June 24, 2024

Happy Monday fellow family researchers,

This week I’m sharing a picture of my Grandma, Vivian Paddock Smith. I treasure this picture because I don’t have many pictures of my grandparents at such a young age. This picture was taken in 1915 when my Grandma was 12 years old. This was a picture of her entire school, Grape Ridge, Webster County, Kentucky. It was a newspaper picture that someone had shared and my Grandma had cut it out and glued it to cardboard to prolong it’s life. I’m writing about this today to remind you that we all need to share our pictures. If my Grandma had not cut this out of the paper, and preserved it with her things, I would probably never have seen it. I’ve never seen anyone else share it anywhere. We have a section on our website where we are collecting school class pictures to share. All you have to do is send a picture or scan of your school class pic taken before 1950 to our webmaster, Kassidy Cobb (tsgs.webmaster@gmail.com) and she will upload it to our website for others to see. As I am mentioning this, I should also say, there are MANY items you can share with everyone through our website. We accept:

Vital Records (Birth, Marriage, Death)

Obituaries (before 1930)

Funeral Cards

Stories that you write about your ancestors (this doesn’t have to be long)

Patriot/Veteran records

Bible Records

Just about anything else as long as it’s not copy written after 1930

If you aren’t sure what some of these look like, or want to see what’s been shared so far, take a look at some of our Members Only pages.

We will be eagerly awaiting your items to share. I’ve heard people say that they took the time to find these items and they’re not going to share them with anyone else. I think that’s the wrong attitude for genealogy. We’re in this together.

(Have you sent in your dues for the 2024-2025 program year?)

Talk to you soon!

Kim Van Vorst

President, Tri-State Genealogical Society

