

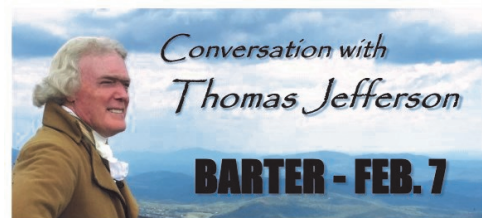
NEWSLETTER

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SPECIAL EVENTS

In a special fundraiser for the Society, Bill Barker, who has portrayed President Jefferson at Colonial Williamsburg and around the world, brought Thomas Jefferson to life on the Barter Theatre stage for 350 attendees.

Music was provided by Muster Grounds Musik and the Sons Of Liberty. Members of the DAR, SAR, and Overmountain Victory Trail Association presented the colors and acted as ushers and greeters.



WERTZ PHOTO EXHIBIT



October 2018



June 22, 2019 - Annual Meeting

The 2019 Annual Dinner and Program of the Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia will be on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon. The evening will begin at 6:00 pm with a social hour, followed by a short business session including elections, President's Report, and the Financial Report. A buffet dinner, catered by **Kathy's Custom Catering**, will then be served. As this Newsletter went to press, the program had not been finalized.

Tickets for the Dinner are **\$35** each; these may be purchased at the Society office at 341 West Main Street, Abingdon or online at www.hswvc.org. Dress is casual. For more information or to reserve a ticket, please call the HSWCV at 276-623-8337 during our regular business hours, Tue-Fri, 10-4 pm. We look forward to seeing you there !

During the business meeting, the following items will be presented to the membership for approval. This publication serves as notice of such proposed action.

The Nominating Committee presents **Walter Jenny** as candidate for election as President, term 2019-2021.

The Nominating Committee presents **Cathy Hagy and John Neal** for election as Directors, terms 2019-2022.

Cathy is an Abingdon native and a long-time Society member. Cathy also serves on the Board of Fairview and volunteers with the Tombstone Trackers in cleaning overgrown cemeteries. She has been with the VA Department of Juvenile Justice for 30 years.

John is a lifelong Emory resident. He has been the Society's Web site developer and technical advisor for the past 8 years. Holding an advanced degree in Industrial Engineering, he currently freelances as a consultant in Research and Technology.

The Board of Directors recommends the Society's purpose as stated below be amended to add the museum function in line 2(ii). The change would provide basis for property tax exemption, and would recognize future expansion of displays containing artifacts from the collection.

*2. The purposes for which the Society is organized are to: (i) establish and maintain an historical society for Washington County, Virginia, and (ii) establish a regional library **and museum** for the use and services of the citizens of said County, and others who are interested in the history and heritage of the County.*

2019 Sinking Spring Cemetery Tour

The Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia's **Living History Tour of Sinking Spring Cemetery** will take place from 5:00 - 7:15pm on Saturday, July 27, 2019.

Helpers are needed to sell tickets, post signs, help with researching scripts and costumes, take photographs, entertain the visitors while they are waiting for their tour time, be "water-bearers" to the actors, lead small group tours and be one of the featured Spirits.

If you are interested in assisting with the Tour, please contact Martha Keys (martha.keys@comcast.net) or Mark Hagy (mhagy@hgs.k12.va.us). You can also contact the HSWCV at 276-623-8337.

Membership

Membership renewals for 2019 are now due. **Those not paid by July 1, 2019 will be purged from the Membership List.** Dues remain at \$35 per person or family for an annual membership and \$350 for a lifetime membership. We also have three different levels of business memberships, student rates for any age, and a Library/Museum rate.

Dues and donations may be made on our Web page (hswcv.org) with PayPal, credit cards, or by check mailed to the Society at PO Box 484, Abingdon, VA 24212.



PLEASE be sure we have your current address and email so you don't miss out on anything!

Donations June 1, 2018—January 8, 2019

Pair of Banquet Table ends from Gov. Floyd's home in Abingdon (Rose Furniture)	James W. Berry, Gainesville, FL
<i>From the Shenandoah to the Kanawha</i>	Pat Hatfield, Abingdon, VA
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 20, 1872-1877	Jack Hockett, Newark, DE
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 21, 1875-1877	
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 22, 1877-1879	
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 23, 1879-1882	
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 24, Feb. 1882-Dec. 1883	
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 25, 1883-1885	
Washington Co., VA Minute Book 26, 1885-1887	
<i>Civil War Sites in the Eastern Theater</i>	Stephen Wolfsberger, Abingdon, VA
<i>The President's Flag Day Address</i>	
<i>Mathematics for Air Crew Trainees</i>	
4 small rural route mail carrier notebooks	Jane Bryan, Abingdon, VA
<i>History of Lebanon Methodist Church</i> , Meadowview, VA	
Descendant Charts on Christopher Barton, Duncan Campbell, Daniel Leonard, and photos (digital copy)	Gail Cole, Columbia, SC
6 Volumes of <i>The History of Virginia</i> , 4 Stonewall Jackson College <i>Views</i>	Linda Summers Giel, Abingdon, VA
Family Bible containing genealogy for Baugh and Hammer families	Dan Carter, Bristol, VA
6 G. N. Wertz photographs, postcards, pictures of Abingdon, assorted booklets, newspaper clippings, Bethel School grade cards, JMH medallion	Patricia Preston Blackwell, Abingdon, VA
<i>Froglevel</i> , by Jack Whitten	John Neal, Emory, VA
<i>War of the Rebellion-Official Records of the Union & Confederate Armies</i> , Vols. 28, 29, 30	
<i>History of the Settlement & Indian Wars of Tazewell County, Virginia</i>	
<i>Ashe Co., NC Marriage Records, 1819-1871</i>	
<i>1860 Federal Census of Ashe Co., NC</i>	
<i>1880 Federal Census of Ashe Co., NC</i>	
<i>Pulaski Co., VA Marriages, 1839-1857</i>	
<i>Marriages of Washington Co., VA, 1781-1853</i>	
<i>Temple Hill Memorial Park</i>	
<i>Wythe Co., VA Marriages, 1790-1850</i>	
<i>Washington Co., VA Unrecorded Marriages, 1850-1902</i>	
<i>Ketron Memorial Gardens, Annotated Listings</i>	
<i>Russell Memorial Cemetery, Annotated Listings</i>	
<i>History of Buchanan County, Virginia</i>	
1 Cannonball	
Lenox Tea Set, family photographs, 1 G. N. Wertz photograph, newspaper clipping, 1920s picture and frame, Wedding Gift register	Virginia Nihart, Marion, VA
<i>Vietnam Journal Reflections and Personal Memories</i>	Roger Vanover, Bristol, VA
Wooden Display Case	James Johnson, Glade Spring, VA
Photographs of 1944 Abingdon tornado	John W. Ashbury, Thurmont, MD
1974 William King Elementary, <i>The Mighty Midget</i>	Jane Caldwell, Abingdon, VA
1975 Abingdon Elementary, <i>Bobcat</i>	
4 Boxes of family information (families include Davenport, Henderson, Poston, Dolan, Duncan, Evitt, Dunn, Taylor and others)	Jack Hockett, Newark, DE
Maps of Washington, Scott, Tazewell/Wythe Counties, 4 old textbooks, induction papers, Stanley level, old papers and receipts from Scott County	Jack M. Booher, Abingdon, VA
Moore family letters, checks, and receipts	Charlie Kuhn, Glenview, IL



<i>Memories of The Bradley Child</i>	Betty Ringley, Canton, GA
2 G. N. Wertz photographs	Town of Abingdon
Vance and Buck Family Pictures	Katherine Vance Clark, Glade Spring, VA
Vance Family Bible	
2 G. N. Wertz photographs	
4 G. N. Wertz photographs	Ollie Fraley, Abingdon, VA
Family photographs	
O. Winston Link, <i>Life Along the Line</i>	
CD of Train Recordings	Tony Hughes, Abingdon, VA
2 Notebooks with Wertz family genealogy and information on George Wertz's life	
4 G. N. Wertz photographs	Charlene Roche, Abingdon, VA

Monetary Contributions June 1, 2018—January 8, 2019

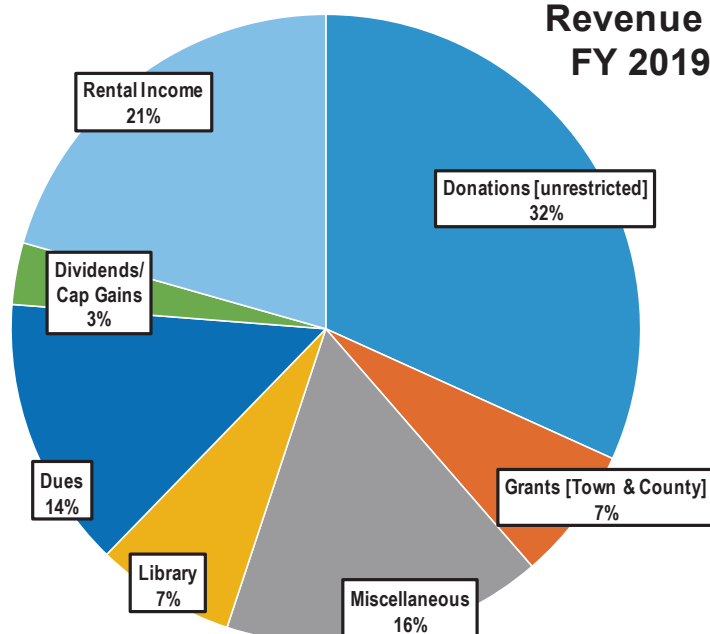
Tony & Janiece Hughes	Abingdon, VA
Mary Milano	Dayton, OH
Sandra Jessee Hood	Pawley's Island, SC
Linda I. Caldwell	Richmond, VA
Diane Johnson	Glade Spring, VA
Jean Dilworth	Waxhaw, NC
Sandra Kruse	Friendswood, TX
Robert Craig	Abingdon, VA

Carolyn Ryburn	Glade Spring, VA
Virginia Bennett	Bloomfield Hills, MI
Rolfe L. Hillman, III	Abingdon, VA
Steven L. Mull	Steelton, PA
Walter Jenny	Abingdon, VA
Shelley K. Hart	Moses Lake, WA
Kathy Shearer	Emory, VA

In Memory of: Richard Blackwell, by Virginia Tedder	Abingdon, VA
In Memory of: Charlotte Brillhart, by Peggy Johnson	Abingdon, VA
In Memory of: Sarah Sanders, by Fielden & Susan Sanders	Wytheville, VA

Financial News and Updates

Historical Society Revenue Source Distribution FY 2019 Operating Budget



**As approved by the Board of Directors,
January 2019**

Total anticipated revenue is: \$ 76,660
Total anticipated expenses are: \$ 86,947
Operating Deficit of: \$ 10,287

Major Expenses

Mortgage payment: \$ 11,160/yr
Property Taxes: \$ 5,650/yr
Insurance: \$ 3,280/yr
Utilities: \$ 4,985/yr

The Media Center

EVER SO CLOSE

We are so goal oriented that we were totally confident last year that we would meet our benchmark of 200,000 images by 2018 year end. We came close but missed it. We are human after all! The never ending supply of 82 years of saved documents is still netting results but we are definitely getting to the bottom of the pile. In the last few months that pile looks like some 1790's lists of mostly illegible names, ledgers of every size and description, the Registry program of some years ago that Ina Stephenson-Marbury so successfully ran, even some ledgers from the lead mines on the New River. Add to that a variety of scrapbooks, some which contained pictures, newspaper articles and obituaries. And of course Dan continues to scan newspapers....day after day. He is up to 1923.

Once again, our ability to scan outstrips our ability to index. We are losing Leighann again to motherhood and that compounds the problem. Our objectives have always been preservation and accessibility. Scanning takes care of the preservation part but without the index, viewing the document or photograph is wishful thinking. So it is time for more drastic action. We have said from the beginning "We are not Google!" but we have always tried to list as many significant names as possible, from a list, article, etc., so it would make searching easier. The "drastic action" is going to mean we are going to be listing fewer individual names from documents. It will not affect something like an obituary but I saw a "road book" the other day that is a perfect example of what we are going to do. This ledger has a list of roads, who surveyed them, landowners, locations, etc. Normally that information would equate to hundreds of lines of index. Now, it is going to be one line. We'll do our best to adequately describe these books, files, etc. but it is going to mean that the researcher is going to have to "dig" more than they have done in the past.

What can we expect next year? Mostly more of the same. Newspapers will keep Dan busy and we have boxes of files from the last of our saved documents. Hopefully members and Washington County residents will rise to the occasion and bring us more pictures and documents to preserve. I will make a claim I can't prove: Washington County has preserved more pictures and documents, digitally, in the last 14 years than any other county historical society in Virginia! We are so proud of what we have accomplished and all of our donors should be too.

So, after 14 years we have scanned and preserved a total of **188,200** images. That is up from the 172,000 we had done last year at this time. We are always being asked to break down these numbers so this year I did a "rough count". The 188,200 images consisted of 45,600 photographs and 142,600 documents. Our index has grown to 193,747 lines. Additionally we have converted about 80% of this index to the new format we told you about last year.

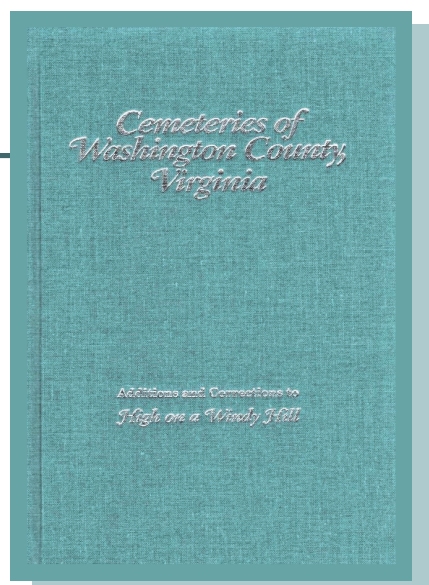
And lastly, for the techies among us, we want you to know the impressive amount of digital storage space that is required for this file. 3.03 terabytes isn't very informative and 3.03 trillion bytes is more than a little overwhelming, so I tried to break it down to something more enlightening. The experts tell us that a terabyte equals 30,000 feet of books. So I calculated that 3.03 terabytes of digital storage space is equivalent to 966,210 books. That means we have, in 14 years, managed to scan and preserve more than 129 times the total number of books we have in our library. Mind blowing! And we carry the whole thing home at night in a 5 by 7 inch plastic box!

Jane Oakes



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CEMETERIES OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA *is finally here!*

Researched and compiled by the Washington County Cemetery Preservation Committee and published by the Overmountain Press, the book updates the well-known *High On A Windy Hill* that was published in 1969 by Catherine McConnell. It lists Additions & Corrections to more than 333 cemeteries that were listed in HOWH.

It is available exclusively through the Historical Society of Washington County, VA, or through the website, www.hswcv.org. This hardbound edition consists of 642 pages and is priced at \$49.99 plus tax. If ordered online, a shipping and handling fee is added.

The members of the Washington County Cemetery Preservation Committee are Charlie Barnette, John Gregory, Carol Hawthorne-Taylor, Barb Stewart, Troy Taylor and Doris Wells.