

**CHRONICLER**  
**PRESERVING THE PAST**  
**Issue 16, July 2011**

**P. 1**  
**Greenback Historical Society**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT**

We are looking forward to a meeting of fun on July 30<sup>th</sup>. We will have short business meeting, music from a nostalgic time, and an old fashioned Ice Cream Contest. The winner of the Ice Cream Contest will be chosen by a vote of those who sample the different flavors. First prize is \$100. Anyone or organization that chooses may enter by submitting a gallon or more of their ice cream. Entry blanks may be secured from the Greenback Heritage Museum or any member of the Board of Directors. They are due to be completed and returned by 4:00 P.M. July 17<sup>th</sup>. If participants choose, the ice cream may be cranked on the Pavilion. Some may never have seen ice cream made this way.

All our meetings are open to the public and we hope you and your friends and neighbors will join us for a fun afternoon. Admission is free. Donations are accepted.

Bids on the Silent Auction of a beautiful hand carved wooden birdhouse carved by Bailey, artist, will be taken until 3:30. We are fortunate to have this available to us. Bailey, who makes, displays and sells his work in Colorado, is the son of Paul Bailey, At 4:00 winners of the auction and winners of the Ice Cream Contest will be announced. One of our fund-raisers is the sale of pocket size U. S. Constitutions. With renewed interest in our founding documents, these will be available for sale. We are still taking surveys about the Depot and we would appreciate it if you would complete one of these. A task force is attempting to develop a business plan for the historic site and we need your help.

Our Mayor, Tom Peeler, has resigned from the Board because his business and duties have kept him from being available for our meetings. We are sorry to see him go, but we will be happy to have him continue to be a member. The nominating committee will submit a recommendation for a replacement during our business meeting. If you have a suggestion, you may contact Sandra Tipton, Betty Carroll, or Marlene Lidstrom.

Unfortunately, Thelma Cooper, our correspondent from the Museum Committee, has recently resigned from our newsletter. As soon as she can be replaced, we will continue our section on the museum. The museum still needs volunteers for that committee. These faithful volunteers keep the doors open for those who wish to visit.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Ella Mae Thompson Fipps, 92, June 13, 2011

Mrs. Fipps, descendant of one of the Greenback Founders, often said that she was born in Greenback and never moved more than two miles from her birthplace.

**Next Meeting: July 30, 2-4**  
**Community Center, Lower**  
**Level**

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### ***FROM THE SCRAPBOOK***

We continue to encourage one and all to review the draft version of Volume II of the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook (1900 – 1930) at the Greenback Museum. Now is the time to catch errors and omissions so that they may be corrected before the final version is completed. Progress continues to be slow with everything else that is going on. Spring is always a hard time to spend indoors and this year seems to have been more hectic than usual. However, with the “dog days” rapidly approaching inside activities will soon become a lot more attractive.

We hope you will continue to keep your eyes open for material to include in Volume III (1930-1960) and Volume IV (1960 – Present). The current draft for Volume III will be available for review at the museum later this summer. If you have questions please contact Paul Bailey or Betty Carroll.

As many of you know, the museum has a growing collection of video material that different people have put together. Also, a few months ago the Historical Society rolled out its new website. With the way things are trending, it might be useful to expand the scope of this column to report on the other activities that are going on in addition to the scrapbook. If anyone can think of a catchy title for the expanded section, please get in touch.

- Paul Bailey

### ***ABOUT THE DIRECTORS***

Marlene Lidstrom, our newest Director, moved to this area from Michigan 17 years ago. She had been interested in the Historical Society from its inception and she and her husband Oscar attend our meetings and activities regularly.

From the beginning, they have been interested in learning more about the area in which they live. Marlene usually works at least one day a month in the Greenback Heritage Museum and she and Oscar have hiked much of the surrounding area. They are responsible for maintaining 2 ½ miles of the Sinking Creek Hiking Trail. In addition to the Greenback Historical Society, they belong to the East Tennessee and Western Carolina Historical Societies and have found these to be great resources for learning about the Southern Appalachian culture.

The couple has season tickets to many of the area theatre productions and enjoy these. Marlene plays bridge with a Maryville group. She says she has learned much about the area from those members.

We feel fortunate to have her participation and support.

### ***APRIL MEETING***

Dean Stone, Editor of the Maryville Times, spoke to the participants at the Quarterly Meeting, April 21. Stone has been a journalist in the Blount County area for 64 years. He is especially well known for his interest in history and his publications about the area. He has published six Volumes of Snapshots of Blount County; the final volume covers the history and development of Alcoa. Copies may be purchased at the Daily Times Office on Harper Street in Maryville.

For the majority of the meeting, he took questions from the audience and helped to join in the memories that audience members brought to the group.

Surveys on the Greenback Depot were circulated among the guests. The surveys were meant to gauge the interest in the preservation and restoration of the building, and to secure information on the history of the depot and. purposes for which the building could be used. Information secured will be shared at the next Quarterly Meeting.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be July 30, 2:00-4:00 PM at the lower level of the Community Center and the Pavilion.

### ***HAPPY SURVIVORS***

Approximately 80 Greenback High School Survivors attended the annual luncheon April 23. Participants attended from classes of 1929 to 1959. The luncheon gathering gives persons who attended school the opportunity to come together, sharing memories, once a year, and often-included persons from several states.

Teresa and Ramona Goddard, daughters of MC Roy Goddard, entertained the guests with music and wit. Although they are not yet eligible to come as guests, Teresa gave us vocals, which were popular in our days, and Ramona talked about the history of the school as she remembered it.

Ella Mae Fipps was recognized as one of the founding members of the Survivors; stories shared, door prizes given, and surveys on the Greenback Depot were provided for participants. Special thanks should be given to Jimmie Lynn Bluford Delozier, Roy Goddard, Wanda Fields, and Ralph Hall for their activities on the Committee. Mark your calendars for the fourth Saturday in April. We'll do it again and add another class! If you have suggestions, E-mail those to Jimmie Lynn at [jimilyn@aol.com](mailto:jimilyn@aol.com) or mail to Ralph Hall, 6013, Old Niles Ferry Pk. Greenback, Tn. 37742

### ***IN MEMORIAM***

Dale Henry Goodman , 73, 4/9/11

***DRIVING THROUGH GREENBACK***

When I drive through Greenback, I'm filled with mixed emotions. I pass over the railroad at Jena and smile at the wonderful recycling center and its beautiful building amid all the recycling bins. I ache at the emptiness where the Anderson's Barn has stood for my entire lifetime. I'm thankful that God protected the lives of our citizens. The Time and Temperature Sign still looks out of place and I may never see anything but a stop sign where a light flashes. I'm thrilled to see the beautiful restoration on the corner of Highway 95 and Morganton Road

As I turn into downtown proper, I miss seeing the colored Barber Shop pole, the unique two-story bank building, and the tall buildings that finished the street just past the Drug Store, but when I see the Depot, I truly know I've come home. This building has been an integral part of making this community come to life. *(Ed. Note, although the first train came through Greenback in 1894, the present depot was built in 1914 when L & N purchased the railroad.)*

As a child, I could always imagine an old gun battle between the Marshall and the gunfighters who rode in with the train. The Marshall, with quickly deputized town leaders, is protecting the bank and the businesses while the gunfighters take hostages inside the depot. Of course the good guys, helped by reinforcements from Glendale, eventually save the day. *(A child's imagination beats TV and electronic games, any day. Editor)*

What are the landmarks in your mind that make Greenback what it is today? Do you remember the old Elementary School that greeted us, the big tree with a limb that graciously bent so that first graders could have a seat on its arm or stand to see above other small heads? Was it a chair in a playhouse or the perch atop a pirate's ship? What about those old buildings with the fronts high above the roof that looked like they had come out of the old west?

Do you remember when there was no Community Center? So many people said it couldn't be done. They didn't know Greenback very well, did they? When we were unable to get help, we had a group of leaders who had the vision and brought the community together. This is the same community that depends on their own volunteer fire department and rescue squad. Both were created and continue today from the spirit of this special place.

Have you ever heard anyone say? "If I could win the lottery, I'd love to see the Depot at Greenback restored"? I know many who have thought or heard phrases such as these. It really is a lovely thought, but is it a possibility or just a pipe dream? Is there a chance that the Depot could become more than just a nostalgic thought? Can it be saved from toll of neglect, lack of funding and perhaps lack of leadership that has been the fate of so many other old yet significant buildings? Or is the Depot one of these special exceptions?

Cont'd on P. 5

**DRIVING THROUGH GREENBACK (CONT'D)**

Those active in the Greenback Historical Society are wondering the same thing. The answer is a complex one and will require a collective answer. As a start the Society has developed a survey form. Call it a long distance way to brainstorm about the future of this historic building. If given a chance, could it be saved? Dream and tell us what it might become and share any stories about the building and its history. If you would like to stay up to date on this, please indicate that on your survey as well. Help us by completing one of the surveys and asking your friends to do so as well. There are no right or wrong answers.

You can find copies of the surveys available at the Greenback Library, the Greenback Heritage Museum, Peoples Bank, Regions Bank, or at the Loudon County Visitors Center on 321. Completed surveys may be left at any of these locations or mailed to the Greenback Historical Society at P.O. Box 165, Greenback, Tn. 37742. These surveys will be compiled and discussed at the next meeting of the Historical Society.

Your involvement is important. Let's not wait until something occurs that might prevent us from saving the building if it is as beloved as many believe. We want to be prepared. Tell us what you think and when the opportunity comes, let us be ready to act together as a community. Thank you for your response.

Teresa Goddard

**PRESERVATION FUND**

A separate account has been opened at Peoples Bank for the purpose of preserving historic buildings, landmarks, artifacts, or items of significant historical interest, which are not otherwise available to us. Donations are tax deductible through a 501 c 3 designated by the IRS. Donations may be made at the bank or mailed to Greenback Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 165, Greenback, Tn. 37742.

We suggest that you might consider making such a donation as a memory to a loved one or special person who has ties to our community. Perhaps you are thinking about a gift for a person who seemingly has "everything" Could you honor them with a gift to the Preservation Fund? Might you consider a small place in your budget for regular contributions? Would you be willing to contact others?

Carolyn Peck

"There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long range of risks and costs of comfortable inaction"

John F. Kennedy

***UPCOMING EVENTS***

- July 17, 2011      Deadline Entries for Ice Cream Contest  
July 18, 2011      Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. Community Center, Lower Level
- July 20, 2011      Greenback Historical Society, Quarterly Meeting 2:00 P.M.  
Community Center, Lower Level. Ice Cream Contest**
- August 10, 2011    Cemeteries of the Smokies, ETHC, S. 601 Gay St., Knoxville  
August 15, 2011    Board Meeting (if needed) 7:00 P.M. Museum  
August 21, 2011    Loudon County Historical Society 3:00 P.M. United Methodist Church  
Civil War Music by the Careys  
Sept. 19, 2011      Board Meeting, 7:00 P.M. Museum  
**October 17, 2011 Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. Museum**
- October 20, 2011 Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting 7:30 P.M.  
Greenback Community Center**

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

**Officers and Directors**

Carolyn M. Peck President 986-1681  
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Roy M. Brooks  
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