

# CHRONICLER

## Preserving Our Past



Issue 33, October 1, 2015

Greenback Historical Society, Inc.  
6725 Morganton Road  
P.O. Box 165  
Greenback, Tennessee 37742

[www.gbhistorical.webs.com](http://www.gbhistorical.webs.com)

### AN EYE OPENING EXPERIENCE

*Megan Floyd, Greenback student, is now attending Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Az. Last year she had the privilege of going on a mission with two of her professors and their families. The professors, formerly missionaries to Peru, take teams of twelve to minister to the people there each spring and summer break. They work with the churches and seminaries in the area where they lived for ten years. Megan wrote the following account about her experience.*

Cartavio is a small town north of Lima. It only has an area of 50 square miles and the streets have an old fashioned feeling. Much like Greenback, it is the kind of town where everybody knows everybody. All the stores, restaurants, schools, and ice cream shops are in walking distance. Here, we stayed in and worked alongside a church. I was on a team of twelve and one of the few who did not speak Spanish. My southern accent did not really help. This was a huge challenge for me, yet the people's response was humbling. Several days were spent walking the streets and talking to people. What was so amazing to me was their desire to speak to me and hear what I had to say. Being a blonde, white lady, I expected to receive attention. But honestly, I expected to receive the attention of an animal rather than a person. They genuinely wanted to know what I was about. Even with a translator nearby, they spoke directly to me and listened intently for my response. It didn't matter if I was speaking English or a broken version of Spanish, they were listening with respect and trying to understand. I could have easily been laughed at for looking like the idiot American, but I was given the opposite response. And I was the one who was supposed to be ministering to them.

Not only did they patiently try to understand what I had to say, but they took seriously what our team had to give them. One day we were each given a handful of cheesy booklets with a cartoon that told a story of a guy named Rico, who was once into some pretty bad stuff, but now, has given his life to Christ and the one reading should do the same. We were then told to go door to door handing these things out. At the time, I could not believe that I was doing this. In America, I would never go door to door and expect people to take me seriously. Yet, as we traveled in groups, almost every person who opened the door invited us in. They not only wanted us to explain the

**NEXT MEETING: Sunday, October 25, 2:00PM at the Greenback Community Center**

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story to them, but several individuals came to church the next day to learn even more.

What I found to be the most humbling experience throughout this trip was how relational these people were. There wasn't a single person who blew us off when we tried to engage in conversation. A woman could have had her hands full when coming from a trip to the market, but would drop everything to talk to us. They mean what they say when committing to being somewhere. Relationships are taken seriously. At one point I noticed that there were not many homeless people on the streets. I was told that this is because very rarely that a family ever let one of their members live alone on the street. They may have only a floor to reluctantly offer to them, but they would give them that rather than let them live with nothing.

To be perfectly honest, I really struggled during the beginning of this trip. I expected to be working nonstop when really the church we served just wanted us to be in community with those around us. Once I got over myself and my expectations for this trip, God used me for such a greater cause than I could ever have imagined. The moment when I truly realized this was when through a three hour conversation I helped lead a woman to Christ. At that point, I saw what the whole thing was about. Making time for people. So often we can be so tunnel focused on our plans that we fail to see the hurting of those around us. Much of Jesus time was spent in community with others. Even when on His

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## PUBLICATIONS

We are still at work on Volume III of the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook. Material continues to trickle in but we are going to have to set a cut-off date this winter if we hope to ever get it published. If you have scrapbook items for the period 1930 to 1960 that you have been meaning to submit, please get them to us as soon as possible.

The Greenback Heritage Museum website saw the largest number of visitors ever in the month leading up to the Quilt Show. Museum staff this year placed the event on the calendars of various rural interest publications and their readers checked in to learn more about the show and find out where in the world is Greenback. We had a number of browsers from West Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky and Georgia. If you have not visited the museum website, it is at [www.gbmuseum.webs.com](http://www.gbmuseum.webs.com).

Sixteen people are now helping us keep our newsletter printing and mailing costs down by receiving their newsletters via electronic mail. The electronic document arrives in Portable Document Format (PDF) and is identical to the print version. Most computers and tablets come with PDF readers installed and hardcopies can be made by those which have printers attached. If you would like to join the e-mail delivery list, send a message to [paul.bailey@wildblue.net](mailto:paul.bailey@wildblue.net).

*Paul Bailey*

## MUSEUM MUSINGS

For the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year the museum hosted its Quilt Show on September 10, 11, and 12. About 230 visitors viewed this year's entrees with several coming from outside the greater Greenback area. As in past shows, each quilt was given a number and assigned a piggy bank with the corresponding number. Visitors fed pennies into the appropriate pigs to vote for their favorite quilts.

The first place winner this year was Sue Swan. Mary Farmer took both second and third place. Both winners are from the Greenback area. The museum wishes to thank all participants and hopes to see them again next year. This year's show was the best attended so far and hopefully it can continue to grow in the future.

A Craft Fair took place at the Greenback Depot concurrent with the Quilt Show and it was also well attended. On Saturday morning, old tractor enthusiasts displayed their collectibles in the vacant area by the Drug Store Diner. There were more exhibitors this year than in the past. The weather was generally quite pleasant and visitors were treated to an enjoyable small town weekend.

*Barbara Davis and Paul Bailey*

## DEPOT CRAFT SHOW

The September craft show at the depot was a great success! We had 12 vendors in attendance for the show. We began the craft show this year with a devotion on creativity led by Wendy Tittsworth followed by an opening prayer led by Tyson Mckeehan. We reflected on how, in our creativity, we are drawn to emulate God our creator.

The vendors at the show were amazing and provided a great variety of goods for people to choose from. From birdhouses, to jewelry, and wreaths to turned wooden bowls, we had a little something for everyone. Buying traffic was really good thanks to the Quilt and Tractor show and most of our vendors got the chance to sneak across the street to enjoy these events as well. Our next show will be held on the first weekend of December. We still have openings for this show and look forward to seeing you all there! Contact Wendy Tittsworth at 865-548-3764 for info.

*Wendy Tittsworth*



Some of the antique tractors on display at the "Old Tractor Show" next to the Drugstore Diner on Saturday, September 12.



Bob Anderson tours the Quilt Show held in the Greenback Heritage Museum September 10-12.

*Willocks, W. Bruce, 79, July 17, 2015.*  
*Young, Gary M., 64, July 20, 2015.*  
*Ford, Joel Adrian, 79, August 1, 2015.*  
*Mays, Charles M., "Charlie", 61, August 8, 2015.*  
*Kennedy, Roy M., 93, Sept. 5, 2015.*  
*Marsh III, Frank 'Hank' Henry, 57, Sept. 16, 2015.*  
*Raper, Michael Ray, 66, Sept. 16, 2015.*  
*McNeeley, Shirley, 86, Sept. 21, 2015.*  
*Clark, Lee Roy, 75, Sept. 24, 2015.*  
*Kennedy, Burma R., 90, Sept. 24, 2015.*  
*Myers, Patsy Gail, 39, Sept. 27, 2015.*  
*Banks, Edythe Louise, 75, Sept. 30, 2015.*

### AN EYE OPENING EXPERIENCE (Cont.)

way to an initial destination, he would stop in his tracks for a little man in a tree, or a woman who touched his garments. In a crowd of many, He made time for the one.

I hope you all understand that it is not necessary for us to leave the country to work the mission field. The mission starts the minute we walk out the door. But I also hope that you get to see and work with the church outside our borders. The Universal Church has no boundaries. It is truly an eye opening and humbling experience.

*Megan Floyd*

*(Ed. Note: When I asked Megan for this article, I may have expected more detail on places and sights, on building buildings, or giving medical care or food. What we may have received, in this troubled time in our own country, could have been another eye-opening experience. Thank you, Megan.)*

### ANNUAL HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

Is your driveway too long for you to get trick or treaters? Are you too far from town to get trick or treaters? **Would you like some?**

Join us in Greenback, near the Depot, on Saturday, October 31st. We are always out on the last Saturday, and it actually happens to be Halloween this year! Woo-hoo!

We set up tables, booths, and/or displays at 4 PM. You can even come park your car and do trick or treat out of your trunk! Kids come from 5 to 8 PM, and we do have officers from the Loudon County Sheriff's Office to help with traffic.

Call me at 740-5429 if you have questions, or would like to help us set up. We would be glad of the help, even if you have to stay home later and "man" the door!

*Colleen Ragain, Vice President*

### NOLA MELTON ELAM HISTORY AWARD

**CRITERIA:** Entrants must be students at Greenback High School.

**SUBJECT:** Research and prepare an essay on the life of Samuel Houston, b. 1793 d.1863. Length 500 to 1000 words. Sources and or quotations must be documented. Permission for publication in the Greenback Historical Society Newsletter, Heritage Scrapbook or website is required.

*Samuel Houston led an interesting and varied life. His statue is to be placed at the Municipal Building in Maryville in October of this year. Born in Virginia, he came with his family to Blount County when he was 13. He is the only person known to have been Governor of two states, both Tennessee and Texas.*

**DEADLINES:** Submission to History or English Teacher no later than 3/10/16. Teachers are requested to choose the best two from each class to be submitted to the final judges. Submission to final judges no later than 3/20/2016.

**AWARDS:** Donated by Carolyn Melton Peck to be presented at the Quarterly Meeting of the Greenback Historical Society in April, 2016. \$500 Savings Bond to the student; \$100 to the teacher. Awards will be based on content, accuracy, adherence to criteria, and style.

Judges are: 1. Carolyn M. Peck, Editor of the Greenback Historical Society Newsletter; 2. Paul Bailey, Greenback Heritage Scrapbook and Greenback Historical Society Website; 3. Thelma Cooper, Retired English Teacher and 4. A Member of Greenback Historical Society to be appointed by the President.

*Nola Melton Elam, 11/29/12 - 10/18/91, was born in Madisonville, Tennessee, to John Thompson McSpadden and Mary Caroline McCaslin. Ms. Elam became a resident of Greenback in 1936 and considered this her home, even though she later moved to the lake in Lenoir City with her second husband, O.C. Elam. First a housewife and mother, Mrs. Melton was a Girl Scout Leader, and was active in PTA and in her church. She was recruited to teach the seventh grade at Greenback Grammar School in the war years of 1942-44. At that time she taught all the seventh grade subjects, including American and Tennessee History. Later she became an employee of Merchants and Farmers Bank, now Regions. From part time Teller, she progressed to become the first woman bank President in Tennessee. Later she became Chairman of the Board of Directors. She retired in 1977. SHE LOVED GREENBACK!*

*Carolyn Melton Peck*

### ENTRY FORM: Nola Melton Elam History Award

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ TEACHER \_\_\_\_\_

GREENBACK HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Research, prepare and submit an essay on Samuel "Sam" Houston, b. 1793, d. 1863. Cherokee Name: Raven.

Criteria: 500 to 1000 typewritten words. Documentation of sources and quotations is required.

Submission to Teacher for first stage approval: March 10, 2016; Final Submission March 20, 2016.

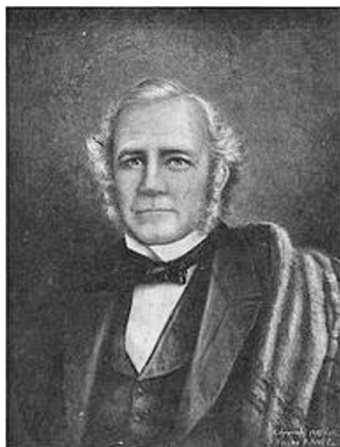
Social Security Number will be required for the winner to receive the \$500 Savings Bond Award

Is permission granted for placement of the essay in the Greenback Historical Society, Inc. Newsletter, Greenback Historical Society Website, and Greenback Heritage Scrapbook?

\_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Sam Houston as Governor of Texas.

Source: Wikipedia

## ICE CREAM CONTEST

The Community Center pavilion on the last Saturday of July was again the venue for the annual Greenback Historical Society Ice Cream Contest. As in the past, an eager crowd of tasters acted as judges for the confections presented by eleven exhibitors. When the sixty-one ballots were counted, this year's first place prize went to Brenda Blair of Greenback for her *Hawaiian Delight* creation. Close behind in second place was Holly Talley of Knoxville with *Tang Orange Sherbet* followed by Gene York of Lenoir City with his ever popular *Blueberry Cheesecake*. The prizes were as in previous years; \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third.

Attendees seemed to have enjoyed themselves and graciously left \$132 behind in the donations jar. The Society would like to thank this year's participants and we hope to see you back next July... same time, same location. The membership especially thanks Colleen Ragain for serving as event coordinator.

*Paul Bailey*

## OCTOBER MEETING PROGRAM

The next Quarterly Meeting of the Greenback Historical Society will take place Sunday, October 25, at 2:00PM at the Greenback Community Center. The program will be presented by Paul Bailey who will discuss his experiences with the AncestryDNA testing available from Ancestry.com.

DNA testing in support of genealogy has become popular in the past several years as costs have gone down and more options have become available. This presentation will include a brief introduction to DNA and the kinds of tests available to genealogists. The AncestryDNA procedure will be described along with its strengths and weaknesses. Results will be presented and used to demonstrate how they can be integrated into the other services provided by Ancestry.com. The goal is to inform members as to the realistic expectations of such testing.

*Paul Bailey*

## CAROLYN'S CORNER

On October 27, a sculpture designed by Alan Lequire, honoring five women who were instrumental in passing the Nineteenth Amendment, will be dedicated in the state Capitol in Nashville. The women depicted include Anne Dallas Dudley and Frankie Pierce, Nashville, Sue Shelton White, Jackson, Abby Crawford Milton, Chattanooga, and Carrie Chapman Catt, a national leader of the suffrage movement.

At the base of the statute, three Tennessee women who have later served the state include Jane Eskind, the first woman who won a statewide election in Tennessee, Beth Harwell, Tennessee's first Woman Speaker of the House, and Lois DeBerry, the second African American woman to serve in the House; the longest serving member of the State House of Representatives, and the first woman Speaker *pro tempore* of the House. Not mentioned were Emily Cate Stanton a Tennessee woman and Susan B. Anthony well known Suffragettes, active in the movement (for more information on the Nineteenth Amendment, see Issue 24, of the Greenback Historical Society Newsletter.) Tennessee proudly bears the honor of being the 36<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the amendment in 1920, thus affirming a woman's right to vote, six years after that right was given to African American men.

I was pleased to see a feature in the Daily Times, August 17, 2015, honoring the Greenback Fire Department. This was a first in a series of articles honoring first responders and public servants in Blount County. It was a great article, but a little amusing that the first of a series of services in Blount County, is actually in Loudon County. (Many people still believe that Greenback is or should be a part of Blount and a part of it still is.)

In August, Rev. Rich Everett and his wife visited First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Everett is the grandson of Rev. Charles Everett who was the second minister of Greenback Presbyterian. As a child, I remember revivals in that church and especially when Rev. Homer Hammontree, Evangelist, who was associated with Billy Sunday, came home to hold services.

Rev. Everett brought items which he had found after the death of his father, Rev. John Everett, which he donated to the church. Among these was a "Chalk Board" from one of Rev. Hammontree's trips to the church. One of his friends and co-workers, Mr. Hermanson, used to draw paintings while Rev. Hammontree conducted the service. They were of beautiful scenes and he called them Chalk Boards. If this one is displayed in either the church library or the museum, it is well worth seeing. Homer Hammontree had a beautiful voice and as he sang the old hymns, he brought many to accept Jesus as their Savior. The congregation was asked to join in singing "Jesus Calls Us" as Rev. Hammontree made many altar calls at the end of each service.

Both Roy and Burma Kennedy passed away in September of this year, Roy first, then Burma only slightly less than three weeks later.

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**Greenback Historical Society, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 165**  
**Greenback, Tennessee 37742**

Stamp

**Officers and Directors**

Shirley Ridings Hall, *President* 865-856-3419  
Colleen Ragain, *Vice President* 865-740-5429  
Linda Cabe, *Secretary* 865-856-6412  
Betty Hall Carroll, *Treasurer* 865-856-3467  
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Teresa Goddard  
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**CAROLYN'S CORNER (Cont.)**

Burma worked for many years in Merchants and Farmers Bank, now Regions. Her smiling face and cheerful demeanor brightened the day for many of our citizens. Though they lived in Vonore until their property was taken by TVA for the Tellico Dam, they were certainly considered a part of the larger Greenback Community. Since Burma's obituary listed Vonore Baptist Church or *THE CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE* as memorials in lieu of flowers, perhaps some of us might choose to make donations to Greenback Historical Society's Preservation Account in light of Burma's service to our community.

After struggling to change my telephone service, my home phone is now 865-816-0947 cell, 865-635-6464. I do not always hear either, but I do check calls missed and try to return these if you should need to get in touch with me. I am still looking for someone from the class of 1972 to share their memories of their days at Greenback High. If you were in that class or in contact with someone who could do this, please let me know.

*Carolyn*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- October 18, *Loudon County Historical Society, 3:00 PM. Methodist Church, Lenoir City. History of Ferries in Loudon County.*
- October 22, 23, 24, *East Tennessee Preservation Conference, East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay St. Knoxville.*
- October 25, 2:00PM, Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting. Greenback Community Center. Open to the Public.**
- October 31, 5:00PM, *Greenback Halloween Festival, Downtown Greenback, Kids Trick or Treat.*
- November 19, *Annual Preservation Awards, 5:00 PM, Bijou Theatre 803 S. Gay St.*
- January 16, 12:00PM, Greenback Historical Society Annual Meeting. Greenback Community Center. Election of Officers and Board Members.**