

Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery Minutes from August 5, 2021

Location: Marianna Black Library Meeting Room, Bryson City, NC 3:00 – 5:00

Topic: Doc Kelly Bennett photo collection at Western Carolina's Hunter Library Special Collections

This was our first in-person meeting in over a year due to Covid. Almost 40 people were present, including many from out-of-town as well as members of the Bennett family. In addition to those present in person, many attended the meeting virtually by means of the FBCC's GoToMeeting subscription.

Jeff Delfield, County Librarian opened the meeting with a warm greeting and a few comments about the many services the Marianna Black Library provides. This was also the library's first adult in-person meeting in over a year.

Dennis Anthony, who was the Bennett family member who donated the Bennett collection, spoke next. He thanked Jason Brady of Western Carolina's Special Collections, Ken Wise from UT library, Joe Emert who helped with the transfer of the collection from UT to WCU, as well as thanks to Jim Casada and Don Casada for their support in WCU acquisition of the collection.

Jason Brady of Western Carolina University's Special Collection discussed the many aspects of the special collection. He was very appreciative of the Bennett family for making the donation and requested that other families might consider doing the same.

Don Casada made a Power Point presentation of some of the 1300 photos that are being processed and annotated, including family photos, sporting events, town gatherings, and landscape photos. The dates of the photos which were shown ranged from the 1910s to the 1940s. Don is assembling the sets of slides into a single document with added commentary for those who were unable to attend.

Several in attendance made helpful comments about the pictures with identification of people, location of settings, or background information.

Arrangements were made for a display at the Marianna Black Library of the photos, jointly sponsored by Western Carolina and Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery. Images will be shared to promote awareness of the collection and also in hopes that others may recognize faces or features and help with the annotation of this wonderful collection.

August 5, 2021

Susan Casada

Don Casada

Dennis Anthony

Ivan Gibby

Jessie Greyer

Joseph Atkinson

Yvonne Swan

Lindy Ewert

Joe Ewert

Bud Cantrell

JACK CASEBOLT

Whitney Coleman

Shirley Coleman

~~John~~

Julie Perry - Janut's

Also Becky Painter

JIM CASADA

Martin Maxwell

Bo Curtis

Glen Campitt Busbyhead

Ken Wise

Rob 'Tree Men' McNutt

Liam W. Ball

Ron Clark

Bob Thomas

Judy Revis

Renee Winchester

Tom Womble

Tom Nunn

Kelly Bennett II

PERCIVAL ROBERT BENNETT II

CHERRI CLARK

Jason Brady

Jenny McPherson

Joyce Cooper

DAVE EDWARDS

Rick Colcord

Regenia Holmes

Dick Embley

Jeff - intro

Dennis Anthony

thanks Dick, Jim, Ken, Wise, Joe Ewert

Jason Brady

presentation

Q&A