



CHRONICLER

Preserving Our Past



Issue 36, July 1, 2016

Greenback Historical Society, Inc.
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www.gbhistorical.webs.com

APRIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Spring Quarterly Meeting was held April 16 in the Greenback Community Center with twenty-three people in attendance. There were nine visitors. Shirley Hall welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

Colleen Ragain read the minutes from the last Quarterly Meeting and Brenda Blair presented the Treasurer's Report. There were no questions, the reports will be filed as presented.

Shirley then asked for reports from various people. Carolyn Peck stood and reminded us about the essay contest she was sponsoring at the Greenback School in honor of her mother Nola Melton Elam. Students were asked to write an essay on Sam Houston, and the winning essay receives a \$500 bond. The winning student's teacher receives \$100 for her time and efforts. The award will be presented at Graduation. The judges are: Thelma Cooper, Paul Bailey and Shirley Hall.

Carolyn also mentioned that she and Robin Cagle (309-9502) are working to get student volunteers to help with the scrapbook, work in the Greenback Museum on Saturdays, and maybe to help Teresa Goddard with the creation of the walking tour. Carolyn also mentioned that Robin was going to be bringing her students to the Museum on Thursday, April 21st. They are writing papers on the history of Greenback School.

Shirley said that Fort Loudon Electric was creating an ongoing yearly \$2,000 scholarship in honor of Ralph Hall. The schools included are Tellico Plains, Sequoyah, Greenback, and William Blount.

Cindy Benefield mentioned that Larry Benson had found Ration Book Application Cards at an antique store called the *Sparkling Pig* in Lenoir City. Larry stated that he borrowed the Greenback cards and is going to make copies for the museum. Cindy and Betty Carroll both said they had received calls from the Loudon County Herald who wished to do an article on the cards.

Shirley also gave a brief report on the play David Black wrote, called "1796". Shirley, Brenda, Colleen, and Cindy all were there at the performance and were impressed. There were also various historical groups invited to present displays, and Greenback Historical Society set one up. The Scrapbooks and poster boards from the Museum were a big hit.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, July 23, 12:00PM at the Greenback Community Center

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Shirley mention the Quilt Squares on the side of the Greenback Diner and the Red Catlett Barn on 411. She wanted us to think about two other places to post one, so that all four direction into Greenback had one.

Colleen reminded us that the Ice Cream Contest was the next meeting program scheduled for July 23rd.

The East Tennessee Historical Society sent us an invitation to their Annual Membership meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. It is RSVP only, and Carroll Van West, Ph.D. will be the speaker. He is one of the people who helped the Greenback Historical Society with the Civil War Trails markers we put up.

There were no other reports, and Shirley turned the floor over to Paul to present his and Teresa Goddard's program on the Greenback Historical Walking Tour. Teresa was unable to attend. Following the slide show, the meeting was adjourned.

Colleen Ragain

ICE CREAM TIME AGAIN!

Our annual Ice Cream Contest will occur Saturday, July, 23rd! We will have a Quarterly Meeting at Noon, downstairs at the Community Center, and we will set up for the contest at 1 PM, outside at the Pavilion. The contest starts at 2 PM, people vote for their favorite flavor, and at around 3:30 PM we count the ballots, and declare the top three spots! First Place wins \$100, Second Place wins \$50 and Third Place wins \$25. We provide the supplies for the tasters, cups, spoons, napkins, etc...

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People can contact me, if they want to bring a gallon of homemade ice cream to the contest, at 865-740-5429, or they can get information and an entry agreement online at www.gbhistorical.com. I will try to have copies at the Greenback Historical Museum, Mayor's Office, and Library.

Colleen Ragain, GHS VP

MUSEUM MUSINGS

This year the Greenback Heritage Museum will host its 6th Annual Quilt Show from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM on September 8, 9, and 10. Quilts may be dropped off at the museum on September 1, 2 and 3 between 10:00AM and 2:00 PM. After the show, quilts can be picked up from 4:00 to 5:00 PM on September 10.

As in past shows, each quilt will be given a number and assigned a piggy bank with the corresponding number. Visitors can put a penny in the appropriate pig to vote for their favorite quilt. Vote as many times as you like. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 quilts. Go to the museum website at www.gbmuseum.webs.com for more information and to download entry forms. Also, you may call Barbara Davis at 865-856-3262. We are looking forward to seeing your prized quilt or wall hanging.

Sandra Tipton and Paul Bailey

GRADUATION 2016

Nathan Long (First Place) and Charles Teffeteller (Runner Up) were presented awards on May 13, at the Greenback High School Graduation of the Class of 2016. The two young men were Co-Valedictorians of the graduating class and both plan to attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Long is the son of Wes and Sharon Long. He was a member of the Tennessee 4-H Team winning first place in the National Skill-A-Thon Contest held in Louisville, Kentucky. He also placed second high individual overall. He plans to major in Ag Law.

Charles Teffeteller, son of Marion and Charlene Teffeteller, was a two time winner of the Daily Times Academic Letters in Math, and the Greenback Excellence in Math Award. Both young men in addition to being excellent students were excellent citizens at Greenback. Long was President of the Senior Class and Teffeteller, Vice-President of the Beta Club. According to Ms. Judy Hawkins, who nominated the two for the Historical Award, both were excellent citizens in school, in the community, and in their families.

Ms. Peck, who presented the awards, complimented Long on his essay structure, accuracy, and adherence to criteria. Teffeteller was complimented on his insight into the

character, Samuel Houston, and in his writing style. She suggested that both nurture those skills as they would be helpful in securing their degrees in higher education and beyond.

The 2016 graduating class looked lovely in their orange robes and caps, a first for the school. The Dance of the Flowers, a tradition at least twenty years old, was a special touch and the Alma Mater, led by Robin Cagle and still sung today, was written by Principal Elmer Raper in the 1940's.

Welcome to the audience was jointly made by Mike Casteel, Principal, and Vice-President Kassy Buffer. Students were involved as Heather Courtney gave the Invocation, Trevor Breeden led the Pledge to the Flag, and 2008 Graduate Abby Satterfield, gave an inspiring keynote address. Salutatorian Bryce Newman and Valedictory addresses by Long and Teffeteller preceded the presentation of diplomas.

The list of scholarships awarded to students was given by Ms. Melanie Shepherd, Guidance Counselor and was most impressive. The list showed the excellence of the students and the competence of the Guidance Counselors and Teachers. When four of the students were accepted into the Armed Services, the audience stood in appreciation.

The closing, given by Ms. Merry Stafford, Class Sponsor, was funny, cheerful, and contained memories the class will never forget. CLASS DISMISSED!!!!

Carolyn Melton Peck

PUBLICATIONS

After several warnings to procrastinators, we have closed off the acceptance of new material for Volume III of the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook. There is still a fair number of pictures and articles on hand that need to be placed in the layout and then the drudgery of proofreading to look forward to. This is by far the largest issue that we have prepared. I haven't done an exact page count lately because it still exists by independent chapters but it is well over 300 pages. When we reach the proofreading stage, I will put a new draft version in the museum so that everyone can take part in the fun.

We are still accepting contributions to Volume IV (1960 – present) so you have the opportunity to provide your family photos and documents for inclusion. Layout work for this volume has not started yet and there is still a lot of work needed on the items already on hand. If there are people out there who are bored to tears, we can probably find a job for you.

Paul Bailey

Stinnett, Jack Edward, 64, April 3, 2016.

Schmidt, Robert A., 59, April 4, 2016.

Guider, Ralph Edwin, 84, April 12, 2016.

Hughes, Charlotte Jo Anderson, 87, April 15, 2016.

Kennedy, Kathleen, 100, April 24, 2016.

Hutton, Dr. Joe T., 91, May 9, 2016.

Hughes, Barbara Ann Hutton, 82, May 16, 2016.

Maxwell, Ann Alsobrook, May 21, 2016.

Dilbon, Ernestine Rogers, 82, May 22, 2016.

Montgomery, J. Ester, 103, June 3, 2016.

Milsaps, Clara Estelle Craig, 70, June 18, 2016.

HAPPY SURVIVORS

Eighty Survivors from Greenback High School, classes 1929-1964 gathered in April at the Greenback Community Center to visit, tell tall tales, eat heartily, and listen to Cartoonist Charlie Daniel, introduced by Darlene Cochran Kerrley. Daniel, as much fun in person as he is on paper, gave us many laughs. Daniel began drawing cartoons for the old Knoxville Journal. When the Journal ceased publication, he moved to the Knoxville News-Sentinel, where he continues to make us laugh today. He is fond of using some of our well-known colloquials, such as, "She ain't quite right," Bless her heart! As Charlie says, you can make many comments about someone or someone's actions just as long as it is followed by "Bless her heart."

Master of Ceremonies and Chairman, Roy Goddard, told that he was given this job by Ella Mae Fipps and no one said no to Ella Mae. He listed those who had passed on since last April and asked for a moment of silence in their honor. Roy asked that we give appreciation to the Committee and especially to Jimmie Lynn Bluford, DeLozier, who has accepted a lot of responsibility for keeping us going after Ella Mae left us. Principal Mike Casteel of Greenback School told that the school had received an academic honor as a top Bronze Medalist and expressed how glad he was to be here and how much he appreciated the staff and the community.

Carolyn Peck brought copies of the Historical Society Newsletter to share because the April issue contained the history of the Greenback Heritage Museum, on its tenth anniversary in April, 2016. These newsletters are published and sent to the members of the Historical Society quarterly. Membership is open to the public.

After drawings of door prizes, Kyle Black, guest, gave the benediction. Next year on the fourth Saturday of April we meet again and add the class of 1965. See you there!!!
Carolyn Melton Peck

THE LITTLE WHITE CHURCH

The little white church today delivers sweet memories to many people in our community. Known for its simplicity in design, white color, elongated windows, and tall steeples; it stands as a symbol of sacredness to those who gracefully entered for worship Sunday after Sunday. Once the center of community gatherings the little white church has been a place for worship services, singings, town hall meetings, and for some it has served as a public school house. Stories of fiery revivals and all day preaching and singings have been shared for centuries about the little white churches in this area. Although it may have lost its structure in present day church building design, it certainly has not lost its symbol of beauty. The congregations today have worked diligently to keep our local little white churches as much in their original form as possible while still building additions to enhance their growing memberships. Such churches as Axley's Chapel United Methodist Church, Meadow United Methodist Church, Pine Grove Presbyterian Church, and Cloyds Creek Presbyterian Church are a few of our little white churches still thriving today.

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Much like Axley's Chapel, the Meadow United Methodist Church is still active in the community. Founded in 1869 it was originally called Kiser's Chapel. The first church house was made of wood. In 1950 the church was torn down and a new structure was constructed of cinder blocks at a cost of \$5,200.

The 1.5 acres of land had been donated by Mr. & Mrs. D.H. Brooks. Since that time carpet has been added, the sanctuary remodeled, and in 1969 an addition was built that included restrooms and 4 classrooms.

Pine Grove Presbyterian Church is another of our historical community churches. Founded in 1840 as a Cumberland Presbyterian Church it is located on an acre property on Highway 95 donated by Jesse Kerr. A stipulation in the deed says that if the church ever discontinued as a place of *Divine Worship* it would revert back to Jesse Kerr or his heirs. In 1883 Phebe Kerr and D. A. Wilson sold to the trustees 3 and ½ acres at a cost of \$25. In 1957, the pulpit end of the sanctuary was sectioned off to provide a choir loft with a small classroom on each side. In 1972 a new front was added to the church building which included a hall for entrance to the sanctuary, a pastor's study, and a small classroom. In 1976 restrooms were installed and in 1989 the church built an addition to the fellowship hall and a second story with Sunday school rooms. Last year the church celebrated its 175th birthday.

Cloyds Creek Presbyterian Church is perhaps the little white church I am most familiar with. I have been attending special services there since I was a small child and have grown to love it. It is for this reason that I became an active member of the Cloyds Creek Cemetery Association that works to maintain the church building and cemetery. Its Greek Revival building was completed in 1872 replacing an older log structure. Its gable front frame building has a full width porch with Doric columns on its main facade. It is a real history lesson to step inside the church taking you back in time with its wooden floors and benches, wood burning stove, and primitive lighting. It is the only 19th Century Greek Revival Church in Blount County.

The land for the building and cemetery was donated by Sarah Alexander and her family. Some of the grave markers in the cemetery date pre Civil War. In 1986 it became a part of the National Registry of Historical Places in a special ceremony as part of the Tennessee Homecoming Celebration. The church stopped holding services in 1993 when it had only 3 active members: Hazel Alexander, Myrtle Brookshire, and Mary Charles Milsaps Wilson. Today the church is used for special services, singings, community activities, and cemetery association meetings.

An agreement with the Presbyterian Association was made in 1993 charging Cloyds Creek Cemetery Association with maintaining the church and property and stating that it could not be sold. The association works to raise money each year to maintain the building and to keep the cemetery grounds mowed and markers repaired. However, in recent years the church has fallen prey to old age. Particularly the front porch has been

affected as it is pulling away from the main structure. Other areas of the church building are in need of repair including the windows. That is why the association has implemented **Restoration 2016** in which it hopes to raise \$10,000 for needed repairs.

This has been my purpose for writing this article about the little white church. I hope to inspire you to become a part of this restoration project. I hope to bring to surface your love for assisting in preserving historical churches like Cloyds Creek. If you would like to make a donation to **Restoration 2016** you may do so by making out a check payable to Cloyds Creek Cemetery Association, and sending it to Leroy Painter, Treasurer, at 403 West College Avenue, Friendsville, TN 37737. Donations may be made in memory or honor of a loved one and will be read aloud at our annual Christmas Service. Donors who give \$100 or more will have their name engraved on a plaque that will be placed inside the church.

Etched into the memory of many of our community members like you is time spent in the little white church. Whether it be bible readings, step on your toe sermons, the singing of hymns, or the salvation of a family member we all can count them as precious moments in our lives. Think about its influence in your own life and be a part of preserving this historical church building so that young people like myself, your children, and grandchildren can continue to enjoy its beauty and history for years to come.

Colbe Cagle

Colbe Cagle is a Junior at Greenback High School



Cloyds Creek Presbyterian Church in the Meadow Community in a recent picture. Photo by Colbe Cagle.

REFLECTIONS OF THE CLASS OF 1975

My experience with the class of 1975 started way back in the first grade. There were friends that I grew up with on the hill, Jill Adams and Jeff Disney. Then came the Evans boys, Kenny and Randy with a history of growing up in Sinking Creek with the Andersons. It was a good time in spite of the trauma of leaving home where all was good with our family and playing all day to the end of the day. Many others that we knew from church joined us in school, such as Rusty Ragain. A few got the idea of crawling out the window, someone tied Michelle's shoe laces together and got in trouble for that. Michelle was the poster child of innocence with good behavior and studiousness. Mrs. Griffiths had to make an example of Rusty getting his first school punishment.

Down through the years, there were friends who came from different places. We all got to appreciate grafting them into our lives. As time went along, there were mischievous classmates who found their demise in the 7th and 8th grade being introduced to Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Black, and Mr. Tallent's Board of Education. The board left a lasting impression for discipline and maintaining control over teenage follies.

Going into Freshman Class, here came the Glendale bunch...Gwen Thompson, Carol Quillen, Rand McNeilly and Susan Carpenter. High School Days were good with sports in our lives. Football and basketball had lots of memories with small schools that are still there all over Blount County. Friendsville and Lanier Schools had students with whom we were acquainted from great Little League Baseball programs. *Rocky Anderson.*

I came from Vonore in the midst of my eighth grade to be in Mr. Tallent's class. It seemed as if I slid right in there with everyone, High School was a lot of fun, as Rocky mentioned, football and basketball games, Beta Club trips, FHA and FFA, student council, proms, banquets, plays, chorus, and much, much more. Lunch time was like a big goof off time. Did anyone actually eat? My memory is walking the Circle Drive with everyone, including couples in the doorways!!! *Gail Galyon*

As I recall, our class had about 38 graduates. We had a get together during Christmas Holidays of 2015, organized by Gail Galyon. From looking at some old yearbooks, we realized that over half of our graduating class started school together in the first grade at Greenback. There was no kindergarten then.

To jog my memory, I checked the internet to see what was going on world-wide in 1975. Some of the major events were the Vietnam War, the Watergate Scandal, the attempted assassination of President Gerald Ford, Pittsburg

defeating Minnesota in the Super Bowl, Cincinnati defeating the Boston Red Sox in the World Series, Billie Jean King and Arthur Ashe winning Wimbledon, and Mohammed Ali beating Joe Frazier in the thriller in Manila.

Saturday Night Live premiered on NBC and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" was the number #1 movie. The number #1 song was "Love Will Keep Us Together" by the Captain and Tenille. The first VCR's were developed in Japan and the Altair Love Computer was available for people who wanted to try the new past-time of home computing. The Apollo and USSR's Soyuz spacecraft docked in orbit for the first time and NASA launched the Viking I toward Mars. Jimmy Hoffa was reported missing in Detroit. Angelina Jolie and Tiger Woods were born in 1975.

My favorite memories of GHS were Home Economics Class with Mrs. Edith Woods, Biology with Mrs. Aileen Anderson (Rocky's Mom), American History with Mrs. Brenda Lee, and French with Mrs. Thelma Cooper (my Mom). I really liked Mr. Jerry Masingo and Mr. Paul Huff, but I didn't particularly like math or typing.

I remember playing endless hours of rock during lunch or after school. Student organizations, such as Beta Club, would show movies in the auditorium as fundraisers, and the typical movies were Elvis musicals or Christopher Lee vampire flicks. Speaking of Beta Club, we had a wild and crazy trip to the State Convention in Nashville. I was a basketball manager and remember fun trips to our fellow Size-1 schools such as Lanier, Friendsville, Walland, Townsend, and Vonore. My least favorite memory is in sitting in afternoon classes. The classrooms must have been 100 degrees in August in the days before the school was air conditioned. We are still a tight group as most of us have known one another for over 50 years.

Michelle Cooper Fleck

Our married classmates: Kyle Shepherd and Marge Compton; Jeff Disney and Susan Carpenter.

Deceased: Barbara Arp, Steve Shaffer, David Linginfelter, Rusty Ragain, Kyle Shepherd, Marge Compton and Johnny Rose.

Class President, Donald Tipton; Valedictorian; Rhonda Brown; Salutatorian: Michelle Cooper; Principal James "Hank" McGhee.

Greenback Historical Society, Inc.
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Stamp

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CAROLYN'S CORNER

In trying to get the information for this quarter's issue, it seems I have been working the entire quarter. I hope you enjoy it because a lot happened during the months of April, May and June. Thank you all the contributors and special thanks to Paul Bailey!!! I hope that I have conquered most of my electronic problems because I have spent most of the last three months learning that it is difficult to teach an old dog new tricks. Switching to Windows 10, losing connection to my printer in the process and changing from a track phone to a smart phone has made me decide that I am too old for all this electronic stuff. One word to the wise... changing from Windows 7 to Windows 10 is "mind-boggling." I am told that changing from Windows 8 or 9 works just fine!!! The one positive, keeping your mind active is said to delay dementia. I hope!!! My father's youngest sister reached 99 in June, her mind is as sharp as ever!

Carolyn

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 1 & 2, *Greenback Depot Craft Show; Contact Wendy Tittsworth.*

July 2, *Downtown Greenback, Fourth of July Parade.*

July 23, *Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting. Business Meeting 12 Noon; Lower Level Community Center; Ice Cream Contest, Community Center Pavilion; Set-Up 1:00 PM. Tasting 2:00 PM. Open to Public.*

August 21, *Loudon County Historical Society , 3:00 PM. Trinity United Methodist Church, Lenoir City, Dr. Michael Birdwell, Professor of History, Tennessee Tech University, Curator of WWI hero Alvin C. York Papers, housed in Pall Mall, TN.*

Sept. 8-10, *Greenback Heritage Museum 6th Annual Quilt Show.*

October 22, *Quarterly Meeting, 2:00 PM. Greenback Community Center.*