the presence of a plant or an animal from an earlier geological period. Fossils are formed when minerals in a ground water replace materials in bones and tissue, creating a replica in stone of the original organism or of their tracks.”



The above stone was purchased in Cagle, Sequatchie Co., Tennessee in about 1990 from a local seller of stones typically used for landscaping and construction. Where it was removed from is unknown, however there is no shortage of stone in the local mountains and valleys. Several pieces containing similar fossils were a very small part of the total amount of stone in this purchase – an exception to the rule.

Internet search seems to identify this type of fossil as: “surface/near surface Trace Fossils, preserved as hyporeliefs, *Cruziana* and *Rusophycus* on base of storm bed (Cambrian Rome Formation, Tennessee)”. The book “TRACE FOSSILS CONCEPTS | PROBLEMS | PROSPECTS”, Edited by William Miller, III, published in 2007, has a photo of a stone very, very similar to the one above, on page 100.



January refreshments provided by Christine Bouldin and Wilma Davenport.



**Linda Frazier** [lindafrazier1947@icloud.com](mailto:lindafrazier1947@icloud.com)  
127 Hodges Lane McMinnville, TN 37110  
Researching: Bryan, Burch, Crouch, Frazier, Garner, Hardee, Henegar, Hobbs, Link, Myers (Florida), Scott, Sisk

**Benjamin L Hill, IV** Ben: [ivhill@gmail.com](mailto:ivhill@gmail.com) Lynda: [lyndah35@yahoo.com](mailto:lyndah35@yahoo.com)  
2097 Cheatham Springs Rd. Eagleville, TN 37060  
Searching: Isaac Hill, Sr. & descendants

**Richard Bost** [rbost01@hotmail.com](mailto:rbost01@hotmail.com)  
325 Westwood Dr. McMinnville, TN 37110  
Researching: Austin, Bost, Kemp, Miller, Rutter, Willmore

**Brenda J. Bost** [bjbbee@hotmail.com](mailto:bjbbee@hotmail.com)  
325 Westwood Dr. McMinnville, TN 37110  
Researching: Austin, Bost, Kemp, Miller, Rutter, Willmore

**Robert Brown** [click@blomand.net](mailto:click@blomand.net)  
194 McKennon Blvd. McMinnville, TN 37110  
Researching: Aytes, Birdwell, Brown, Carter, Hargis, Holliman, Johnson, Keith, Kirby, McCann, Richmond, Spurlock, Steakley, Thaxton, Wheeler, Wright – Most in Jackson Co., TN before 1820

**Looking for information on Saunders Cemetery  
please contact Bulletin Editor  
[southernmuseum@frontier.com](mailto:southernmuseum@frontier.com)**



### IN MEMORIAM

#### Ladye Jane Hunter

(March 18, 1937 - January 11, 2017)

Obituary of Ladye Jane Hunter is courtesy of High Funeral Home, McMinnville, TN

McMinnville, TN resident and Warren County, TN native Ladye Jane Hunter, age 79, was born March 18, 1937 and died January 11, 2017 at her residence while taking a nap.

She graduated from Central High School where she enjoyed playing basketball, cheerleading and drama class. She graduated from Tennessee Technological Institute and began teaching military cadets at the Baxter Military Academy in Baxter, Tennessee. In 1966, Ladye Jane moved to Coral Gables, Florida where she began a 30 year teaching career in the Miami-Dade County Public School System.

Ladye Jane was a member of the First United Methodist Church, and was the daughter of the late J. Hillis Hunter and Ladye Gillock Hunter. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by daughter, Karen Leslie Martin; and brother, James William Hunter.

She is survived by daughter, Ladye Lee Hillis Martin of McMinnville; sister-in-law, Martha Hunter of McMinnville; nieces and nephews, Rachel and Greg Brashear of McMinnville, Paige and Ryle Chastain of McMinnville, Randa Hoover Miner of Seiverville, TN and Randa Hunter West of Bakersfield, CA; and great-niece, Elizabeth James Chastain of McMinnville.

After retiring from teaching, Ladye Jane moved back to her hometown of McMinnville and was very involved with the Warren County Genealogical Association, where she held offices of Bulletin Editor from June 15, 2002 through 2013, Vice-President from 2007-2008, President from 2009-2010 and Webmaster from 2009-2013. She worked at Magness Library from 2001 through 2004 and continued to volunteer at Magness Library in the Genealogy Room from 2004 through 2009. She loved books and Genealogy.

Ladye Jane also loved animals and volunteered at the Warren County Humane Society, sat on the Board of Directors and functioned as a hands-on worker with the animals. A lifelong animal lover (including her childhood favorites, a white pig and a horse), she spent her time, money and love on all of God's creatures.



In lieu of flowers, please send donations to any or all of the following: Magness Memorial Library, Warren County Genealogical Association (WCGA), Warren County Humane Society Inc., Kastaway Kitties and Viola Valley Puppy Rescue.

Visitation was scheduled from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm Saturday, January 14, 2017 in the Parlor at High Funeral Home. Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. with family and friends officiating. Burial followed at Mt. View Cemetery.



2017 WCGA Officers & Committee Chairs

WCGA next meeting  
**Saturday, February 18, 2 p.m.**  
 WCGA Office



**Representing WCGA On The Radio**



WCGA was the guest for the “Behind The Mike” radio show on January 14. Pictured are Allen Jaco WCGA Treasurer, Kelly Marlowe who is host for the show on 96.0 AM radio in McMinnville along with WCGA President Cheryl Watson Mingle.

**Do You Have  
 CIVIL WAR  
 SOLDIERS  
 who lived in WARREN  
 COUNTY before, during  
 or after the war?**

Submit your Civil War Solider  
 for entry in our future  
 Warren County Civil War Soldiers BOOKS

You may obtain forms  
 on our Facebook Page or at the Magness Library  
 Genealogy Department

**WCGA is on Facebook!**

Come visit us at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Warren-County-Genealogical-Association/135126859883450>

We're also on the web, visit us at  
[www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn](http://www.tngenweb.org/wcgatn)

**Give a piece of  
 Warren County History**



- The Courthouse, McMinnville, TN  
 (First in a series)
- First Methodist Church, McMinnville, TN  
 (Second in a series)
- The Birthing Tree, McMinnville, TN  
 (Third in a series)
- Hebe, McMinnville, TN  
 (Forth in a series)

All four available for \$18 each at  
 Southern Museum  
 201 E. Main Street, McMinnville  
 Open Wed., Fri., Sat. 10:00 a.m.-4 p.m. and  
 Warren Co. Genealogical Association  
 County Administrative Building 201 Locust St.  
 Open Fridays 1:00-4:00 p.m

# Do You Think You Are Trying To Connect To Warren County?

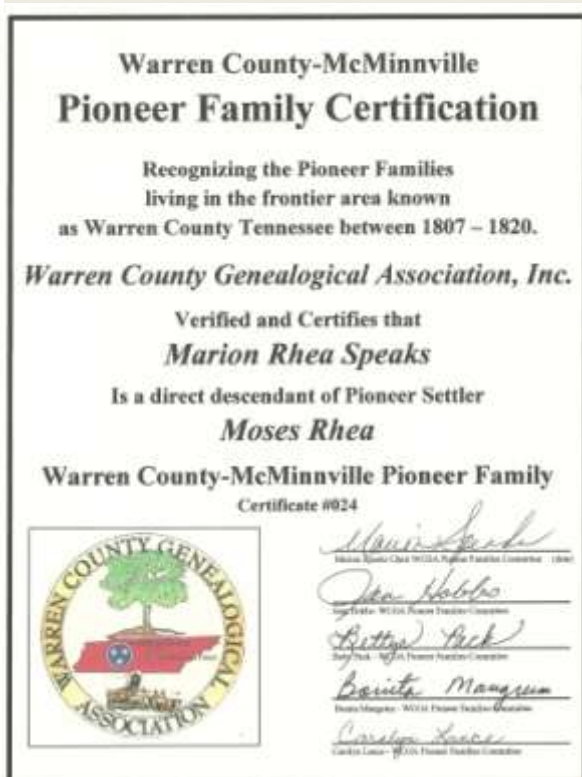
69 people have proven it!

They received Certificates for

## Warren County – McMinnville First Pioneer Families

**There's still time for you** to make your connection by submitting copies of an official record linking you to Warren County before 1820. Those records can be birth, marriage, death, probate or will, church, cemetery, funeral or obituary, land records, tax records, court, military records, census, newspaper, or Bible for each generation, including the applicant.

*To qualify for a certificate, suitable for framing, the applicant must directly descend from an ancestor (male or female) who was in Warren County no later than the 1820 census (this includes the boundaries of the original formation of Warren County from White county).*



There is a \$10 application processing fee + \$3.50 shipping for the certificates. All applications and verifying material become the property of the Warren County Genealogical Association.

**Current Tennessee residency is not necessary.**

Applications may be obtained on line at

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

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Warren-County-Genealogical-Association/135126859883450> Facebook page

or may be picked up at

WCGA office at 201 Locust St.

Also available at the Magness Library on Main St.

They should be submitted to  
Warren County Genealogical Association,  
c/o First Pioneer Families,  
P. O. Box 411,  
McMinnville TN 37111



## WARREN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Meeting held in the rear of the  
Warren County Administration Building  
201 Locust Street, McMinnville TN 37110

### Membership Renewal & Information Update Form

Annual membership fees for 2016 are due on January 1, 2016

Please make checks payable to **Warren County Genealogical Association (WCGA)** and mail to  
**WCGA, P.O. 411, McMinnville, TN 37111**

**Print Name and Address as desired on Membership Record:**

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**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one:**

Dues for year \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Member, \$20 year \_\_\_\_

Other Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to receive our monthly Newsletter by E-Mail?** \_\_\_\_\_ **yes**

**Our Bulletin is mailed two times each year**

**FAMILY NAMES I AM RESEARCHING:**

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We may be able to help you with your genealogy, so come by and visit our office. We are open on Friday from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and we're located at the rear of the Warren County Administration Building, 201 Locust St. McMinnville, TN.

*Thank you!*

## Civil War Soldiers of Warren County, Tennessee Questionnaire

Warren County Genealogical Association has been compiling data on our members' Warren County Civil War Veterans for many years and is now ready to publish this material. We want this publication to be as complete as possible, and we invite members of the public to contribute information on your Civil War ancestors if you would like to have them included in this important volume. Civil War participants, either Union or Confederate forces or Home Guard members, are eligible for inclusion. Give as many details as possible, using another sheet of paper if needed. **Please type, print, or write very plainly. WE WELCOME PHOTOS and will scan and return them to you quickly.** (Contact Warren County Genealogical Association at 931-474-4724 or come by our office in the Warren County Administrative Building on Fridays between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.) Help us make this project a huge success!

**Full name of Soldier:** \_\_\_\_\_

**His Company, Regiment, Branch, Rank and Army:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Date & Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date & Place of Death and Burial:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation before the War:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Schooling completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate date of family's settlement in Warren County area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents' names, with birth, death, marriage dates & places, and occupation, if known:**

Father: Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_  
Buried \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother: Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_  
Buried \_\_\_\_\_  
Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

**Brothers & sisters of Soldier, with birth & death dates:**

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