

Summer 2015
Volume 15, Number 3

Special points of interest:

Clippings from newspapers in the United States.

Articles available from newspapers.com, one of the largest and fastest growing electronic repositories of newspapers.

Our free book winner for guessing the photo?

We had only a few submissions but no correct answers. The photo in the last issue was of EE Byrum as a boy.

**Newsletter of the
Historical Society of
the Church of God
(Anderson)**

The Church of God Historian



"What Others Saw" *by David Neidert, editor*

This issue will be illuminating for many; it was fun to research and craft. We love our own stories, but in my research for the last issue, I wondered what others thought about the Church of God. Hmmmm....I wondered....

I have been re-searching my family genealogy for a number of years. One of the tools I subscribe to for a few dollars a month is Newspapers.com. It has over a billion pages of newspapers scanned that may be searched by name, state, locale, newspapers, and by key words. While doing some family research one evening, I wondered.

I typed in Gospel Trumpet, Church of God, D S Warner and many of the familiar names and faces we have become accustomed to talk about, read about, and think about from OUR perspective. I just wondered what others saw when they considered us, who we

where, and what the Church of God was attempting to do.

The newspapers began springing up as the search produced more than might be placed in this newsletter. What was fun was reading reports of the time and discovering some items that may not be in the Gospel Trumpet or if they are what was OUR take on the event.

This newsletter will wander here and there, no real overarching theme except answering the question, "what did others see?" I hope you will enjoy the items gathered and maybe it will spark your own interest to read history, not just from the Church of God authors like Byrum, Byers, Brown, and others, but from those who this reformation movement considered its neighbors.

As I mentioned, there are more news clippings than can be placed in

a newsletter like the *Historian*. I have a few favorite articles in what is presented here. You, too, may have some by the end of your reading.

What others saw (and reported) may not always jibe with our own stories. Maybe that is a lesson for how we collect and narrate our history, i.e. by weaving what we believe happened with what others understood. Now that would make a very interesting Church of God history indeed.



Church of God Historian

Newsletter of the
Historical Society of
the Church of God
(Anderson)

Vol 14 No 3
Summer 2015

This newsletter is published three times a year: Fall; Winter; and Spring. It is published by the Society on behalf of its members. Printed in Anderson, Indiana.

The Historical Society Purpose

The Historical Society of the Church of God (Anderson) exists to encourage the collection and preservation of artifacts and documents relating to the history of the Church of God; to encourage historical research and the writing concerning Church of God history; and to provide a forum for like-minded people interested in participating in and furthering the study of Church of God history.

THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS

PUT ON ASSESSMENT ROLL.

Three Madison County Religious Institutions Listed for Taxation.

[Special to The Indianapolis News.]

ANDERSON, Ind., June 29.—Acting on advice from Parks M. Martin, of the State Tax Board, the Madison County Board of Review is for the first time listing for assessment property of the three concerns that heretofore escaped taxation because they are religious institutions. The board fixed a valuation of \$11,000 on the publishing house of the Gospel Trumpet Company, in this city, and \$3,815 on the Gospel company's personal property on its forty-acre home tract along the east side of this city. Exemption was allowed for ten acres and improvements at \$50 an acre, but for all other real estate, as well as personal property, the Gospel Trumpet Company will be taxed hereafter.

The Indiana Association of Spiritualists, whose thirty-acre camp is at Chesterfield, was allowed exemption on only ten acres and improvements at \$40 an acre, and the same assessment was made on the Northern Holiness Camp-Meeting Association, whose large camp is at Alexandria.

Religious entities and taxation seem to always be at issue. This article on tax assessment appeared in *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 29 June 1908 pg 9 and in *The Alexandria Times*, Alexandria Indiana 29 June 1908 pg 4.

10 Weeks, 10 Cts.

THE GOSPEL TRUMPET, an eight-page weekly, anti-sectarian holiness journal. Definite and radical for the truth. Teaches holiness, or Christian perfection, Divine healing, Prophecy and Revelations. Gives interesting reports from evangelists and missionaries at home and in foreign fields. Good spiritual testimonies from those who have been saved and healed by the power of God in answer to prayer. Tells how to get saved and keep saved, and how to trust Him for the healing of the body in time of sickness. It lifts up the standard of Apostolic faith and practise. \$1.00 per year. It will be sent on trial 10 weeks for 10 cts.

Address **GOSPEL TRUMPET CO.,**
Moundville, W. Va.

The Gospel Trumpet secured advertising space for the sale of its materials in many newspapers. This notice, placed in the *North Carolina Advocate*, Greensboro, North Carolina, 23 Sept 1903 pg 13, is just one of a variety of notices to be found in US newspapers.

Many notices, like the one to the right from *The Spout Spring Times*, Sprout Springs, Kentucky, 11 Feb 1899, Sat, First Edition, appear in the stories about people sections and what they are doing. These social types of columns and announcements appear across the country on a weekly basis in newspapers of the times.

Wm. Crim and family will start Monday for Moundville, W. Va., where he will accept a position with The Gospel Trumpet.—Winchester Democrat. Mr. Crim was a former resident of this place.

Seymour Daily Republican,
Seymour, Indiana, 18
Feb 1902 pg 2

Miss Tillie Spreen left Tuesday for West Virginia, where she will work in the office of the Gospel Trumpet.

Miss Ethel Orr has gone to Moundville, W. Va., and secured employment with the Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company.

"Dashes Here and There," *Denton Journal*,
Denton, Maryland, 23 June 1906 pg 3.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.

Causes Anderson Man to Lose Arm.
Cut in Three Places.

A most sickening accident occurred at Anderson Saturday, about noon at the Gospel Trumpet home in Park Place. The victim was William Noole, aged 25 years, who with some other men was employed in feeding a fodder chopping machine. The blades became clogged in some manner, and young Noodle placed his gloved hand against the obstruction in an effort to push it away. It slipped easier than he thought it would and Noodle's hand went with it. A blade struck his hand near the knuckles cutting off his fingers, then dragged his hand in further and another blade cut off the member near the wrist.

The workmen who were assisting hurriedly stopped the machine and when his arm was taken out it was chopped off by still another descending blade about four inches above the wrist. The blades each time cut the particles of flesh off the arm in a precise and clean manner and the bone was not shattered nor was there any particles of flesh.

Unfortunate incidents, such as these, appear in a number of local papers. The one to the left is from *The Elwood Daily Record*, Elwood, Indiana, 31 Oct 1910, Mon, Page 1.

The notice below is from *The Daily Republican*, Rushville, Indiana; 8 Jul 1912, Mon, pg. 7.

Drowned While Swimming.

Anderson, Ind., July 8.—William Pope, aged twenty-three, an employe of the Gospel Trumpet company, was drowned while swimming in an abandoned stone quarry, a mile west of this city.

The item below is from *The Indianapolis Star*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 7 Aug 1913, Thu, pg. 4.

GAS TANK EXPLODES.

The unexpected explosion of an old and long-disused gas tank came near ending the life early today of Charles Robinson, 26 years old, an employe of the Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company, at the Gospel Trumpet Home. He was dangerously burned about the upper part of the body.

TELEGRAPHIC CHRONICLE OF STATE HAPPENINGS.

BYRUM'S FRIENDS WORRIED

**Anderson Publisher and His Compan-
ions Are Probably in the Midst
of the Nicaragua
Revolution.**

Anderson, Nov. 27. — Friends and relatives of E. E. Byrum, president of the Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company of this city, are much concerned over his trip through Central America. With his 15-year-old son, Carlos Byrum, and a missionary formerly of India, Byrum left this city November 11 for a visit to several points in Central America.

He proposed to stop and conduct a missionary meeting at Corinto, Nicaragua. Since war is on in Nicaragua, it is thought probable that Byrum will have to change his route, if he is not already in the midst of the Nicaraguan revolution. His visit through Central America is an important event to numerous missionaries of the Church of God in Central American countries.

From Nicaragua Byrum intended to go to the north coast of South America and thence to the Windward Islands and the West Indies, before starting homeward in February.

An interesting story about EE Byrum. *Daily News-Democrat*, Huntington, Indiana, 27 Nov 1909, Sat, pg 2.

The marriage of Enoch Byrum. *The Indianapolis Star*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2 Oct 1908, Fri, pg 4.

PUBLISHER WEDS EDITOR.

**President of Gospel Trumpet Finds Bride
at Anderson.**

ANDERSON, Ind., Oct. 1. — At 6 o'clock this evening in the parlors of the bridegroom's residence, near the Gospel Trumpet Home, President Enoch E. Byrum of the Gospel Trumpet Company was married to Miss Lucena C. Beardslee, editor of "The Shining Light" and for several years an employe of the publishing company. The bride is 26 years old and the bridegroom 47.

Anderson not well thought of by *The Call-Leader*, Elwood, Indiana, 2 Dec 1905, Sat, pg 1, in the article below.

Anderson Has New Plant.

Anderson gets the Gospel Trumpet publishing company plant from the city of Moundsville, W. Va., but there is no guarantee that the wicked county seat gets any gospel with it. The company publishes literature for the church of God and is getting into a community of strangers by its removal.

These articles appear in a number of newspapers across the country. Here are two. The one below made it to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, San Francisco, California, 9 Oct 1895, Wed, Page 9. Notice Warner is called Warmar.

THE END OF TIME PREDICTED.

Set for the Middle of the Next Century.

GRAND JUNCTION (Mich.), October 8.—“Saints of God” from all parts of the State are congregated here in great numbers. They packed the Pavillon yesterday to listen to an address by D. S. Warmar, editor of the Gospel Trumpet, on “Prophecy and Revelation.”

Mr. Warmar diagramed his sermon on a blackboard, picturing out to his followers that 1896 would bring in a new epoch in the church, and that 1941 would be the end of time. Yesterday was a day of fasting and prayer to restore the sight of one of their preachers in the State of Washington.



This picture of Warner appeared in *The Topeka Daily Capital*, Topeka, Kansas, 4 Feb 1890, Tue • Page 7, in the article, “A New Religious Sect.”

The article to the right is from *The Democratic Exponent* Marshall, Michigan, 11 Oct 1895 pg 1. An identical article appears in the *Valentine Democrat*, Valentine, Nebraska. 17 Oct 1895 pg 8.

GRAND JUNCTION, Mich., special: “The Saints of God” from all parts of the state congregated at this place in great numbers and packed the big pavillion to listen to the address by D. S. Wamar, editor of the Gospel Trumpet, on “Prophecy and Revelation.” Mr. Wamar diagramed his sermon on a blackboard and pictured out to his followers that 1896 would bring in a new epoch in the church and lead on to the millennium. He traced in his own way year by year epochs which he said would mark the end of the world, and declared that in 1941 time would be no more and the world would be wiped out. The followers of the church seemed to take his sermon as gospel truth and declare the prophecy will be fulfilled. There was a day of fasting and prayer to restore the sight of one of their preachers in Washington state.

TRUMPET LOSES NOTE

Court Decides Important Case Against Religious Order.

Pittsburg, Pa., June 15.—Judge J. J. Miller announced his decision in the estate of Sarah E. Killen of Brad-dock, in which he dismisses a claim of the Gospel Trumpet company, consisting of two judgment notes, aggregating \$4,300, on the ground that they were obtained through undue influence.

The history of the case develops that Mrs. Killen asserted to her neighbors that the hard water in which clothes were being washed could be changed to soft water by her prayers. One of her delusions also was that she had killed or was killing her children.

On January 5, 1903, Mrs. Killen gave two notes, one for \$1,800, the other for \$2,000, payable to the Gospel Trumpet Publishing company in two years and eighteen months respectively. At the same time a paper was prepared setting forth she had on that day donated, of her own free will, to the Gospel Trumpet Publishing company of Moundsville, W. Va., the sum of \$4,300, describing the notes already mentioned.

An unfortunate incident. The *Daily, Times New Philadelphia* Ohio, 15 June 1907 pg 7.

A simple statement crowded into a column with other news of the day. *The Semi-Weekly Palladium*, Benton Harbor, Michigan, 17 Dec 1895 pg 2.

Mr. D. S. Warner, editor of the *Gospel Trumpet*, published at Grand Junction, died Thursday morning at his home in that village

The article to the right refers to a major story this newspaper carried on the arrest, trial, and conviction of Frank Johnson. The article is too long for this newsletter. This little clipping refers to Frank's regular reading of the *Trumpet*, which received more coverage in the longer article.

New Castle Weekly Herald,
New Castle, Pennsylvania,
21 June 1905 pg 4.

Murderer Reads Gospel Paper.—The "Gospel Trumpet," a sanctification paper published at Moundsville, W. Va., is regularly sent to Frank Johnson, who at the March term of Court was found guilty in the first degree of the murder of Herman Genkinger.

Kills Himself With Penknife.

[Special to The Indianapolis News]

ANDERSON, Ind., October 26.—William H. Cheatham, age forty-five, recently of New Point, Pa., died last night at the Gospel Trumpet Workers' Home of injuries he inflicted on himself last Saturday when he attempted suicide by slashing his throat with a pen knife. Cheatham and his wife were on the way from North Webster, to the home of Mrs. Cheatham's brother in Illinois, and stopped at the Gospel Trumpet home to discuss the question of making their home there while he received treatment. Mrs. Cheatham said he had been suffering mental distress since he underwent an operation for appendicitis more than a year ago. The funeral will be in Anderson, and the burial will be in the Gospel Trumpet cemetery.

A sad situation posted by *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana,
26 Oct 1915, Tue • Page 8

A New Religious Sect.

They have a new religious sect in Michigan who call themselves "The Saints." They are growing quite rapidly in numbers, but it is not essential that they should grow in holiness, for their doctrine is that they cannot sin. One who is not in their fold is full of sin, and if all the organized churches don't disband and join them they are doomed to perdition.

The shepherd of this saintly fold is D. S. Warner. He is a man of but little education, but a good talker. He has two assistants, E. E. Byrum and S. Michels, of South Haven.



D. S. WARNER.

Byrum is editor of *The Gospel Trumpet*, "a semi-monthly holiness journal, definite, radical and anti-sectarian, sent forth for the church and the destruction of Sect Babylon."

Preachers among the saints do not receive any salary. There is no church government and no ministerial qualifications except a

"call." No one examines the candidate to find out if he is fitted to preach. He preaches to one flock till he is "preached out," and then he goes to another. The headquarters of the sect and *The Gospel Trumpet* are in a big barn painted white. There, too, is Mr. Warner's private office, who manages the saints and the saints' treasury.

This article ran in *The Topeka Daily Capital*, Topeka, Kansas, 4 Feb 1890, Tue, pg 7. The Church of God was identified by a number of different titles in newspapers prior to and into the 1900s. They were often referred to as "The Saints," "Saints of the Evening Light," and "Holiness Sect."

Anderson May Get W. Virginia Colony.

[Special to The Indianapolis News.]

ANDERSON, Ind., December 2.—The movement to have the Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company have its colony of people move from Moundsville, W. Va., to this city, has progressed to a difference of only \$1,500 in the price of a tract of land near this city, to be acquired by the publishing house and representatives of this city. It is understood the promoters of the publishing company have been offered a forty-acre tract by N. A. Free at \$12.50 an acre, and the offer to Mr. Free was \$175. It is thought the deal will be perfected within a few days.

The article to the left is from *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2 Dec 1905, Sat pg. 18 announcing the purchase of land and the move of the Gospel Trumpet to Anderson.

HOLINESS HEADQUARTERS.

Transfer of Forty-Acre Tract at Anderson Almost Completed.

[Special to The Indianapolis News.]

ANDERSON, Ind., December 16.—The survey, abstract and other incidentals to the transfer of a forty-acre tract of land to the Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company and its colony of three hundred people were almost completed to-day, and it is expected that President Byrem, of the publishing company, will arrive next week to complete preparations for the moving of the publishing-house and its colony from Moundsville, W. Va., to this

city. A lease has been taken on the three-story Armory building for a part of the mechanical equipment of the publishing-house. The building of an auditorium with capacity of from 8,000 to 10,000 people, a hotel that will provide room for four hundred guests, and also fifty or more cottages on the forty-acre tract acquired by the Gospel Trumpet Company will begin early next spring.

The Gospel Trumpet is an official organ of the Holiness Christian denomination. It is said that the postal business of the company will increase the local receipts \$7,000 or more annually.

The article to the right is from *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 16 Dec 1905, Sat, pg 17 noting that the transfer of land for the Trumpet is almost finished.

GOSPEL TRUMPET CO. PLANS.

Large Building for Printing Plant to be Erected at Muncie.

[Special to The Indianapolis News.]

ANDERSON, Ind., February 5.—The Gospel Trumpet Publishing Company, of this city, is preparing to erect a large building for its printing plant and also the business offices of the company. John H. Martin, business manager of the company, with an architect is visiting several large publishing houses in order to gain information that may be used in the plans. The Gospel Trumpet Company publishes three weekly religious papers and also tracts for Sunday-schools and books of a religious and historic nature. Nearly 200 people are engaged in the work. A majority of them live in the Gospel Trumpet Workers' Home building on a forty-acre tract owned by the company along the east side of this city. E. E. Byrum, president of the company, and editor-in-chief of the company's publications, has been in the South several weeks attending district meetings of the Church of God. The central camp meeting of the Church of God will be held on the Gospel Trumpet Company's home tract, including a park and a \$10,000 auditorium, next May. It is expected there will be an attendance of not less than 3,000 members of the Church of God.

This was an interesting find for the *Historian* editor regarding a potential satellite location of the Gospel Trumpet in Muncie Indiana. *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 5 Feb 1909, Fri, pg 23.

NEVER TOO OLD

Aged Couple Wed and Caused Sensation.

Abraham W. Coddington, aged 77, and Miss Josephine Brooks, aged 75, both members of the Gospel Trumpet colony at Anderson, were married yesterday afternoon by Squire Lane in his office at Anderson. Mr. Coddington and Miss Brooks are both inmates of the Old Peoples' Home of the Gospel Trumpet Company in Park Place.

They came to Anderson with the Gospel Trumpet Family a few years ago and a friendship sprang up between them which recently took a romantic aspect. It seems that the trustees of the Gospel Trumpet colony refused to sanction a marriage between the two old people and advised those in charge of the Old Peoples' home to frustrate any plans that might be made for a wedding.

An amusing story about residents of the Old Folks' Home from *The Call-Leader*, Elwood, Indiana, 8 Mar 1910, Tue, pg 8.

Eloped Across River.

Yesterday afternoon the old couple slipped away from the Gospel Trumpet Old Peoples' Home to the county clerk's office where they soon secured a license. They then went immediately to Squire Lane's office where the marriage occurred. On returning to the Gospel Trumpet Home they informed the trustees of their action and the trustees were both surprised and displeased. The trustees will probably take some action in the matter but they have not yet stated what it will be.

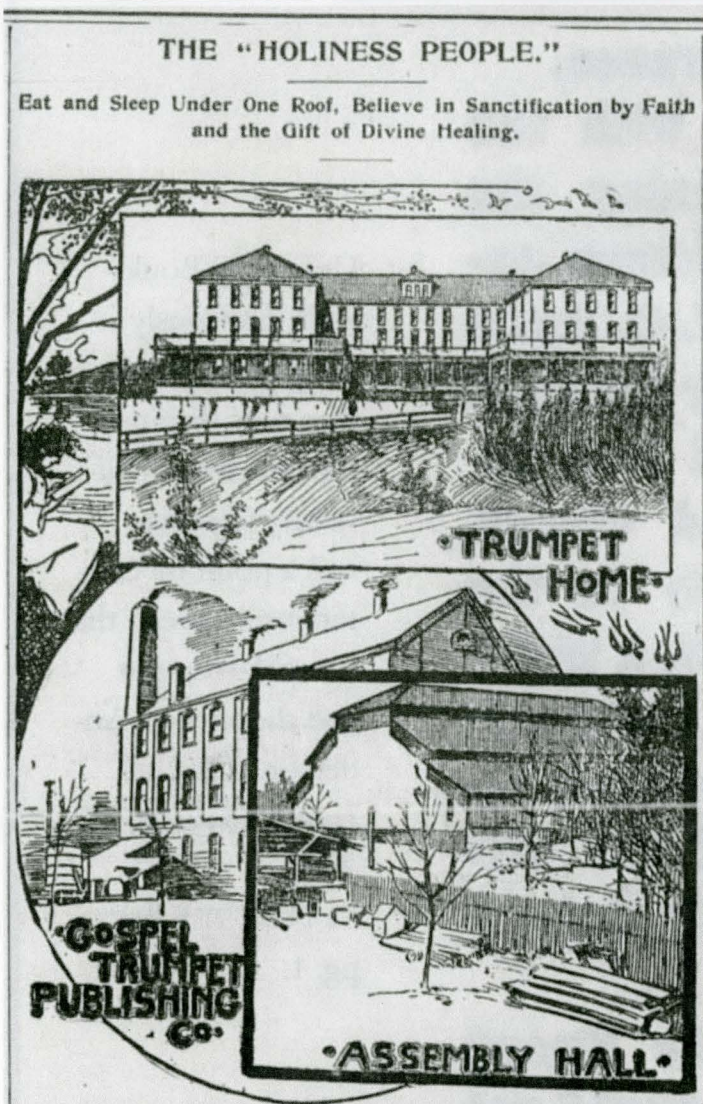
This is Mr. Coddington's second marriage, his first wife died a score or more years ago, but it was Miss Brook's first marriage. Mr. Coddington is a carpenter by trade but on account of his age and feeble condition has not done any work for the past few years.

Gospel Trumpet Remonstrance.

In the remonstrance filed with the county commissioners yesterday the Gospel Trumpet Co., of Anderson asserted through its attorney H. C. Ryan that the opening of a highway through its tract of land, as proposed in a petition by Nadie Knopp and others, would damage their property to the extent of \$25,000. N. H. Byrum, a member of the Gospel Trumpet company, also filed a remonstrance because he said his property in line of the proposed road would be seriously damaged.

It is asserted also that the Knopp road, because of its location would not be a public utility. It is further pointed out that the institution of the Gospel Trumpet company are for charitable and religious purposes and that to build a highway through the tract would permanently damage property of the plaintiff in the sum of \$25,000 or more.

University Boulevard, previously East Third Street that runs through the Anderson University Campus, was a point of contention between the Gospel Trumpet and the City of Anderson. *The Call-Leader*, Elwood, Indiana, 11 Feb 1910, Fri pg. 1.



The "Holiness People" in Moundsville WV. From the *Lincoln County Leader*, Toledo, Oregon, 31 Aug 1900, Fri, First Edition.

Moundsville, W. Va., is the headquarters of the sect called "Holiness People." They recently held a great religious feast. Many hundreds of the sect came from all parts of the world. The church originated in Michigan in 1880, and the headquarters were moved to Moundsville two years ago. They believe that God's people are coming to unity; that this is a reformation of the Christian religion, and that the true Christians of the world are being turned by God to this belief. They believe in sanctification by faith and divine healing.

The congregations, called the "Church of the Living God" or "Holiness People," are very economical. They wear no neckties or clothing of fashionable design. The men all wear white shirts and celluloid collars, with bone collar buttons, and no jewelry is worn. Everything is in communal style. They are all quartered in the Trumpet Home. At this Home the single people have rooms of their own and the families have suites. There is but one kitchen and one dining room. These people do not mingle with the outside world, and apparently are a very happy and contented set. They have a publishing house of their own, and a paper called the Gospel Trumpet. No one working on this journal gets any salary, as the motto of these people is that all persons need is "enough to eat and their clothing."

The reorganization of the Gospel Trumpet. *The Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Indiana, 15 Jun 1917, Fri, pg 12.

E. E. BYRUM RETIRES.

Gospel Trumpet Company Reorganized With J. T. Wilson President.

ANDERSON, Ind., June 15.—A complete reorganization of the Gospel Trumpet Company, which acts as trustee for the interests of the Church of God, took place today when the annual election of officers was held. E. E. Byrum, who has acted as president of the company for twenty-eight years, severed his connection with the organization, and the Rev. J. T. Wilson, of the local offices, was named in his stead. A. L. Byers was chosen vice-president, and N. H. Byrum secretary-treasurer. F. G. Smith will act as editor-in-chief of the company. The board of directors was continued for another year, with the exception of D. O. Tessley, of Bessemer, Ala., who was made chairman. He will move to this city at once. The annual general assembly of the Church of God began its ten-day camp meeting this afternoon.

The Historical Society of the Church
of god

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Church of God Historian is managed by the
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Secretary-Treasurer • D.E. Welch, Pub-
lisher and Managing Editor Emeritus •
David Neidert, Webmaster.

Society Membership

Membership to the Society is open to all who are vitally interested in what the Society desires to accomplish as stated in its purpose. Membership dues are \$15 per year (\$10 for students.) Checks should be made payable to: The Historical Society of the Church of God and sent to the Society's address listed under correspondence.



www.choghistoricalsociety.org

Expanding Readership....help us help the Society. The long term viability of the *Historian* counts on increased readership. Help us tell the story by sharing the newsletter with friends, relatives, your church and others.

A new editor in the coming months

The English proverb from near the time of Chaucer in 1374 observes, "All things must come to an end." And so it is with my tenure as the editor of *The Historian*.

It has been a tremendous experience to research, edit, write and provide the layout for this newsletter during the past two years. But with life, there come times when one must be honest and realize they do not have the time needed to continue a particular good work in the midst of many good works. Such is the case in my sharing that I must resign as editor with this edition. I am not sure who the editor will be when the fall edition unfolds, but I know

it will be in good hands.

I have also been serving as the webmaster for the Society for a few years. As my time has become more intense, I have determined I can give my best efforts in helping the Society have an expanded reach via the internet. Thus, my time with the Society will be spent focusing on the internet and website.

Doug Welch and Dale Stultz invited me to take this position a few years ago. It has been my honor to fill the shoes of Doug and to sit with Dale and listen to him passionately recount the newest thing he has discovered. I look forward to more days like those, but

with the end result finding its way to the internet for others to join in learning our story.

Chaucer observed, "All things must come to an end." Yet in that sentiment is the implication of beginning. A new hand will soon research, create, type and design *The Historian* as editor. I hope you support them as you have supported me over these two years. Grace and peace for all this is to come.