

# MOUNTAIN HERITAGE

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.

January, 2021

Special Edition

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*Barbara J. Dover, GCGSI Publication Chairperson*

Your GCGSI Board had a combined virtual and in-person planning meeting on Thursday, January 21, and the first thing on the agenda was the current financial report including the payment of Georgia sales tax and other regular expenditures. Along with discussing the financial report, we gave input in the adaptation of the 2021 annual budget. We also heard reports from officers and committees. Then we concluded with a discussion of methods of communication within the organization in the time of Covid-19 via telephone, email, GCGSI website, Facebook, and USPS mail. It was great to see everyone even if through a screen. Officers and committee chairpersons present were President Keely Chalk, Vice-President and Program Chairperson Jan Cooler, Recording Secretary and First Families Committee Chairperson Gladys Dotson Spivey, Corresponding Secretaries and Research Chairpersons Ben and Eileen Bailey, Treasurer Susan Noles, Historian and Events Chairperson Rebecca Burrell, Membership Chairperson Jane Tischler, and Publication Chairperson Barbara J. Dover.

We would have loved to plan our 2021 meetings and speaker schedule, but unfortunately, we don't have a timeline as to when we will be able to have in-person meetings again. Our meeting room at the Gilmer County Library is still closed for meetings due to the Covid-19 Guidelines for Gatherings, and we do not have an anticipated date for its reopening. The cases of Covid-19 in Gilmer County are still on the rise, and although vaccinations are now being administered, it will probably be mid-year or later before we will all feel comfortable enough to meet in person, even when socially distanced and masked. We look forward to that day and will certainly keep you apprised as to when we think that will be.

Our annual financial report had a surprising large payment listed that resulted in our voting to make changes in the pricing of our publications. The selling of several books this past year, although a good thing, resulted in the large payment of 7% Georgia sales tax for every dollar raised



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*Happy New Year!*  
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by their sale. This took quite a chunk from our funds raised, so it was decided that we would have to begin adding GA sales tax to the cost of publications sold by our members in Georgia and shipped to Georgia addresses. We had thought that including sales tax in the actual purchase price would be sufficient, but with the cost of the publication of our newest book and the continued rise of postal rates and shipping materials, our funds raised by the selling of our publications was not yielding what we had initially thought it would. To quote a character from one of my favorite movies "Raising Arizona," "Government do take a bite, don't she?" As a result of this bite, the cost of any publication bought from GCGSI members in Georgia or shipped to Georgia addresses will increase by 7% in order to cover our Georgia sales tax. (An updated Gilmer County Genealogy Society Inc. Publications Mail Order Form is provided in this newsletter, as well as on our website [www.gcgsi.org](http://www.gcgsi.org) and on Facebook.) We hate having to increase prices, but we do need for our financial input to equal or exceed our output.

Within the discussion of the financial report, we also looked at our annual budget and made a few changes to reflect the changes in our own outgoing payments, increased payments due to circumstances out of our control and decreased payments due to our inability to meet in person. The only change in the budget directly affecting the membership at large is the necessary increase in our publications' cost as mentioned previously. As an aside, President Keely Chalk asked us to think about the possibility of providing a laptop specifically for our treasurer that would include the software Quick Books to assist in financial record keeping. The laptop could also be installed with Square, a digital cash register that would allow electronic payment via credit or debit card. The laptop would be assigned to the treasurer upon installation as an officer.

After all the money talk, our committee chairpersons then gave reports to the board. Corresponding Secretaries and Research Chairpersons Ben and Eileen Bailey thanked Gladys Spivey for notifying them when cards should be sent to members' families due to illness or death, and it was decided that we would ask members and their families to keep us notified of news that we should be aware of by phoning 706-504-8600 and leaving a message. An email to [gilmergenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmergenealogy@gmail.com) is another way of letting us know. All of us care about one another and would like to be able to send prayers, good vibes, and congratulations if requested. Ben and Eileen Bailey also reported that research requests have been sparse lately, and of course due to the pandemic, opportunities for research have been limited.

First Family Chairperson Gladys Dotson Spivey reported 5 new First Family members in this first month of the new year. Some are being listed for the first time and some are being listed again under another ancestor. These will be recognized at a later time. Historian and Events Chairperson Rebecca Burrell had no news to report due to the inability to meet or hold in-person events. Jane Tischler, our Membership Chairperson, reported that membership renewal emails had been sent out and several people had recently paid their dues. Publications Chairperson Barbara J. Dover took a photograph of our Zoom gallery screen for the meeting and reminded the board that a summary of this meeting would be shared with the membership as well as the local newspaper. At the end of the committee reports, President Keely Chalk asked us to start keeping a list of our duties and responsibilities, including passwords if necessary. The purpose is to create an individual folder for each position to help to orient the person who would succeed us if and when we are no longer in office.



Happy New Year!  
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On the subject of communication, Gladys Spivey informed the officers that Webmaster Karla Duke and Barbara J. Dover had worked quite a bit recently making changes on the gcgsci.com website, with both text on the pages and updated hyperlinks. Barbara announced some idiosyncrasies and difficulties that Karla and she had encountered when updating within the current format and with our current web host server. As Karla will be stepping down as the Webmaster, she shared some suggestions for the site moving forward. She also offered to assist in training the new Webmaster if we choose to remain with the current format or switch to a new format and/or new web host. Keely Chalk volunteered to replace Karla Duke as Webmaster and asked that we give her as much information as possible to train for continuing within the current format. At this point since the annual fees have just been paid, it was determined that we will remain with the current website format and web host as long as changes are minimal, and revisit any changes in either at the end of the year or sooner if necessary.

For additional communication among our society, emails and mini-newsletters such as these will be sent regularly; our quarterly newsletter will still continue to be published and emailed to membership; and Facebook will be utilized for updates, event notification, and the posting of comics and messages to provoke thought or brighten your day. So that you continue to receive our communications, please make sure that when you renew your membership that you provide for us on your membership form the best way for us to communicate with you, be it through email, telephone, or mailing address. (An updated GCGSI Membership Form is provided for you in this newsletter, as well as on our website [www.gcgsci.org](http://www.gcgsci.org) and on Facebook.)

We ask that if you need to communicate for research help, sharing of information, to purchase one or more of our publications, or have questions regarding the society, please phone us at 706-504-8600 and leave a message, email us at [gilmergenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmergenealogy@gmail.com), message us via Facebook, or reach us by mail at **Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.; P. O. Box 919; El-lijay, GA 30540**. If you are mailing payments for membership or books, please add **ATTN: Susan Noles, Treasurer** below the address.

Your GCGSI Board will continue to meet throughout the pandemic and keep you informed of decisions made and ideas shared. In the meantime, if you have stories for the regular quarterly newsletter, ideas for future programs when we are able to meet again in person, and thoughts about **YOUR** Gilmer County Genealogical Society, please share. We are all in this together! Take care.



*Image captured by Barbara J. Dover on January 21, 2019.*



### Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. Publications Mail Order Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. or GCGSI, and mail to Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.; P. O. Box 919; Ellijay, GA 30540; ATTN: Susan Noles, GCGSI Treasurer. If you purchase a book from a member in GA or if it is mailed to a GA address, an additional 7% for Georgia sales tax is required. Out-of-state and in-state prices are listed below.

**OUT OF PRINT (OOP) BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT!**

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

**A Revenuer's Diary – OOP~DIGITAL FORMAT ONLY**  
**Check digital format choice: CD \_\_\_\_\_ FLASH DRIVE \_\_\_\_\_**  
**\$30.00 (\$25.00 + \$5.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$32.10 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$2.10.)**  
*Compiled by Warren Cagle, investigator for ATF, A Revenuer's Diary contains witness and daily reports from Cherokee, Pickens, Gilmer and Fannin Counties from 1954 to 1959.*

**Family Legends of Gilmer County – OOP~DIGITAL FORMAT ONLY**  
**Check digital format choice: CD \_\_\_\_\_ FLASH DRIVE \_\_\_\_\_**  
**\$30.00 (\$25.00 + \$5.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$32.10 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$2.10)**  
*Published in 2009, this is a 500-page compilation of contributors' stories as a record of their ancestors' and current family's histories. It includes photos, recollections, and memoriam with an index of 1500 surnames.*

**Days Gone By - ~~\$40.00~~ **50% OFF while supplies last!****  
**\$27.00 (\$20.00 + \$7.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$28.89 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$1.89)**  
*A compilation of the writings of the late Ernest Parker, a Gilmer County native and historian, much of this material was originally published in the Ellijay Times-Courier newspaper.*

**Reflections on Mountain Heritage - ~~\$35.00~~ **48% OFF while supplies last!****  
**\$25.00 (\$18.00 + \$7.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$26.75 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$1.75)**  
*This book reflects the times and activities of the old mountain homesteads. It includes recipes; family care; old sayings; superstitions and traditions; tales from the mountains; memories and reminiscences.*

**Poetry from the Mountains - ~~\$20.00~~ **OVER 50% OFF while supplies last!****  
**\$15.00 (\$8.00 + \$7.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$16.05 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$1.05)**  
*A collection of poems by Gilmer residents and their ancestors/descendants*

**Faces of Our Ancestors: First Families of Gilmer County, Georgia**  
**\$90.00 (\$80.00 + \$10.00 shipping and handling) if shipped out of GA**  
**\$96.30 if shipped to a Georgia address. (7% GA sales tax=\$6.30)**  
*This book is a legacy to the ancestors who first settled in Gilmer County from their descendants, the members of First Families of Gilmer County Georgia. Published in 2019, It is over 800 pages, and its copyright is registered with ISBN.*

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_



*Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.*  
*P. O. Box 919*  
*Ellijay, Georgia 30540*  
*706-514-8600*  
*Email Address: gilmergenealogy@gmail.com*

*Remember the days of old,*  
*consider the years of many generations;*  
*ask thy Father, and he will shew thee;*  
*thy elders, and they will tell you.*  
Deuteronomy 32:7

**Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc. Membership Form**

We are a non-profit all volunteer organization whose aim is to promote and preserve family history. Our goal is to have all necessary tools available in the Gilmer County Library's Family Research Center to aide you in your search. Please mail your membership form and dues to **Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.; P O. Box 919; Ellijay, GA 30540; ATTN: Susan Noles, GCGSI Treasurer.**

**PATRON: \$50      CORPORATE: \$100      SPONSOR: \$250      BENEFACTOR: \$500**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:**      Single: \$10.00  
Family (including unmarried children in home:) \$15.00  
Student (ages 13-17:) \$5.00

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Surnames for Research \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

The Gilmer County Genealogical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 919  
Ellijay, GA 30540



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**We're online!**  
[www.gcgsi.org](http://www.gcgsi.org)   
Contact email: [gilmergenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmergenealogy@gmail.com)

## What Is Available Online?

- GCGSI Membership
- Book Order Forms
- First Families Application
- 1834 and 1840 Census
- Genealogical Links
- Contact Information
- Officers and Chairpersons
- GCGSI Newsletters

