



# Pearl Webb Cemetery Newsletter

Designed by Paul Sullivan

Volume IV

## History & Facts

By: June Burks

### Dr. William Thomas Pace 1847 - 1925

The small, but growing village, of Monroe was very fortunate to have Dr. William Thomas Pace come to their community, live among them, and establish his medical practice there about the year 1890. Very soon he became a friend to everyone in the neighborhood and became well loved and respected by all.

The mode of travel was yet horseback or horse and buggy. So, it was imperative that the leaders of rural communities persuade a "country doctor" to come to their community. There, doctor's were expected to not only visit and treat the people of the village, but also reach out to surrounding areas. This sometimes required traveling for an hour or so to reach a patient in a remote area. They were also expected to go, if possible, immediately when called upon, regardless of the weather conditions. So they traveled through rain, cold, snow, and etc to reach a sick patient and treat them - always taking along their "doctor's bag" filled with pills and the limited medicines of the day to dispense whatever they believed might benefit the patient. They were sometimes called "angels of mercy." Dr. Pace was certainly no exception.

Some of his early family history and information may be found in the book, Kentucky History, by Battle Perrin and Kniffin published in 1886. Dr. Pace was born in Cumberland County, KY on September 8, 1847. When a young child, his parents, moved to Summer Shade then on to the village of Antiock and later to Lafayette (now Center) in Metcalfe County.

Dr. Pace's father was William O. Pace born December 7, 1823 also in Cumberland County. William O. Pace is the son of Thomas N. Pace, who was a native of Virginia and a Revolutionary War soldier. Dr. Pace's mother was Mary E. Young. His siblings were Edward Y., Cordelia A. (Wells), Mary D. (Newman), Ann E., Frances Kate, and Emma.

The doctor married, Eudora Wilcoxson, daughter of John L. and Eliza (Minton) Wilcoxson on July 27, 1875. Their children are as follows: Mary E, Dasie born 1878, Maime F. born 1882, Lewis O. born 1885, Harry T. born 1892, and Clyde born 1894.

Dr. Pace experienced a lot of misfortune in his lifetime. He lost his wife, Eudora, son Lewis and daughter Daise all within the year of 1908. Maime died in 1912. In the 1910 census, the doctor was living with his son Clyde in Monroe. He died there

in 1925.

Shortly before my mother's death and also, shortly before my aunt's death last year, I asked them to tell me what they remembered about Dr. Pace and his family. My mother, Lavora Smith Waddell Gossett and my aunt, Addrine Richardson, each remembered Dr. Pace, but being very young did not remember much about him, but did say he was well liked and respected. Each remembered his sister, Kate, very well. Miss Kate Pace taught school at the one room school at Pascal. The children were very fond of her. Miss Kate lived with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jobe Nunn. The Nunn farm and home was on the road to Pascal. As the Smith children and Adams children walked to school, Miss Kate would come down the ½ mile lane from her home and walk the remainder of the way with them. They would pass through Pascal and by the Pete Bale General Store (later Hubert Atwell's Store), sometimes stopping at the Pascal Well to get a drink of water. The walk to and from school with Miss Kate was very enjoyable. Everyone spoke very highly of the Pace family and felt they were fortunate to have them in the Monroe-Pascal communities.

On file at the Hart County Historical Society Museum can





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be found a beautiful and touching tribute to the doctor - written by Hart County historian, Roy A. Cann. The Cann family also lived in Monroe, and were close neighbors and friends of the doctor and his family. He states that there was hardly a day that some of them were not in each other's home. Their homes were located behind the two story store that later became known as the Gobel Twyman Store. Mr. Cann recalls watching the doctor coming and going in all kinds of weather. One particular time stands out in his memory. It was an extremely cold, bad time that the doctor had been called out. He was out for a day and night. He was returning home in the morning. The rain and snow had frozen on his hair, beard, and clothing. The horse also, seemed exhausted from pulling through the mud, snow, and ice, which was about knee deep. The doctor always kept two horses, because one horse could not hold out - especially through the flu epidemics. He charged very little for his service. A house call was \$2.00 and the delivery of a baby was \$5.00. Even with these minimal prices, many people could not pay except with other provisions than money. They might pay him with firewood for his home, corn or hay for his horses and cow, or whatever the patient could

spare. The doctor never seemed to mind. His concerns were to try to relieve human suffering, whenever possible.

The only living person known who knew and remembers Dr. Pace is Mrs. Lattie Conyers Stinson, 95, of Elizabethtown, formerly of Monroe, who is an aunt of W.E. Hedgepeth of Canmer. W.E. and Jean recently visited her. She shared many vivid childhood memories of the village and it's people, including Dr. Pace. Mrs. Stinson stated that the doctor was a regular customer at the family store - Conyers General Store. She had in her possession the old store account ledger with the doctor's account in it. She and her family were neighbors of the doctor. She also, told of remembering the small white building in the corner of his front yard that served as his office and drugstore, where patients could come to him for a visit. Another vivid memory she has is of a soldier returning from World War I and bringing the flu into the village. Practically everyone became ill. The Conyers family fell victim to it. She tells of, as a young girl, watching the doctor go from house to house caring for the sick. Almost every home had someone there who was ill.

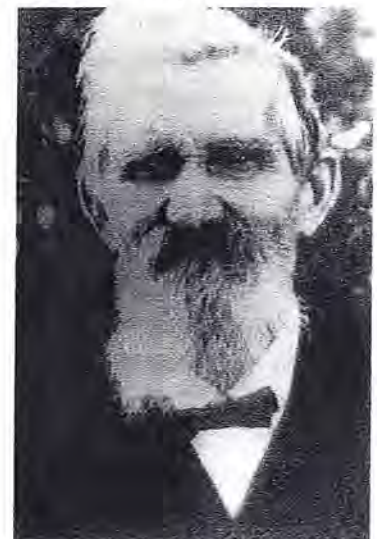
Recently, Jean Hedgepeth was fortunate enough to find a picture of Dr. Pace in the possession of Elizabeth (Libby) Handy Higgason, who was kind

enough to loan it. She tells that the picture was passed down through her deceased husband's family. Her husband Lewis Higgason took great pride in the picture, because his ancestor Dr. S.R. Higgason had trained and mentored Dr. Pace while he was in training in the 1880's in Center. In the early 1900's, Dr. Pace was very instrumental in helping form the Hart County Medical Association and served in an official capacity.

After a very productive, but difficult life, Dr. Pace passed away in 1925 at age 78. He was loved and respected by everyone. He is buried beside his wife, Eudora, in the Pearl Webb Cemetery.

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Every blade in the field  
Every leaf in the forest  
Lays down its life in its  
season  
As beautifully as it was  
taken up

-- Thoreau



**Dr. William Thomas Pace**

*Photo courtesy of Elizabeth (Libby) Handy Higgason*





## From the Treasurer's Book

By: Brenda Dudderar

People who have donated to the cemetery in 2007 are as follows:

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 William Devore

All of the work we do for and at the cemetery is strictly on a volunteer basis. Volunteer jobs are usually thankless. However, many of you are so kind to send a note thanking us for our hard work. We really appreciate those expressions of

gratitude.

Don't forget we need help collecting money Memorial Day weekend. Anyone wishing to help, please feel free to contact me. You can work a few hours or an entire day.

Also, Pearl Webb Cemetery recently received a memorial gift from the estate of Grace Weller.

Any donations may be sent to:

Pearl Webb Cemetery  
c/o Brenda Dudderar, Tres.  
1945 North Jackson Hwy  
Hardyville, KY 42746

## From the Secretary's Desk

By: Peggy Sue Moss Avery

We had our yearly meeting in March and there were several things discussed. We are so thankful to Paul Sullivan and Larry Rogers for putting the newsletter together bi-yearly. June Burks has been a great help in finding some interesting facts of people buried in Pearl Webb Cemetery.

A work day was planned for April 14, but due to the weather, it had to be cancelled. Some have gone and worked at their own convenience to get things ready for spring and summer mowing. There was much discussion on replacing the dogwood trees that have

died and had to be removed, but due to lack of funds this is not possible at this time. If you have not seen the cemetery in the spring, when the dogwoods are in bloom, you have really missed a beautiful site that God has given us.

As always, the people serving on the board and officers hope you will plan to visit Pearl Webb on Memorial Day weekend.

**Those who have been buried at Pearl Webb, since the last newsletter:**

Dorothy Dill  
Geneva Melvin



## Pearl Webb Cemetery Board

Larry Jagers, President  
Brenda Dudderar, Treasurer  
Peggy Sue Moss Avery,  
Secretary

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Paul Sullivan  
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Also, anyone wishing to be  
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look forward to hearing from  
you and working with you to  
keep the Pearl Webb  
Cemetery looking beautiful  
for future generations.



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