

The Roane County Journal - Volume 17 Publications

Posted by: Richard Griffith

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The Roane County Journal is a quarterly publication of the Roane County Historical Society. [Society members](#) know the joy of finding the latest issue in their mail boxes. Each 24 page issue of the Journal is filled with articles which may include Roane County history, census records, marriage records, birth and death records, photos, family histories, maps and queries from other Roane County researchers.

The current Journal year is Volume 17, and a brief summary is provided below. If you are not a member, [join today](#) to receive the future issues of this volume, along with the back issues for the year that you have missed out on. For information on obtaining the Journal from previous years, [click here](#)

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INTERESTING ORIGINS

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October)! Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The loaf would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term "big wig." Today we often use the term "hairs comes the Big Wig" because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

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Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the "Ace of Spades." To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 61 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't "playing with a full deck."

Roane County Veterans

John W. Lowe - US Navy Don E. Wood - US Army Wayne Brothers - WW I

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RCHS JOURNAL Fall, 2009

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Roane County Veteran Photos - John W. Lowe, Don E. Wood, Wayne brothers WWII
Meet the 2009-2010 Officers
Happy 50th Anniversary to Jack and Jean Nida
Historical Walking Tour Project
In Memorium - Rose Mary Patterson, Sharon Kay Greathouse, Arthur H. Larch
1910 Census of Smithfield District, Roane County, WV, continued
If Walls Could Talk - Plaques will identify Spencer's

historic buildings
Unknown School Identified - McCutcheon Run School
A Good Woman Gone 1925 - Mrs Emily (Tanner) Donahew
Pioneers in Roane County, W. Va., by John A. House 1906 - continued
Roane County Album - RCHS Genealogical Fair 2009
School Days - Old Walton Elementary - High School
Fred's Corner - Featuring the research and material of historian W. Frederick Craig
Old Roane Magisterial Districts - Geary District
Family History - Aaron Hensley
Sites - C. N. Rogers Store - early 1900's
Newton

Issue Number 2, Winter - December 2009

Memories - Noel E. Steorts
School Days - Walton Elementary - ca 1906
School Days - Walton Grade School Teachers - ca 1915
Pioneers in Roane County, W. Va., by John A. House 1906 - continued
Fred's Corner - Stony Point Church
Old Roane Magisterial Districts - Smithfield District
If Walls Could Talk - The F. E. Vandale Building
Hughes Family History
Roane County Album - Smithfield District
Folks
Roane County Veterans - Garrett Lloyd and James Paul Heim
Old Newspaper Articles - A History of Roane in Civil War Provided
Family History - Rev. James M. Hackney
Family Sites - Violet Ray
Coin Laundry, Jack Whiting home and Super K Market, Spencer - 1950's

Issue Number 3, Spring - March 2010

2010 WV History Hero Carol Cronin
Memories - Bud Reynolds
Pioneers in Roane County, W. Va., by John A. House 1906 - continued
Old Newspaper Articles - A History of Roane in Civil War Provided - continued
Tracing Our Ancestors - Cottrell Cousins Visit Roane County
In Memorium - Carolyn Sue Reynolds, Pauline W. Larch, Maxell Dale Brannon, Maxine C. Bissell
Brown
Hughes Family History - continued
Old Roane Magisterial Districts - Spencer District
Roane County Album - Old Spencer Magisterial District
If Walls Could Talk - The Robey Theater
School Days - Longbottom School - 1938
2009-2010 Membership Directory Updates
Sites - Clover Ball Team - September 21, 1914