

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

09 February 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 4:05 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Don Casada, Christine Colcord, Dee Decker, Rob Hawk, John Seay, Judy Revis, Wendy Meyers, Betty Hyatt, Bob Thomas

Financials

The Treasurer's statement was provided. There is a \$40 adjustment in the account for an expense that was not known.

Reference is made to the financial statement provided by Christine Colcord, and is not included in these minutes.

Grounds

- Stone cleaning has been performed this past week.
- Sign board – Don would like some help. John Seay will donate some brand new shingles.

Website and Media

- Maps of 7 sections of the cemetery have been uploaded to the website
- Don would like to have help identifying what churches people attended. John and Bob will help with that for First Baptist Church.
- All photos are welcome to upload to the website. John Seay has a lot of photos for his family.
- Judy is working on a biographical sketch of the Myers family.

Presentation

Don Casada gave a presentation on Jack and Bland Coburn

Wendy volunteered to do a presentation on Ben Enloe at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

09 March 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 4:35 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Don Casada, Christine Colcord, Judy Revis, Wendy Meyers, Betty Sandlin, Gwen Breese, Joyce Cooper, Kelly Carnes (and children), and Sarah Robinson

Minutes

Minutes from 09 February 2017 were read and approved.

Financials

- The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
- 5 new members have joined; the FBCC now has a total of 64 members.
- Gwen forwarded a motion to accept the report; Betty seconded.

Grounds

- No mowing as yet has been required.
- Many bulbs have been planted; daffodils and crocuses are up.
- Don also planted a dogwood.
- Hopefully the JROTC will do some work on that next month.
- Jack Coburn's grave is collapsing, as is his wife Bland's. This appears to be a problem for individuals buried pre-1940. The FBCC is considering applying for grant funding to correct this issue.
- 256 gravestones have been photographed before and after they were cleaned.
- Sign board – at this time, there are no volunteers to assist with this project.

Website and Media

- We need more pictures for the website.
- Don would like to have help identifying what churches people attended. Betty will help with the Methodist Church, Don will help with the Presbyterian Church, and John and Bob will help with this for First Baptist Church
- Don reviewed which biographical/historical sketches have been done. Betty will do one on the DeBords.

Communications

- Don did a presentation at the genealogical society meeting that was very well-received.

Other

- Judy is mostly done with her article on the Myers family.
- Meeting times are somewhat problematic. Afternoons are fine for some, but not for others. PAWS has the room reserved for the same Thursday on which we have our meetings, through 6:00. Don will send out an email to the group regarding preferred dates and times for the future. The next meeting will be held on April 20th at 1:00 p.m.
- Christine and Don submitted the annual report to the IRS.
- Christine will submit an application for this year's Heritage Festival.

Presentation

- Wendy Meyers provided a presentation on Ben Enloe and the Enloe family that is buried in the cemetery.
- Judy Revis will give a presentation on the Myers family at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

20 April 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Gwen Breese, Don Casada, Christine Colcord, David Hall, Carolyn Conley Hall, Joyce Cooper, Ivan Gibby, Wendy Meyers, O'Neal Muse, Doug Revis, Judy Revis, Rita Revis, Sarah Robinson, Bob Thomas.

Minutes

Minutes from 20 March 2017 were read and approved.

Financials

- The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

Grounds

- The southeastern portion of the cemetery has been trimmed.
- JROTC has come twice since the last meeting. They have helped with sticks and cut the pine tree that fell across the road during the storms.
- 6 stones have been installed this year, and 4 more are on the way.

Website and Media

- We need more pictures for the website.
- Don would like to have more help identifying what churches people attended.

Other

- Bob Thomas made note of the ceremony for Thaddeus Dillard Bryson that was held.
- Don would like to make lists for all veterans and associated wars. We would then like to work with Major Monnat to obtain the brass plaques for all.
- Tony Sutton has provided us an oak bowl (valued at \$150) made of the oak tree that used to be at the corner of the cemetery. We will raffle this off at Heritage Day. Bob distributed raffle tickets during the meeting.
- Christine will ask Charles Heath to donate a picture of the Cemetery, to be raffled off at Heritage Day

Presentation

- Judy Revis and Don Casada gave a presentation on the Myers family.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on 11 May 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery
Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Gwen Breese, Bob Breese, Don Casada, Christine Colcord, David Hall, Carolyn Conley Hall, Joyce Cooper, Ivan Gibby, O'Neal Muse, Doug Revis, Judy Revis, Bob Game, Sarah Robinson, Bob Thomas, Betty Sandlin.

Minutes

Minutes from 20 April 2017 were reviewed and approved.

Financials

- The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

Grounds

- The entire cemetery grounds were mown earlier this week, but the bank facing Hillside Baptist needs trimming. Don asked the group if it would be acceptable to see about having the crew which cleans the Hillside Baptist grounds take care of the bank a couple of times a year. That idea received a consensus endorsement.

Website and Media

- Betty Sandlin has gone through the list of those buried in the cemetery to identify Methodists. She will do a follow-up review against church membership records. A printed copy of the list was provided to Bob Thomas for review of First Baptist members.

Other

- Christine and Rick Colcord will set up the booth for Swain County Heritage Day (May 27). Volunteers are needed to keep the booth manned throughout the day. Don agreed to assemble photos, newsletters, and other materials to display.

Presentation

- Don gave a presentation on Carolina Wood Turning connections to the cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on 8 June 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

15 June 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Don Casada, Susan Casada, Kelly Carnes (and children), Christine Colcord, Joyce Cooper, Dean Sutton, Ivan Gibby, Jessie Greyer, Wendy Meyers, O'Neal Muse, Betty Sandlin, Austin Shuler, and Sarah Robinson

Minutes

Minutes from May 2017 were read and approved.

Financials

- The FBCC made \$260 from the raffle held at the Heritage Festival on Memorial Day weekend. Additionally, we gained several new members and received some donations.
- Dan Pierce presented on his new book, "Hazel Creek: The Life and Death of an Iconic Mountain Community" at the Swain County Genealogical Society meeting in May 2017, and had copies of the books for sale at the meeting. He donated half of the proceeds from the book sale to the FBCC – approximately \$135.
- The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
- Unanimously approved.

Grounds

- It was proposed that Austin Shuler, from the Swain County High School JROTC, perform some of the maintenance work for the cemetery this summer. His hiring was unanimously approved.
- The cemetery was in excellent shape for Memorial Day; Don was assisted by Cameron and Kyle Ponchot and Hillside Baptist Church.
- Don noted that some individuals are putting flowers along the length of the grave. This makes mowing very difficult. Discussion was held on this issue as to what the FBCC can, cannot, or should do about this. Possible solutions included putting up a note on the notice board to use either saddle arrangements or vases, or to state that they can remain over the winter but will be taken and thrown away when the mowing starts in the spring. Also under consideration is the idea of identifying the specific individuals placing the flowers along the length of the graves and sending them a letter with our concerns.
- The signboard is up but not yet finished. It will be painted in the fall.

- A shed needs to be built which will cost about \$1,200.00. Dan Meyers will help, as will Mike Colcord. Would like to have that done by the time of the next meeting. A motion to move forward on the project was made and approved unanimously.

Monuments

- No new monuments will be placed until fall.

Website and Media

- Don is beginning to establish linkages between all the individuals buried in the cemetery.
- We need more pictures for the website.

Commercial Tour Concern

- Tim Hall led a (commercial) storytelling episode at the cemetery on 6/13/2017. As the FBCC opposes commercialization of the cemetery, and the cemetery plots are all privately owned, this is felt to be unacceptable.
- After discussion, it was decided that Don will draft a letter regarding this issue. The FBCC will approve the letter; it will then be put up on the signboard and also delivered to Tim Hall.

Presentation

- Wendy Meyers and Joyce Cooper provided a presentation on the members of the Mendenhall and Cooper families buried in the cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on July 13, 2017 at the United Community Bank in Bryson City.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

13 July 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Don Casada, Susan Casada, Kelly Carnes (and children), Christine Colcord, Wendy Meyers, O'Neal Muse, Doug Revis, Judy Revis, Sarah Robinson, Yvonne Swan, Bob Thomas and 2 grandsons, Stephen and Mary Lynn Ulrey (Tampa, FL), Holly Riddle and friend (Chapel Hill, NC).

Minutes

Minutes from June 2017 were read and approved.

Financials

The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

Grounds

- The shed is done. Don, James Burnette, and Austin Shuler completed the work.
- A game camera will be put up in the area of the shed in the near future.
- A map and invitations to join have been added to the signboard.
- Don has had to dispense with several yellow jacket nests.

Monuments

- No new monuments will be placed until fall.

Website and Media

- Don is beginning to establish linkages between all the individuals buried in the cemetery.
- As always, we need more pictures for the website.

Presentation

- Don Casada presented the first in a series of presentations that he'll do on Civil War veterans who are buried in the Bryson City Cemetery.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on August 17, 2017 at the United Community Bank in Bryson City.

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery

17 August 2017

Community Room, United Community Bank of Bryson City

The meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m.

In attendance were the following:

Gwen Breese and grandchildren, Don Casada, Susan Casada, Kelly Carnes, Phoebe Carnes, Sophie Carnes, Jessie Carnes, Christine Colcord, Debbie Colville, Joyce Cooper, Ivan Gibby, Wendy Meyers, O'Neal Muse, Jeanne Sneed, Judy Revis, Sarah Robinson, Anne-Marie Woffindin, Bob Thomas, Drew Thomas.

Minutes

Minutes from July 2017 were read and approved.

Financials

The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

Grounds

- Ten yellow jacket nests have now been identified in the cemetery (5 for Don, 5 for Austin).
- Marigolds have been placed at the cemetery and look very nice.
- Information board roof has been replaced to match the shed roof. Trim and painting are mostly complete for the information board.
- Don and Austin are going to transplant Zoysia. Some transplantation has already been performed in the Sossamon plot and Calhoun plot. Zoysia will be transplanted into some of the areas that have been walled in.
- Some contemplative benches have been placed near the angel (under the oak tree). These came from Susan Casada's aunt.

Monuments

- Monuments ordered in May have not yet been received.

Website, Media, and Communications

- Don believes that the linkages between all the individuals buried in the cemetery are complete. He is requesting that members review and suggest corrections or additional linkages. Don provided a demonstration of the manner in which this information can be accessed.
- Last week Don gave a presentation to the Bryson City Rotary Club on the FBCC.

- Don will provide a presentation on the FBCC to the Jackson County Genealogical Society on September 14

Presentation

- Phoebe Carnes did a presentation on the Seay and Snelson family members buried in the cemetery.
- Wendy will do the presentation next month.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on September 14, 2017 at the United Community Bank in Bryson City.

Minutes - Friends of the BCC Meeting held 14 Sep 2017

The meeting was convened at 1:05 p.m.

In attendance:

Don Casada, Susan Casada, Christine Colcord, Ivan Gibby, O'Neil Muse, Judy Revis, Sara Robinson, Betty Sandlin, Yvonne Swann, Dan Trehern, Margy Trehern, Toni Wright Davidson

Minutes

Minutes were reviewed and approved

Financials

Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved

Grounds

- Irma prep water break restoration
- Information board work is complete; painted and information placed. Some information will be permanent and some will be transient. Don is trying to get polarized film to place over the glass.
- Zoysia plug moving status – Austin has moved approximately 5 dozen Zoysia plugs

Monuments

- Eclipse: Don received an email from Bob Price in Atlanta, who is on the board for the Oakland Cemetery. He reported that there were well over 100 people at the cemetery during the eclipse. Don would like people to think about potential fundraisers suggested by Bob Price. Don may make a trip to the cemetery; Ivan suggested going to the Cemetery Stroll at Riverside in Asheville
- Filed to receive grant from United Gift Fund; FBCC was awarded but we don't know how much – applied for money for gravestone repair and leveling work that will require outside help. We will know in March how much we received.
- Leveling work progressing well – over 2 dozen stones straightened, repaired; 780 lbs of concrete mix thus far, some Gorilla Glue
- Fill dirt is needed.
- It would be helpful to use a rototiller to level out some of the low spots

History Promotion

- Peggy Seay brought her class to the cemetery on 29 Aug.
- Sandra English is also interested in bringing her students (from East Elementary)
- Don presenting at Jackson County Genealogical Society tonight. He will be presenting (in part) on Wayne Williams about a hunt with Sam Hunnicutt and Mark Cathey that was published in 1922. 8 people buried in the BCC that were on hunts with Sam.
- In need of volunteers for upcoming meetings.

Other Business

- Janella Verner has pancreatic cancer. Susan Casada will purchase a card.

Wendy Meyers gave a presentation on some 'Outsiders' buried in the Bryson City Cemetery, including Lena Rosa and Andrew Essensa.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on October 12, 2017, at 1:00 in the Community Room at the United Community Bank.

Minutes for October 12, 2017 meeting

Minutes from the September meeting were approved with correction of one misspelling.

Treasurer's report will be given next month since Treasurer Christine Colcord is out of town.

Judy Revis reported on Janella Verner's health and her appreciation of the flowers that were sent from FOBCC.

Don reported on the progress of grounds improvements, including straightening stones with the help of Austin Shuler, who also gave an update.

An update on the improvements of the Cemetery were the front page article for the Smoky Mountain Times October 12th edition and editor Jessica Webb attended the meeting.

Don Casada gave a presentation on seven men buried at the Cemetery who are mentioned in the newly reprinted book (by Western Carolina) by Sam Hunnicutt entitled *20 Years Hunting and Fishing in the Great Smoky Mountains*.

The following were in attendance:

Bob Thomas

Jessie Greyer

Ivan Gibby

*Michelle Edwards

*Barbara Hunnicutt Edwards

*Virginia H Zakroski

*Jessie M. Cloer

Judy Revis

Margy Trehern

Jessica Webb

Austin Shuler

*Charles Hunnicutt

*Terry Edwards

Bud Cantrell

Jim Estes

Susan Casada

Don Casada

*Members of the Hunnicutt family

Minutes for November 9, 2017 Meeting

Secretary - Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report - October

Grounds

Leaf work underway = blowing leaves, mulching

Bent over post at driveway was removed

JROTC - 4 groups of cadets visited Oct 31 for 1 hour each. Work included picking up sticks, moving dirt, and setting stones

Pansies planted at the information board and tool shed

Monuments (\$470 remains in monument fund)

Seven new markers set: Tabb, Ward (2), Robison, Hollifield, Conley

Work to straighten stones continues with 90 stones completed so far

History presentations

Austin Shuler spoke to JROTC on October 17

East & West Elementary students plan to have field trip in Nov.

Update on member Janella Verner - - 2nd round of treatments very rough

Thoughts on Stump removal or creative art project

Request for new officers and Board Members for next year

Presentation by Don Casada on John Everett, mentioned in Sam Hunnicutt's book

Attendees: Austin Shuler, Sara Robinson, O'Neal Muse, Joyce Cooper, Ivan Gibby, Betty Sandlin, Jim Gribble, Doug Revis, Judy Revis, Ann Marie Woffindin, Susan Casada, Alatha Cantrell, Bud Cantrell, Bob Thomas, Don Casada

Minutes for December 14, 2017 Meeting

Secretary - Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report - November bank statement, approved

Grounds Report:

- Austin Shuler: 180 head stones and 25 foot stones straightened
- (Ellis Tothrow's stone took 4 hours and 7 bags of Quikcrete)

- Leaves mulched and distributed
- Sara Robinson suggested contacting the town about purchasing mulcher and cemetery using in future
- Stump removal quote \$3500, then Lee English contacted about using his equipment along with metal detector to locate imbedded metal

Information Board - Forms are being returned and new members added

- One visitor Don spoke with recommended new cleaning solution (has been purchased for future cleanings.)

Discussion on new president and new board member

Member Bob Brees and heart attack recovery

Member Janella Verner and her health

Member Don Casada named Citizen of Year for cemetery work. Don represents every member and thanks given to Austin and others for involvement.

Presentation sent from Wendy Meyers "A Countywide Christmas 1929"

Christmas refreshments enjoyed while viewing pictures in general and open discussion by all.

Attendees: Bud Cantrell, Joyce Cooper, Ivan Gibby, Betty Sandlin, Jim Gribble, Sara Robinson, O'Neal Muse, Jean Douthit, Austin Shuler, Bob Thomas, Susan Casada, Christine Colcord, Don Casada (13)