

MARIA CORWIN

Maria is our newest volunteer, having begun work in the archives in July 2023. Born and raised in New Jersey, she was one of six children. She had a most interesting childhood for anyone with a future love of history. Her parents would plan three-week family vacations each year, and they traveled across the United States camping, hiking, and learning about historical places and events.



After high school graduation, Maria attended the local community college before the need to earn a living forced her to stop her studies. Ironically, she did go back to school in her fifties to obtain an associate degree in Family History/Genealogy and Professional Studies from BYU-Idaho, while working full-time with over time, holding callings from her church, keeping house, and eventually moving to Tennessee in January of 2022.

Some of the jobs she has worked include power-washing homes and working at an amusement park, while raising a family. After her children were grown, she worked for a number of years for Lockheed Martin. A few months after moving to Tennessee, she worked for the State of Tennessee at the licensing department as an examiner. Currently, she helps a neighbor and coordinates a volunteer program at her church called "Feed the Hungry," in addition to the time she spends at the archives.

“When my husband and I first explored Jonesborough (before moving to Tennessee), I noticed the records archive and said to my husband, look, there is a place I would love to work.

He agreed it would be right up my alley. When working on genealogy, finding, and looking at old historical documents is like putting pieces of a puzzle together. It helps to make ancestors come to life in your mind,” Maria said.

Maria loves photography, scrapbooking, crocheting, sewing, crafting, cooking, baking, exploring historical places, and most importantly genealogy/family history.

At the archives, Maria is exhilarated by being close to so many historical records. “I love reading the names of the people and trying to see how many unusual ones I can see. I find it interesting how helping in the archives helps me feel more connected to this area,” Maria said.

Maria’s varied career experiences and her love of history are valuable assets in her work with us at the archives. And her positive personality is a special plus.