President’s Report
By Becky Jones

Our January and February meetings were canceled because of bad weather. This winter was one of the mildest winters we have had in years, but on our meeting dates there was snow and ice.

We have had good attendance at our meetings. Attorney Sandy Thomas and his father, James, spoke to us in March. Sandy’s great-grandfather had made his way from Bojon, Romania to the coal fields of St. Charles, Va. Romania is on the Ukraine border. Sandy’s great-grandfather came over in 1907. He worked and saved his money and two years later he was able to pay the fare for his wife and daughter. The family’s name was Toma in the Ukraine, but was changed to Thomas.

Attorney Patti Page Church was our speaker in April. Patti’s husband was Sam Church, a former president of the United Mine Workers of America and she

On the 200th Anniversary of The War of 1812
1812 – America’s Second War of Independence

By Dr. Stuart L. Butler

Dr. Butler is an archivist-historian and former assistant branch chief of the Military Archives Branch at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington.

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THE CAUSES OF THE WAR

On June 18, 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain and its colonies. The declaration stemmed from the nearly twenty years of warfare between Great Britain and Napoleonic France, and the American desire to maintain peace with the belligerent powers. From 1793 until 1815, except for a brief period of peace in 1803, Great Britain and France were at war with one another. During this period, both nations attempted to protect their own trade by preventing the other from receiving aid from neutrals like the United States. Each established blockades to interdict and seize goods destined for enemy ports. Because of Great Britain’s larger naval forces, American ships were much more often seized by British than French forces; however, from 1798 to 1801, the United States fought an undeclared naval war or Quasi War against France over seizures of its ships.

Between 1807 and 1809, Great Britain issued a series of Orders in Council which restricted the American commercial trade with Europe by banning trade with French ports, forcing neutrals to ship through British ports, and an outright ban of all trading between northwest Germany and all French controlled ports in the Mediterranean Sea.

Continued on page 4
Methodism in Bonny Blue, Virginia  
By Robert L. George

From Holston Historic Heritage – A Publication of the Holston Conference Historical Society of the United Methodist Church

Historically, Methodism has followed the frontier, going with the pioneers to the edge of civilization. Coal mining became very important in Southwest Virginia in the 1930’s. In 1933 Elizabeth R. Hooker wrote Religion in the Highlands and summarized “the church situation” in the coal fields in the following words: “Many coal camps have either no churches or very weak ones.” The Blue Diamond Coal Company built its largest coal camp in Lee County, Virginia, at a place known as Bonny Blue. When the Great Depression hit in 1929 the Bonny Blue coal camp was coming on line. Good paying work was available and the miners flocked to Bonny Blue. During this same period a young engineer with the Tennessee Electric Power Company felt a call to preach. E.L. Crump left the power company to attend seminary at Candler School of Theology. He graduated in 1930 and was assigned to the Holston Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The Rev. P.L. Cobb, the presiding elder of the Big Stone Gap District of the Holston Conference had identified a need for a pastor in the coal fields of Southwest Virginia. Cobb negotiated with officials of the Blue Diamond Coal Company for permission to start a church in Bonny Blue. The officials would only agree to a three-month trial.

The Methodist Church was not used to a trial, but Crump said it was fine with him. So in October of 1930, the Rev. E.L. Crump started his ministry to the coal miners and their families in Bonny Blue. The church could not be designated “Methodist” so it became a community church. Crump laid out the manual, set up the church organization and started meeting in the Company school.

At its peak Bonny Blue had nearly three thousand citizens with about twelve hundred miners. According to Charles Rogers, in his More Memories of the Great Depression of the 1930’s in a Place called Bonny Blue, Virginia:

All the hollows and hills had a suitable name that everyone could identify with. The homes that were “below the store” were the best and were reserved for the foremen and salaried employees. Next was “Big Dude Hill,” these houses were reserved for bosses and store clerks and other “Big Shots” as they were called. The miners and their families lived in the rest of the camp. The places were named Mayflower Hollow, Magazine Hollow, and Monitor Hill. Also, Fairview Hill, Jacks Branch, Tank Hill, and School House Hill.

My family lived in Mayflower. We thought it was the best place to live out of any of the miners homes. The houses there were the last to be built in Bonny Blue. There were only four rooms and no bath room. We were cramped as there were seven in our family. We made out, under the circumstances, as best we could.

The Bonny Blue Community Church  
By Rev. E. L. Crump

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE PASTOR for the first two years of the Bonny Blue Community Church (1930 to 1932).

When the Holston Conference met at Bristol, Va. in October 1930, Rev. P.L. Cobb, the presiding elder of the Big Stone Gap District negotiated with the officials of the Blue Diamond Coal Company about opening up a church at Bonny Blue, Virginia, and supply them a pastor from the Holston Conference. The company officials would only consent to having a preacher sent to them on the basis that he be sent on a three month trial. I happened to be the pastor who was chosen, and while I know it is not customary for the Methodist Church to send out its preachers on trial, I happened to remember that the first job I ever had was one that I took on trial, so I was glad to have the opportunity of working with people who did not have a regular church organization, and trying in a sense to be a missionary to them. I found that the community, which was made up of about 3000 people, had never had a real church organization, even though it had preaching services at intervals for some time. It seemed that the various preaching services which had been done for years had done little toward making it a Christian community.

I found also that the people were unable to support churches of the various denominations, although there were very few who belonged to any denomination at all. I have visited over thirty homes in one day without finding a single Christian of church member. But the people were very much opposed to having any denominational church, they wanted a Community Church, so everyone could have their own denominational preferences. It seemed somewhat out of line with the regular Methodist plan, but it appeared that the people had a right in asking for a Community Church.

I realize that the Methodist Church was in the “Soul-Saving Business” and was not trying to make

Continued on page 10
spoke on health issues and medical care in the coal mining area of the Appalachia region during the 1930's and 1940's.

Our treasurer, attorney Greg Edwards, spoke to us in May. He read a paper he had written some time ago about “Taverns” and the part they played in early America. A Tavern or Inn was called an “Ordinary” in Virginia during the Colonial period and was frequently located near the county courthouse.

Attorney George Cridlin was our speaker in June. George's grandfather, George Patton Cridlin, was Lee County's Trial Justice beginning in 1934. George talked about four murder trials his grandfather had left notes on; two of which resulted in the defendant being hanged.

We still have several attorneys in Lee County that we can call on for a program.

The Lee Theatre Committee held an open house in May with a variety of memorabilia on display in the Williams building. We displayed our books and new brochure.

Tom and Robert Harrell sold our books at the Jamboree in Cumberland Gap for three days earlier this month.

We are still looking for a contractor to replace the siding on the old building and seal out the bats. Our research room is coming along nicely. Jonesville Middle School gave all the old annuals they had in their Library. Edgar Cress has given the Society several of his genealogical books.

Be sure to check out our web page. We hope to include photos and activities going on in our area.
Not only did Great Britain seize contraband goods, but they also seized merchant seamen whom they believed to be British citizens. In doing so, they impressed into service by the war's end, nearly ten thousand American citizens. Although Great Britain recognized that its citizens could become naturalized American citizens, it also believed that naturalization did not absolve British-born citizens of their obligations to Great Britain. Great Britain refused to relent on its impressment policy, as it believed the policy was the only way in which it could maintain its naval supremacy during the wars. British impressment and restrictive commercial policy were the two major reasons for the American declaration of war against Great Britain.

Although not major reasons behind the declaration of war, many Americans on the western frontiers also resented continued British military occupation in the Northwest Territories, positions which they should have abandoned by provisions of the Treaty of Paris of 1783. Moreover, Americans on the western frontier believed that the British supplied the Indians with arms and provisions from these posts and from nearby Canada to destabilize the frontier and raid American settlements.

Beginning in 1806 and continuing up to the declaration of war, the Jefferson and Madison Administrations sought to stay out of war by imposing commercial restrictions on its trade with Great Britain and France. In 1806, Congress prohibited a partial non-importation on certain British goods. This was followed by a harsh non-exportation policy known as the Embargo which prevented American ships and goods from leaving American ports. This proved a commercial disaster for the United States and failed to change British or French attitudes. Although repealed in 1809, a non-intercourse act replaced this policy which re-opened trade with the world except for the belligerent power. A year later this was repealed in favor of what became known as Macon’s Bill Number Two which committed the United States to resume trade with whatever power dropped its commercial restrictions and to continue non-intercourse with the other power. Napoleon signaled his intent to drop French trade restrictions in the summer of 1810, and the United States accepted prematurely the Emperor’s word, though many Americans thought the French could not be trusted.

When Great Britain refused to recognize France’s position and alter her trade restrictions, President Madison recommended to the Twelfth Congress that war with Britain may be the only just recourse. The vote for war in the House of Representatives was 79-49, and 19-13 in the Senate, the closest vote for a war declaration in American history. Support for the war was greatest in the South and West, and weakest in New England. While most Republicans voted for the war, many did not. No Federalist in Congress voted for the declaration. The country as a whole was conflicted over the war with perhaps near a third of Americans opposed to war, although many thought there were grievances enough to go to war. For many Americans, the nation’s honor was at stake, while others felt that the British, through their Orders in Council, were determined to destroy the American carrying trade under the guise of defeating Napoleon. Most modern historians have now dismissed the belief that Americans went to war to annex Canada. Canada was a means for carrying on the war, not its cause.

HOW AND WHERE THE WAR WAS FOUGHT

The United States was completely unprepared for war against Great Britain in the summer of 1812. Both the Jefferson and Madison administrations had reduced expenditures in the War and Navy Departments during the first decade of the eighteenth century. Consequently, the country’s ability to wage offensive military and naval campaigns against British military and naval targets in Canada and on the sea was severely hampered. Nor was the country in a strong position to finance the war. The First Bank of the United States expired years before the war, and no successor took its place to act as a central banking institution to finance the war. The war was largely financed through large loans at unattractive rates of interest, and

Members Tom & Roberta Harrell represented the Lee County Historical Society at the Genealogical Jamboree at Cumberland Gap.
through internal taxes that would strap the young country for some time to come.

The United States relied primarily on revenue from its import duties to finance government expenditures. After years of restrictive commerce directed against Great Britain and France, such duties became irregular and, in some cases, had gone uncollected.

THE WAR AT SEA

There were only two avenues open to American arms to get at British forces: on the high seas, and through Canada. American naval forces were hopelessly outnumbered by the mighty Royal Navy.

The War of 1812 at sea was fought mostly on the Atlantic, but included action in the Caribbean, and even in the South Pacific. At the start of the war, the American navy consisted of some twenty warships, eight frigates and twelve sloops, plus an assortment of gunboats. This compared to the nearly six hundred ships the British had, but the best of the British warships were concentrated in European waters.

The American frigates were larger and carried more firepower than their British counterparts. They were also built of firmer oak and pine, and manned by experienced crews including some Englishmen. These discrepancies accounted for many of the American naval victories early in the war. In what was considered to be the first major American naval victory of the war, Capt. John Rodgers of the President defeated British Capt. Richard Byron’s Belvidera in June 1812. Other significant victories included Capt. Isaac Hull’s Constitution (Old Ironsides) over Guerriere in August 1812; Capt. Stephen Decatur with the United States over Macedonian October, 1812; and Capt. William Bainbridge in Constitution when it defeated Java on December 29, 1812. Although Capt. James Lawrence died when his ship Chesapeake was defeated at the hands of British Capt. Philip Brooke and the Shannon on June 1, 1813, Captain Lawrence’s famous words, "Don’t Give up the Ship," soon became a national slogan and the Navy’s motto. Capt. David Porter also became an American naval hero when he took the Essex into the Pacific by way of the Cape Horn. Later, Porter was defeated in battle at Valparaiso, Chile, when a squadron of British vessels trapped him in the harbor. American naval victories, however, did not decisively change the course of the war. What they did, however, was to prove to Americans and the world that American ships could one-on-one hold their own against the best British frigates.

THE WAR IN CANADA 1812-1814

In comparison with the early American naval victories, the American military invasion along the Canadian border in 1812-1813 was anything but victorious. Days before the declaration of war, President Madison sent General William Hull with a small army to secure Detroit and Michigan Territory, and in case of war, to cross over to Canada and seize Fort Malden. Hull’s delay in securing Detroit and his failure to take Fort Malden, led to the capture of his entire army of some two thousand at Detroit by Upper Canada’s Governor, Maj. Gen. Sir Isaac Brock. This was followed by British victories at Mackinac and at Fort Dearborn at Chicago. Following Hull’s defeat, President Madison appointed Maj. Gen. William Henry Harrison in command of a new Northwest Army to retake Detroit, destroy Fort Malden and defeat the British and their Indian allies in Upper Canada. Harrison, with some regular U.S. Army forces, and with 1500 militia each from Pennsylvania and Virginia, marched through Ohio to establish Fort Meigs on the Maumee as a major post from which to launch his Detroit campaign. Part of Harrison’s army under the command of Gen. James Winchester was captured by Col. Henry Proctor and Chief Tecumseh, at Frenchtown on the River Raisin, which delayed indefinitely Harrison’s plans to retake Detroit. Following the capture, British troops were unable to control their Indian allies who killed in cold blood over one hundred prisoners, many of whom were Kentuckians. This atrocity gave rise to the patriotic call on the lips of Kentuckians in future battles of “Remember the Raisin!”

Farther east along the Niagara River, Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer led an inexperienced army composed mostly of militia across the Niagara River on the night of October 12-13, 1812, where he was soundly defeated by a smaller force of regular British and Canadian militia at Queenston Heights. Van Rensselaer was succeeded by Irish-born Brig. Gen. Alexandria Smyth, who launched an ill-fated expedition to take Fort Erie in late November and early December 1812. Smyth managed to get only a portion of his army across the Niagara, but dallied in getting the rest across. Smyth delayed crossing for several days, and by that time the British had reinforced the shore batteries, and Smyth was forced to abandon any more invasion plans for the winter season. Smyth’s refusal to entertain further plans to invade Canada resulted in a massive army mutiny which destroyed any discipline and spirit left in the army of the Niagara. What accounted for such poor showing by the American military forces?
Much of the American army along the Niagara was composed of raw and inexperienced militia. The regular army at this time, however, was not that much better. The army, as a whole, was ill-supplied and ill-prepared for a late fall campaign. While the militia supplied large numbers of troops, the troops were undisciplined and unruly, and often refused to cross over into Canada. In addition, American efforts to invade Canada and hold territory suffered by and large from poor leadership and incompetent generals.

This was slow to change. In 1813, American military prospects improved along the Canadian frontier, but attempts to take Montreal and Quebec failed, and Americans were unable to seize and hold large portions of either Upper Canada (Ontario) or Lower Canada (Quebec). In May and July of 1813, General Harrison’s army withstood a massive siege at Fort Meigs. Major George Crogan successfully defended Fort Stephenson from British attacks in August. Failures by the British to take either fort ended further British attempts to curtail American influence in the area. By late spring 1813, at Presque Isle on Lake Erie, four ships were being built for what was to become part of Capt. Oliver H. Perry’s Lake Erie Squadron. Perry’s victory over the British Commander Robert Barclay near Put-in-Bay on October 10, 1813, secured American control of Lake Erie. Perry’s statement to General Harrison that “We have met the enemy and they are ours” became one of the most memorable dispatches in naval history. Perry’s presence on the lake leading up to the victory on Lake Erie enabled General Harrison to pursue British Gen. Henry Proctor and Chief Tecumseh and defeat them both at the Battle of the Thames on October 9, 1813. It was the first major American victory on Canadian soil and marked the end of British control and Indian threats in the Detroit area.

Meanwhile, to the east, Secretary of War John Armstrong and Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn made plans to attack York (now Toronto), the Canadian capital, and seize British Forts George and Erie on the Niagara River. Victories there would precede a main attack on Montreal later in the year. The joint military and naval attack on York took place on April 27, 1813, under the joint command of Commodore Isaac Chauncey and Brig. Gen. Zebulon Pike. During the assault, General Pike was killed as well as several hundred Americans when a powder magazine exploded. During the battle, many Canadian parliamentary buildings were burned, and their contents destroyed or taken away. The British used the destruction of York as their main reason for burning Washington the next year. A British attack on Sackets Harbor, New York, by British Commodore Sir James Yeo on May 29, 1813, failed to destroy the small naval base there, but indicated that the British could strike American bases across Lake Ontario. Two days earlier, on May 27, 1813, Fort George was taken by General Dearborn’s forces. Attempts to invade farther into Canada, failed when part of Brown’s army was defeated by British General John Vincent at Stoney Creek. Later, at Beaver Dams in June, two American generals, William Winder and John Chandler, were captured. American forces remained cooped up at the fort until December when Gen. George McClure abandoned the fort, but not before burning and destroying the nearby town of Newark. British forces used Newark as a pretext for a sustained campaign of severe reprisals on the New York-Niagara frontier during the winter of 1813-14, especially at Lewiston and Buffalo, resulting in the capture of the American fort at Niagara.

Meanwhile, Secretary Armstrong replaced General Dearborn with Maj. Gen. James Wilkinson. Armstrong planned an attack on Kingston or Montreal, but left too much discretion in the hands of Wilkinson who preferred to attack Montreal first, then Kingston. The plan called for Wilkinson’s forces, nearly seven thousand at Sackets Harbor, to sail down the St. Lawrence and join Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton’s four thousand troops then at Plattsburg, New York, for a coordinated attack on Montreal.

The whole plan began to fall apart when the two generals, who despised one another, begin to feud over strategy, while bad weather delayed the start of the campaign. Wilkinson also suffered severe health problems which plagued him the whole campaign. Hampton’s forces managed to reach Chateauguay, about fifty miles south of Montreal, where they were met by a smaller (about 1700 men), but more determined Canadian army of militia and Indians. Unable to dislodge the enemy, Hampton called off the battle, citing sickness in his army, and the fact that Armstrong had already ordered Hampton to winter in headquarters south of the Canadian border. Wilkinson’s army fared no better against British and Canadian forces. At the battle of Chrysler’s Field, Ontario, November 11, 1813, Wilkinson’s army was outmaneuvered by a much smaller army under Col. James Morrison, a setback that ended any further attempts to take Montreal. Although American forces gained considerable experience and some victories in 1813, they were unable to take full advantage of them, and the Canadian border remained a stalemate.
1812 – America’s Second War of Independence continued

Armed engagements erupted once again in the spring of 1814 when Commodore James Yeo and Gen. Gordon Drummond attacked the important naval and supply base of Oswego, New York, on May 5 to keep the Americans from gaining control of Lake Ontario. Gen. Jacob Brown, American commander on the lake, sent reinforcements to beat back the British attack, but not before the enemy confiscated thousands of barrels of supplies there. Brown later sent Gen. Winfield Scott with his 4,800 man army across the Niagara to seize Fort Erie on July 3, as a prelude to consolidating American control of Upper Canada. Fort Erie was taken, but British forces contested American control by attacking Brown’s army at nearby Chippewa and Lundy’s Lane later in July. The battle at Lundy’s Lane was perhaps the bloodiest in the war, with both sides sustaining huge losses. On September 17, two dramatic attempts to break out of Fort Erie succeeded in inflicting some damage on British arms, but the Americans remained in the fort until November when all Americans arms were withdrawn from Canada. The battles of Chippewa and Lundy’s Lane proved that the American army could fight as professionally as British veterans of the Napoleonic war. This was due largely to the tough discipline and training imposed on American troops by Gen. Winfield Scott during the previous winter.

The last major offensive by British forces in Canada was the joint army-navy campaign down the Lake Champlain corridor towards Plattsburg, New York, that would split the New England states from the rest of the country. Gen. Sir George Provost had about 7,000 men, compared to the American force at Plattsburg of about 3,500 regulars and 3,000 militia troops under the command of Gen. Alexander Macomb. Prevost, however, depended on the success of the naval forces on the lake to maintain supply lines into New York. While Prevost’s army neared Plattsburg on September 5, 1814, and probed for weaknesses in the American defensive lines, he waited until Captain Downie’s squadron to arrive on September 9. Defending the lake was Navy Lt. Thomas MacDononough’s squadron of three warships and three gunboats. On September 11, the decisive battle of Lake Champlain was fought ending in the American victory, and the death of Captain Downie. Without naval control of the lake, General Prevost concluded he could not long sustain his army, and ordered a retreat back to Canada. The American victories at Plattsburg and Lake Champlain, coming at the same time as that of Baltimore, gave Americans a new optimism about the war’s end.

Conclusion in next edition.

Does This Set A Record? By Jett Spangler Croy

I believe I enjoy a privilege that few have ever experienced. On August 16, 2011, Madeline Avery Jones was born to Randal and Kelly Jones, making six living generations in the Spangler family; I being the only one living from my generation. I want to add that this one is not the first in her generation. There are at least two in Oregon who are in the 6th generation in my brother Mac’s family. I did, however, get to see Madeline “Maddie” two days before she was two months old, as well as hold her in my arms with a picture made along with her mother and grandmother – four generations. Now add two prior generations that I have known and it adds up to eight generations during my lifetime. Could this be a record?

1. My grandfather, Francis Marion Spangler (1838-1929) was the 12th and last born to great-grandfather Jacob (1789-1865) and Salome “Sally” Stanger Spangler (c.1792 to 1850-1860).
2. My father, George Washington Spangler (1871-1949) was the only child born to Francis Marion and Mary Jane Wheeler Spangler (1846-1901).
3. Thomas Marion Spangler (1895-1974) was the first child born to George and Martha Elizabeth Givens Spangler (1876-1954).
5. Margaret Carroll (1937-2000) was the first-born of Herman (1910-2007) and Monette Spangler Carroll.
6. Susan Willis (1958-) is the first-born of Charles (1932-1999) and Margaret Carroll Willis.
7. Lisa Kelly Barber (1980-) is the first-born of Jerry (1955-) and Susan Willis Barber.
8. Madeline “Maddie” Jones is the first-born of Randal and Kelly Barber Jones.

The writer, Jett Spangler Croy, was born in 1917, the last of seven children and was 11 years old when her grandfather Frank died.

General Merchants
Anderson, F. C. - Chandler
Bales, D. B. & Co. - Rose Hill
Bales, Henry - Douglas
Baylor, Chas. E. - Boon's Path
Ball, E. D. - Douglas
Burchet, Edward - Van
Compton, A. D. - Rose Hill
Cox, J. B. - Brick Store
Flanary, C. F. - Fritts'
Gibson, J. O. - Jonesville
Hamlin, C. L. - Turkey Cove
Harper, Samuel - Corinth
Hurst, W. S. - Fritts'
Hurst & Shelburn - Zion's Mills
Legg, J. K. P. - Crab Orchard
Livesay, J. T. - Blackwater
Litton, A. J. - Stickleyville
McLin, J. B. - Rose Hill
McNeal, A. C.
McPherson & Anderson - Blackwater
Marriman, W. B. - Van
Morgan, B. M. - Beech Spring
More, E. & Anderson - Blackwater
Nash, C. W. & Co. - Gibson's Station
Noe, A. W. & Bro. - Beech Spring
Orr & Russell - Jonesville
Oxford, John - Chandler
Pennington, E. M. - Corinth
Richmond, H. C. T. - Bales Mills
Richmond, M. D. - Jonesville
Schepley, F. R. - Delphi
Skaggs, J. F. - Delphi
Stickley, Wright - White Shoals
Thompson, B. F. - Fritts'
Wheeler, J. M. - Walnut Hill
Wood, William P. - Pridemore
Worley, N. - Van
Young, C. V. - Stickleyville

Mills--Corn and Flour
Bales, George - Rose Hill
Bales, L. S. - Rose Hill
Bales, R. M. - Bales' Mills
Bales, William - Gibson's Station
Bales & Co. - Bales' Mills
Ball, M. L. - Bales' Mills
Browning, J. G. - Jonesville
Campbell, D. C. - Rose Hill
Debusk, A. K. - Tide
Duff, C. G. - Stickleyville
Ely & Morgan - Beech Spring
Gibson, Z. S. - Gibson's Station
Graybeal, L. F. - Beech Spring
Legg, J. K. P. - Crab Orchard
Litton, D. S. - Rocky Station
Litton, Richard - Tide
McConnell, Robert - Crab Orchard
 McKinney, Daniel - Crab Orchard
Morris, Alexander - Crab Orchard
Moyer, C. N. - Bales' Mills
Orr, James W. - Jonesville
Payne, A. - Crab Orchard
Pennington, E. M. - Corinth
Poteet, S. - Jonesville
Smith, J. M. - Hau
Yeary, Hiram J. - Van
Yeary, M. L. - Beech Spring

Mills--Saw
Ball, M. L. - Bales' Mills
Bonham, H. C. - Jonesville
Browning, J. C. - Jonesville
Crowell, W. S. - Jonesville
Dean, G. T. - Bales' Mills
Debusk, A. K. - Fritts'
Eads, J. R. - Rose Hill
Ely & Morgan - Beech Spring
Gibson, J. N. - Gibson's Station
Graybeal, F. J. - Beech Spring
Hall, John S. - Rocky Station
Hamilton & Kilbert - Gibson's Station
Moyer, C. N. - Bales Mills
Pennington, E. M. - Corinth
Yeary, H. L. - Corinth
Yeary, M. L. - Beech Spring

Millwrights
Anderson, S. D. N. - Bales' Mills
Clark, F. - Crab Orchard

Clay, Wesley - Crab Orchard
Fitzpatrick, John - Crab Orchard
Hobbs, W. G. - Rose Hill
Lyons, M. M. - Cumbo
Morris, John W. - Crab Orchard
Pennington, R. A. - Corinth
Pridemore, W. H. - Gibson's Station
White, Daniel - Blackwater

Mines -- Coal
Clark, W. H. H. - Crab Orchard
Clark, Z. T. - Crab Orchard
Harris, Thomas - Crab Orchard
McLin, J. B. - Rose Hill
Sewell Bros. - Jonesville
Short, James - Bales Mills

Newspapers
Lee County Sentinel (Democratic Weekly) - Jonesville
Virginia Herald (Weekly) - Jonesville
Democratic, J. L. Duff Proprietor - Hau

Physicians
Allen, P. H. - Rocky Station
Beaty, N. E. - Rose Hill
Beaty, P. - Douglas
Browning, J. G. - Jonesville
Burr, John E. - Hau
Clark, George F. - Fritts'
Field, Samuel - Stickleyville
Gibson, Hugh - Delphi
Graham, John P. - Hau
Howard, D. H. - Hau
Kimberling, G. W. H. - Stickleyville
Kogar, Jackson - Chandler
Legg, W. M. T. - Crab Orchard
Legg, U. S. G. - Crab Orchard
McNeil, J. - Douglas
Milan, R. J. - Beech Spring
Morgan, John D. - Rose Hill
Morris, D. F. - Crab Orchard
Morrison, W. E. - Bales Mills
Muncey, H. L. - Blackwater
Reaser, D. S. - Brick Store
Shelburn, Silas B. - Zion's Mills
Stallard, S. C. - Jonesville
Stewart, J. A. - Tide
Thomas, J. H. - Jonesville
Whitehead, John M. - Beech Spring
Willis, William - Walnut Hill
Wilson, B. F. - Crab Orchard
Wygal, F. J. - Blackwater
Saddlers and Harness makers
Baylor, C. E. - Bales Mills
Crockett, M. H. - Jonesville
Henderson, John - Jonesville
Wheeler, H. S. - Boon's Path
Wheeler, John – Douglas

Tanners
Astrop, C. D. - Hau
Astrop, V. R. - Tide
Baylor, C. E. - Boon's Path
Clark, John - Boon's Path
Couk & Son – Jonesville
Fugate, P. P. – Bales Mills

Superintendent--A. M. Goins,
Jonesville
Milton, P. T. - Cumbo
Russell, E. H. - Beech Spring

Undertakers
Cole, Jefferson - Bales Mills
Crowell, W. S. - Jonesville
Hobbs, W. C. - Bales Mills
Smith, W. A. - Jonesville

Schools
There are 92 white and 8 colored
public schools in this county.

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public schools in this county.

Principal Farmers
Bales’ Mills--Wm. F. Gibson, H. C. T. Richmond, L. D. Fulkerson, W. W. Ball, M. S. Ball, John Ball, W. M. Brown, T. S. Snavely, P. P. Fugate

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Principal Farmers Continued:


Stickleyville--Wm. P. Duff, Michael Robinett, H. L. Anderson, Isaac Steele, B. F. Richmond, Creed Arey, E. F. Young, R. D. Young, Davidbanner, Vastine Banner, A. J. Hickam, John T. Whittaker


Zions Mills--M. C. Parsons, A. J. Wilson, Dr. P. H. Allen, E. V. Litton, Michael Spangler, W. H. Carnes, John Jessee, Samuel Fritt

Society Loses Member Ed Duncan (1921-2012)

Edward Marcum Duncan, of the Cross Creek Community of Dryden, Virginia, was born in Jonesville, Virginia, on Wednesday, January 26, 1921, and departed this walk of life on Thursday, April 5, 2012, at Wellmont Lonesome Pine Hospital in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, at the age of 91 years.

He was a retired machinist for Tolas Manufacturing Company for 40 years in Chesterson, Indiana. He was a member of Valley View Primitive Baptist Church in Dryden and served as a trustee. He was a World War II Veteran having served in the U. S. Army. He was a history buff, loved to do photography, loved to travel and was a member of the Moose Lodge. He was a board member of the Saint Charles Alumni Association, past vice-president of the AARP, president of the TRIAD of Jonesville and a life member of the VFW and American Legion. He was a resident of Lee County for the past 13 years and a member of the Lee County Historical Society.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Alvonia Marcum Duncan; his son, Samuel Duncan; 8 brothers and sisters. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Anna Hartsock Duncan of the home; one grandson, Aaron Duncan, of Manassas, Virginia; one granddaughter, Terry Thigpin and husband Dwayne of Fairfax, Virginia; one great-granddaughter, Aubrey Thigpin, of Fairfax, daughter-in-law, Norma Duncan of Fairfax; a very special cousin, David and wife Wanda Parsons of Dryden, Virginia, and several nieces and nephews. He is survived by his adopted granddaughters, Michelle and April Parsons and Candice Jennings and adopted grandkids, Chad Parsons, Chad and J.T. Jennings.

The funeral service was conducted at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 8, 2012, at Province Funeral Home Sanctuary in Pennington Gap, Va. Graveside service was at 11:00 a.m. at Lee Memorial Gardens at Woodway, Va.

We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Ed Duncan.
Methodists but Christians. So a Community Church was organized on November 16th, 1930 with nineteen members; ten of them coming in by letter from five denominations and the other nine on profession of faith. There was before that little group of nineteen, a large community with practically no other Christians. Of course in such a community there is much ignorance and for a while every move of the pastor and church was criticized but soon the people began to have confidence in the Christians. On Easter Sunday, 1931, at the close of a revival in which the pastor was assisted by Rev. G.F. Watkins, forty-five members were received into the Community Church.

I have been asked to write an article about the second year of my ministry here in Bonny Blue, but it would be impossible to tell of the second year’s work without giving something of the above about the first year’s work.

I realized that the personal contact with the people would be of much value in this area. It is possible that in large churches with educated members the preaching service alone affords the greatest means of reaching the hearts of people. But it is not so back in the mountains where people have had very little, if any, education. They need personal contact with the pastor and the Christian people if they are to be reached for the Lord.

They have to have confidence in their leaders. My community was a very unstable community. The first six months I was here, out of 450 families that lived in the community, 250 of them moved. They had to be reached quickly or they were gone. Of course as one family moved away another came in to take its place. I decided that I must make my plans to contact as many of these people as possible. I am a great believer in Visitation Evangelism.

During my second year I made something like 2200 visits, always closing my visit with a prayer. There are three schools in the community and I tried to hold chapel in each school every week, and in the largest school twice a week to make contact with the children. With these services and the fact that I was often invited to other communities to hold chapel services, I had about five services every week. We always had our midweek prayer meetings, and often would have in addition to it, a period when we would have a service in each part of the community every night for a week. Of course it took a lot of assistants to carry on twenty five or thirty prayer meetings in a week, but it was well worth the effort.

REPORT OF THE PASTOR to the First Quarterly Conference of the Bonny Blue Charge, December 10, 1933.

The past quarter has not been marked by any outstanding points of progress, but we feel that we have been holding our own through thick and thin. The devil certainly used every opening in the past few months to hinder the progress of the Lord’s work here, but we believe we are now coming to the front. So many have been the discouraging features of the work lately that no attempt will be made here to explain them.

Let it suffice to say that the outlook is more favorable in a spiritual way, but the financial outlook is bad. In spite of the fact that we have been going through a period of transition and adjustment to new conditions, and many minds have been entirely off the Lord’s work our Sunday School and Epworth League have been doing fine work. We have averaged over 200 at Sunday School during the quarter and at present we are running well ahead of our record for the same period of time last year.

On account of the tendency on the part of many people in Bonny Blue to feel that the Community Church was being changed into a Methodist organization, and all the problems connected thereto, the pastor was unable to take any new members into the church during the quarter. He hopes this will never be the case again.
REPORT OF CHURCH CONFERENCE September 9, 1934

At the close of the preaching service on Sunday night September 9th the members of the church were called together for a Church Conference to revise the register of the church. The roll was called, those present answering, and answering for the absent members about who we had definite information. But we found that a number of members had moved away. Many had moved during the time of misunderstanding when the Union was being organized here among the miners, and we had not removed their names thinking they would return. So during the calling of the roll the church conference voted to drop from the roll the names of twenty-eight members who we had lost sight of. During the quarter the pastor has sent certificates of church membership to thirty members who have moved away.

PASTORS REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION to the Third Quarterly Conference of the Bonny Blue Charge, June 13, 1934:

It seems that each year our Young People are taking more interest in education. There are a number of them who graduated from high school and who want to continue their studies in college. At present, we have one student at Hiwassee College and another at Mary Baldwin.

We have two local preachers in our congregation, Rev. Clifton Thurman Fleenor who is the student at Hiwassee College and also who just returned from the Young People’s Assembly, and Rev. Paul Lightfoot Barrow.

We are planning a Vacation Church School for two weeks about the middle of August. This will be quite a large task as we expect an enrollment of over 250.

REPORT OF THE PASTOR to the Third Quarterly Conference of the Bonny Blue Charge, June 13, 1934.

The past three months have been a very busy period in the work of our church and we feel that this work is beginning to show results. Rev. Victor Sword came to help us in our revival on May 6th after we preached fine and about thirty people came to God, twenty of those were rejections. There were hundreds of people in our community though who could not be reached, much to our disappointment, but we did the best we could to try to lead them to Jesus.

Many of our young people are working in an organization now called the Community Players and will offer its first play to us on June 21st.

REPORT OF THE PASTOR to the Fourth Quarterly Conference of the Bonny Blue Charge, September 9th, 1934.

As the fourth year of our work together approaches an end the pastor wishes to express to the people of Bonny Blue and members of the Community Church his thanks and appreciation for their cooperation during his stay with them. It has been very gratifying to see an organization, which had no form and no members grow into an active church during that time. There have been high and low tides, but during all kinds of weather together we feel that some of us learned a little about weathering the storm. There is certainly no question in our minds, that while this past year had not added to the total membership of the church (due to the fact that we have just corrected our rolls and brought them up to date) that we can go to conference this year knowing that our church is in better condition, and that above all our community is in much better condition than it was this time last year. The pastor predicts a great year for the Bonny Blue Church next year.

Great Revival at Bonny Blue, Virginia
E. L. Crump, Pastor, May 26, 1932

Rev. Sullins Dossen of Kingsport, Tennessee has been helping Rev. E. L. Crump of the Bonny Blue Community Church in a revival at Bonny Blue, Virginia. Bonny Blue is just across the mountain from Harlan County, Kentucky, where there has been so much dissatisfaction in the mining operations. Bonny Blue is one of the largest operations of the Blue Diamond Coal Company, and while it has been suffering from unemployment God has richly blessed the community and has saved many souls in the past two weeks. Three hundred and seventy five have given their hearts to God, most of which are adults. Seventy-two joined the church last Sunday and over eighty others have signified their desire to unite with the church next Sunday. God’s spirit has been so strongly felt in this community that we felt that everyone loves everybody else, and everybody is busy working for the Lord now that they do not have time to worry about themselves. The community is certainly thankful that God sent Brother Dossen to preach for us and we feel that his great love for man, his trust in God, his wonderful personality, and his untiring efforts will always be a blessing to the community.
Concluding Thoughts on Bonny Blue

By Robert L. George

When E. L. Crump came to Bonny Blue in 1930, he was a rookie minister, but when he left in 1934, he was a veteran. Crump had succeeded in making Bonny Blue Community Church a viable, vibrant congregation. He had visited up to thirty homes a day, with over four thousand visits in two years. He worked hard as the American Red Cross coordinator for Lee County. He started the Epworth League for young people and established a Sunday school which reached a peak attendance of 776! A revival was held recording 376 decisions.

Crump cared about the miners and their families and provided a true witness, not only for the Methodist Church, but for Christ. Crump left Bonny Blue in 1934. The Blue Diamond Coal Company closed the Bonny Blue coal mine in 1946. Today there are less than one hundred residents in Bonny Blue. But the light burned brightly, if only so briefly.

A Query for Information:

From: Gloria Lark Goldson  
1581 Sycamore Drive  
Beavercreek, OH 45432

email: ggoldson@sbeglobal.net  
Telephone: (937) 426-4598

Gloria lived in the coal camp at Calvin, near Keokee, Virginia, in the 1930’s and 1940’s. She is trying to document the roads and streets in and around the coal camp, where the houses were located and who lived in them. We have put her in contact with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) which does have old maps of the area. If you can provide any information Gloria would certainly appreciate hearing from you.

Burial Location for Members of the Daugherty Family

We have received a request for information on the burial location of Mary Daugherty (Died Sept. 13, 1819 - age 17), William Daugherty (Died Dec. 23, 1835 - age 73) and another male Daugherty (Died Jan. 2, 1819 - age 78). These graves are mentioned in "Tombstone Inscriptions of Lee County, Virginia" compiled by Ada Grace Catron and others (1966). The cemetery location on page 133 states "in field on Chestnut Ridge" but nothing else.
Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 231
554 Old Friendship Road
Jonesville, Va. 24263-0231

Office Hours by Appointment

PHONE: (276) 346-0005
FAX: (276) 346-0225
E-MAIL: judygdav@verizon.net

President: Becky Jones
Vice-President: Phillip L. Cheek
Secretary: Judy G. Davidson
Treasurer: Greg Edwards
Building & Grounds: Arthur Garrett
Directors:
H. Ronnie Montgomery
Carol Rivers
Arthur Garrett
Researchers:
Ed Cress
Betty Jo Poteet
Judy G. Davidson

Have A Story or Article?
If you would like to contribute an article or story for our Newsletter please send it to Becky Jones or Judy Davidson. We can accept the article in digital form, either on CD or by email or send a hard copy by regular mail.

Society Books Still Available

Bicentennial History of Lee County.........$65 + $5 shipping (Va. Residents add $3.25 sales tax)
Cemeteries of Lee County
Volume I..............................$40 + $5 shipping (Va. Residents add $2.00 sales tax)
Volume 2..............................$45 + $5 shipping (Va. Residents add $2.25 sales tax)
Volume 3..............................$50 + $5 shipping (Va. Residents add $2.50 sales tax)

If you would like to purchase any of these books please send a check to Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 231, Jonesville, VA. 24263

Robbins Chapel Methodist Church
Robbins Chapel Methodist Church – Unk. date –
Photo furnished Mr. Wayne Penley

Covered wagon and rider headed to the Battle of Jonesville –
The War Between the States held on June 7-10, 2012.