Pearl Webb Cemetery Newsletter

Designed by: Paul Sullivan Winter 2013 http://www.so-ky.com/cem/hartcem/p/pearlwebb/index.htm

History & Facts: By June Burks

Bro. Benjamin Franklin Biggs

Before starting to write about our World War I soldiers, we would like to feature minister, Bro. Benjamin Franklin Biggs, who preached here at Canmer many years ago and is buried in Pearl Webb Cemetery. He was born in Green County, Kentucky on June 6, 1826 and died of appendicitis on June 9, 1902. His parents were John Biggs, who was born in Virginia, and Sally Price of Green County, KY. They were married on November 16, 1815, in Green County. Bro. Ben's grandfather was in the Revolutionary War and served under Washington.

Bro. Ben was one of eight children. His father was a stone mason and built the courthouse in Greensburg, thus leaving behind a historic memorial. The Biggs family went to the old Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church, where Bro. Biggs was converted about 1843. He was considered a young man of promise. He was appointed tobacco inspector under Gov. Bramlette, who was our 23rd Governor of Kentucky. He was a good and reliable leader.

He married Miss Elizabeth Frances Wheat on July 4, 1849 in Taylor County, Kentucky and was married for 41 years, when she died in 1890. They were the parents of eight children: John Otha 1850, George Robert 1853, Louisa S. 1857, Thomas Edward 1860, James Skaggs 1861, Laura 18??, Lizzie 18??, and Benjamin Franklin 1853. He was ordained a deacon 1866 and an elder 1869, before being called to preach. He was successful as a local preacher and much in demand to preach at several churches. His first church was in Taylor County. He also preached at Bradfordsville, Scottsville, Lafayette or Center, as we know it. He was at Horse Cave in 1884-1886, Rich Pond, Canmer 1890, Puckett's Chapel 1891, then back at Canmer 1892, Greensburg 1895, Bardstown, Clifton, Munfordville, Cosby, Almstead, Jeffersontown, and back to Puckett's Chapel for eight months in 1902, when he got sick and had to quit.

On October 4, 1893, while pastor at Greensburg Methodist Church, he placed a cornerstone there. It was opened in 1938 by Bro. J.W. Rayburn. It contained a Bible, songbook, roll of membership, and a copy of the original deed, dated July 22, 1830.

It was said of Bro. Biggs that his sermons had bones, body, and living breath in them. After his first wife's death, he married again on February 22, 1892 to Miss Emma Moss. She stated that in his last illness, he suffered much, but never murmured. He said, "It is all well with me. I have lived to die, and die to live again." He died on July 28, 1902.

Thanks to Inez Warf for helping me get this together.

Mrs. Emily Biggs Obituary from The Central Methodist (9/12/1929)

Mrs. Emily Biggs

Mrs. Emily Biggs, 84, widow of the Rev. B.F. Biggs, who died a number of years ago, died in the St. Anthony Hospital in Louisville, and the body was brought to Canmer for burial in the Canmer Cemetery. Mrs. Biggs has made this place her home for over twenty years and had gone to Canmer to visit her nephew, Paul Rogers, three weeks before her death, where she fell and broke her hip.

On Sunday before she died she was taken to the hospital in Louisville, and an operation performed on her hip in an effort to set the hip so that she might be able to walk. She never recovered from the shock of the operation.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Carl Rogers, and a brother, Dave Moss, Canmer. A funeral service was held at the Canmer Methodist Church with the pastor, Rev. DeWitt, preaching the funeral.

Those from here who attended the funeral were Mrs. Tobitha Cloyd, Mrs. J.R. Chaney, Mrs. E.P. McGee, Mrs. B.R. Cole, and C.E. Chaney.



Bro. Benjamin Franklin Biggs Tombstone

Secretary's Desk:

By: Peggy Sue Avery

Persons buried at Pearl Webb since the last newsletter:

Leona Wells

DOB: 4/4/1917 DOD: 7/28/2013

Eula Renick

DOB: 7/25/1920 DOD: 8/27/2013

J.L. Sturgeon

DOB: 5/8/1929 DOD: 9/29/2013

Jenny Lysle Mayhall

DOB: 12/7/1931 DOD: 12/2/2013



Treasurer's Desk: By: Brenda Dudderar

The cemetery received a donation from the estate of James Atwell, Jr. in July. Mary B. Evans (Toots Bumgardner) also left a portion of her estate to the cemetery. These bequests are greatly appreciated.

The cemetery lost a faithful contributor this month, when Jenny Lysle Mayhall, passed away. Her family

requested donation to the cemetery in her memory.

We continue to receive enough donations annually to pay for the mowing. We had several tree limbs to blow down earlier this summer. Members of the board spent a day cleaning this up.

We invite anyone interested in the cemetery to attend the annual meeting in March.

Pearl Webb Cemetery Board:

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Roy Avery, Vice-President
Brenda Dudderar, Treasurer
Peggy Sue Avery, Secretary
James E. Chaney
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