



# CHRONICLER

PRESERVING OUR PAST



ISSUE 20, JULY 1, 2012

GREENBACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
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## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Have you noticed??? Greenback is buzzing! If you haven't been downtown lately it is a trip worth making. I'd recommend that you go before dark so that you have enough light to really see everything that is happening! Why don't you take a ride and see if you can see the things I see and then I can elaborate more in our next issue!

There is so much to tell that I hope you'll read all the details inside! For now, things are settling in well at the Hale House on Lou Goddard and no, the cattle trailer isn't a permanent fixture!

I hope I will see all of you on July 14...

*Teresa Goddard*

## GREENBACK DEPOT UPDATE

Monday, June 11, Robert Anderson called together a group of Greenback Historical Society Members, and other interested people to meet in the Depot with Ron Edmondson, owner, his daughter, Wendy Tittsworth, Clayton Pangle, Loudon County Visitors Center, Heather Bailey, East Tennessee Development District and Ethiel Garlington, Knox Heritage and East Tenn. Preservation Alliance.

Mr. Edmondson spoke to the group about his plans for the Depot and asked that they cooperate with him in bringing these plans to fruition. For those of you who may not have seen the cleanup, the work, and the inside of the depot lately, the progress is remarkable. Edmondson is very hopeful that the people of Greenback be involved and provide suggestions for uses of the building and its surroundings. He thanked Pangle for all his help and his continuing interest.

Pangle spoke to the group about some of the things that the Visitors Center is trying to do to help Loudon County, including the Greenback area, become more of a tourist destination. He said that we needed to do as much as we can to make Greenback a destination by identifying other buildings and places of historical interest. According to Pangle he is currently serving on a committee to investigate the possibility of funds for

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, July 28, 2012, 12:30 PM-3:00PM. Greenback Community Center.**

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planning. Garlington spoke to the group about how the ETPA has been interested in the restoration of the depot for some years. He did point out that opportunities for Federal and State Grants are limited in this economy.

Heather Bailey has been helping other areas get on the National Register and is willing to do this for the Depot. Carolyn Peck shared some of the results of a survey completed by the Historical Society on uses of the Depot and suggestions for maintenance once it is restored. This survey was prepared and circulated for a year as a project of the Historical Society and the Depot Task Force of that organization. She also passed out a copy of an article that told of the history of the railroad and the building of Greenback, including the L&N Depot.

Pangle asked the individuals at the meeting to share any other ideas that they had, and gave each individual the opportunity to speak. The group participated eagerly. Edmondson is anxious to open the building on the day of the Fourth of July Parade. He particularly wanted to repair the roof in time. The original roof was slate, but the slate has been removed by a prior owner. Due to some changes in the structure at the time, the slate roof cannot be replaced, so Edmondson plans to paint the metal roof. He asked for our opinions on whether to use a color or to paint the roof Slate Grey. A vote was taken and the group preferred Slate Grey as that it as near as possible to the original.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## PUBLICATIONS

### **The Greenback Heritage Scrapbook:**

Volume II of the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook was officially released to the museum and the Greenback Public Library in April of this year. If you have not yet done so, please drop by one of these sites and peruse it. Very nice articles appeared in both the Daily Times and the News-Herald describing the goals and approach the Scrapbook Committee has taken in compiling this important milestone in preserving Greenback's past.

A draft copy of Volume III (1930-1960) is available for viewing at the Greenback Heritage Museum. We are still collecting material for this issue so please plan to attend the upcoming "Scrapbook Potluck" on July 14 or contact Betty Carroll or me if you want to contribute information.

### **A New DVD at the Museum**

For those of you who could not attend the Greenback Historical Society meeting in April, a DVD of Johnnie Hammontree Myer's presentation on "Growing Up in Greenback" is now available at the museum. Those of us who attended found it to be a very entertaining look at rural life in the mid-1900s.

*Paul Bailey*

### **Scrapbook Potluck on July 14**

The Heritage Scrapbook Committee will be hosting a covered dish potluck at the Greenback Community Center on July 14, 2012. The purpose of this event is to show off what we have accomplished so far with Volumes I and II and to provide an opportunity for the community to contribute to our current efforts. Our major emphasis for the next year will be on Volume III (1930-1960). We are still collecting photos, newspaper clippings and documents from this period. Just to remind you, this era included the important historical events of the Great Depression, World War II and the Korean War and we are especially interested in related material.

We have identified some other specific areas where we need more information. These include the following families: Hutton, Rowland, Lane, Griffiths, Keys, Rhyne, Ryan, Tarwater, Long, and McInturff.

Under businesses we need more material on the Miltron company, Hutton and Ryan Lumber, Shepherd Cabinets, Keys (IGA) Grocery, Greenback Industries, the original Greenback Corner (Brown's), the early Greenback telephone company, the early Greenback Farmer's Co-op, Long's blacksmith shop, early

boarding houses and the early Rural Electric Administration activities including the creation of Fort Loudoun Electric Co-op.

You can bring your contributions to the potluck or drop them off at the museum when convenient. Be sure to identify that it is for the scrapbook and provide identification so that we can get it back to you when we have finished scanning it. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

*Paul Bailey*

## MUSEUM MUSINGS

We are excited because the Quilt Show was so popular last year that we plan an encore. The Exhibits will be on September 6, 7, and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Museum. If there is an overflow, we will also exhibit in the Community Center.

You may vote for your favorite in the donation jar in front of each entry: one penny per vote. No restrictions on the number of votes. Proceeds will be used for museum needs.

Entries will be accepted on August 27 through 31, and September 1, 4 and 5.

Your quilts will be handled carefully and exhibited proudly.

*Barbara Davis*

*"We the People of the United States, in order to perform a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure the domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."*

*Preamble to the U.S. Constitution*

A copy of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States is available for sale in the Greenback Heritage Museum. Proceeds from the sale are for the operation of the Greenback Historical Society, Inc., a tax exempt organization.

## HAPPY SURVIVORS

On the third Saturday in April, 2012, 80 Happy Survivors met to celebrate! Open to former students of Greenback High School beginning with the class of 1929, Happy Survivors meets annually for lunch and a chance to remember those with whom they had gone to school. Each year the organization adds one to two more classes to be invited to the celebration. This year placards on each table identified the class so that classmates could find their classmates.

After a delicious meal and a time for fellowship, Goddard recognized all the Veterans in the audience and asked that Bob Anderson give a short update on all the things going on in Greenback: the Greenback School, Greenback Heritage Museum, purchase of Gourley Grocery Store, two houses, and the Greenback Depot. The Greenback Historical Society has been working for two to three years to provoke interest in restoration of downtown Greenback. Anderson is a Director on the Board of the Historical Society and Chairperson of the Property Committee.

Paul Curtis, Loudon County Sheriff's Department, presented an address on Drugs in Loudon County. While we were gratified when he told us that there was a smaller drug program in Greenback than in any other place in the county, he still recognized that the problem exists here. Methadone problems exist, but with the aid of the pharmacists and drug stores in the area, this has been improved. In the past year 600 children in Tennessee have been placed in custody as a result of meth.. This problem has been surpassed by prescription drugs. We were warned to be sure to carry any prescriptions in their original container when traveling. If stopped for any reason, and you have pain pills, in particular, you are subject to arrest. Heroin and Cocaine are also still problems, though smaller in number. In answer to a question, Curtis said that the Heroin and Cocaine problem was larger in the Hispanic Community.

In 1989 a small group including John Allen Kerr, David Kerr, Rachel Ragain, Ella Mae Fipps, and Esther Montgomery met together to form the group and invite others to participate. Students from the classes of 1929, 1930, and 1931 were included. Participants do not have to have graduated, only to have attended Greenback High School. Shortly after, John Cochran and Roy Goddard were added to the Committee. Roy has served as Chairperson for many years. Ms. Fipps served as Treasurer until 2010 when she turned that responsibility over to Ralph Hall. There is no structured organization other than the committee, which arranges the meal, the program, and sends the

invitations. As other classes have been added, new Committee Members have been recruited to help. Current Committee Members consist of Goddard, Carolyn Melton Peck, Ralph Hall, Jimmie Lynn Bluford DeLozier, Wanda Fields, and Mary McKelvey Farmer.

Next year the classes of 1962 and 1963 will be added. If you are eligible, we hope you will join us.

*Carolyn Melton Peck*



Happy Survivors Class of 1952. *Left to right:* Bobby Gene Brown, Edith Gardner Lynn, Gene Quillen, Carol Ann Hutton Hammontree, Mildred Haynes King, Jimmie Lynn Bluford DeLozier and Mary McKelvey Farmer (in front).

## IN MEMORIAM

*Jean Simpson Raper*, Died April 16, 2012.

Mrs., Raper was a former teacher at Greenback and the widow of Dr. W.L. (Elmer) Raper, former Principal and Coach at Greenback.

*Anna Belle Hammontree Pittman*, Died May 11, 2012

*Willie Kate Jones McDonald*, Age 93, Died May 15, 2012

*Fate Lovin*, Age 85, Died May 16, 2012

*Arnold Lee Evans*, Age 79, Died June 23, 2012

Our crowd was a little small this year, and those who were not here missed a treat. Ms. Johnnie Hammontree Myers spoke to us about growing up in Greenback and Jena. She has lived here most of her life and while she spoke of her family; she had many funny tales to take us back to those times. Paul Bailey made a video of that and we hope to be able to show it along with our collection in the museum.

Ron Edmondson, his daughter, and a friend attended the meeting and talked to us about his purchase of the Depot and other downtown properties and his hopes for revitalizing Greenback. He wants to cooperate with the Historical Society and has not yet made definite plans for the Depot other than restoring it to its former prominence in the community. He did not give definite plans yet, but is open to suggestions. We agreed to furnish him with results of the Depot Survey that shows interest by residents and suggestions for its usage. He also plans to revitalize Gourley's Grocery, which he has purchased. After the meeting Edmondson opened the Depot and allowed us a tour.

Robert McGinnis came and brought copies of his completed book on Blount County Cemeteries. The books, which can be purchased, include the Loudon County faction of Blount. He is now working on the Loudon County collection of cemeteries.

We had a short discussion on how to honor and remember former Board Member, and long-time resident, Roy M. Brooks. Roy and his wife Kay were first responsible for the Society's interest in Appalachian Quilt Squares. He and his family have furnished many pictures and documents for our scrapbooks, and items for the museum. As long as he was able, they were always ready to help with any of our projects. He will be sorely missed. Action on a memorial was deferred until we meet later

In July, our Quarterly Meeting will also include an Ice Cream Contest. We had our first one last year and it was successful enough that we were encouraged to do this annually. This year, it will be on July 28 so mark your calendar and be looking for further information. Purpose of the contest is three fold: one, educational, many of our children and youth never saw ice cream except in a cone or bowl; two, acquainting more people with the Historical Society and it's purposes and projects and three, encouraging people to learn more and help preserve their roots and their country.

*Carolyn Melton Peck*

## **GREENBACK DEPOT UPDATE**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Richard and Cheryl Greech took a number of pictures of the group and the building for use in a presentation. Since the Historical Society and the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook Committee had pictures of the building in earlier times and pictures of the building prior to Edmondson's purchase, Paul Bailey agreed to E-Mail those and the Creeches agreed to E-mail those taken at the meeting to him.

*Carolyn Melton Peck*



Participants review materials at the June 11, 2012, meeting on the future of the Greenback Depot.

## **DEPOT SURVEY RESULTS**

During 2011, the Society conducted a survey of area residents as to their views on the future of the Depot. The following is a compilation of the results of that survey.

The survey was prepared from the viewpoint that at some time, the depot could be purchased and that funds would be needed not only for purchase, but also for restoration. Restoration might possibly be funded through grants. Once accomplished, ongoing maintenance funding would also be needed.

A variety of questions arose in the process. What uses could be made of the structure? Could Greenback become a tourist destination? Could its history of mineral springs be rebuilt? Could we secure a sewer system? If not, could a septic tank and drainfield large enough to accommodate uses be installed? Participants were asked for their ideas and if they would be willing to volunteer in some way. Below are answers to some of our questions.

*(Continued on Page 5)*

Glendale is a small community located about halfway between Greenback and Friendsville and about halfway between Lenoir City and Greenback.

Glendale was a good place to live. There were no paved roads, phones, or electricity, but we did have battery radios. Some of the family names were Hartsell, Long, Mizell, Marion, Bryant, Livesey, McDonald, and Courtenay. The doors or windows were never locked. The families visited a lot. The men pitched horseshoes while the women talked about cooking and serving.

The games the children played were tag, jump rope, hop scotch, Dodge Ball, May I, baseball, marbles and Kick the Can. Mothers cut their daughter's hair and the men tried to cut the boys. Having your hair shampooed and styled was unheard of. Sometimes we did get frizzy perms.

Each morning a fire was built in the kitchen stove. Meat, eggs, gravy, and biscuits were cooked daily and served with jams, jellies, and coffee. The family sat together at the table and there were no between meal snacks.

All the clothing was washed by hand and hung on a wire with clothespins to dry. Dresses, skirts, and blouses were starched and ironed. Baths were taken in the washtubs.

In 1913-14, the Glendale School was built and consisted of two rooms and a coat room. Each room had a big potbelly stove and no electricity. The water was pumped from a well and there were two outhouses. Our best memories were chapel. Irene Hackney played the pump organ and we sang two or three songs. Ella Mizell read the devotions. Then we prayed together the Lord's Prayer. It just seemed a good way to start the day.

In 1940 Mildred Lane became the teacher of the upper grades. When she married Dr. Lynn Curtis in 1942, Mary Long took her place. They were both good and dedicated teachers. All nine of the Bryant Children graduated from Glendale and Greenback.

Very near the school was the Long Grocery Store where we could buy pencils for a penny and paper for a nickel. Some of the children wanted boiled eggs in their lunch but would stop at the store and trade them for candy.

Yes, we can truly say, "Those were the good old days!"

*Mildred Bryant McNabb, and June Bryant Quillen*

*Ed. Note: Glendale School was closed in September, 1979, and all the students transferred to Greenback. The Community was allowed to keep the school building and grounds because it is used as a voting precinct. Community events are often held there, and a horse show once a month in the summer is held in the ring in front of the school.*

**DEPOT SURVEY RESULTS**

*(Continued from Page 4)*

**POSSIBLE USES**

- Food vending such as a café or restaurant; an ice cream shoppe; a shop featuring good chocolates.
- Park a Caboose or Replica on the property and sell snacks, souvenirs and drinks.
- Public facilities such as an art gallery; library; museum; a transportation museum or a railroad memorabilia display.
- Specialty Shops such as boutiques; local craft sales; collectibles; antiques or a quilt shop.
- Commercial uses such as office space for insurance agents; real estate; lawyers; notary services; tax services or a copy shop.
- A venue for entertainment and special events such as concerts; live music; storytellers; gospel groups; square dances and plays.
- An office for the Greenback Historical Society.

**MAINTENANCE**

Funding for maintenance depends somewhat on how the depot is to be used. Suggested sources include: donations, volunteers, souvenir sales, TDOT, a percentage of sales, rent to tenants, city or county funds, ticket sales, sponsors, profits, present funding, consignment sales, sale of donated items, and operation of a delivery service.

Approximately 250 filled in the survey over the period of a year. With one exception, all those responding surveys wanted to save the Depot, largely because Greenback was founded by the railroad and the Depot is a part of its history. At least one person said "Thank You for Caring". One suggestion made by David Bell at the June 11 meeting was to have the depot house an operating model railroad layout depicting early Greenback.

*Carolyn Melton Peck*

Our next Quarterly Meeting on July 28 will feature the second annual Ice Cream Contest. It will take place in the Pavilion at the Greenback Community Center. A short business meeting will be held in the lower level meeting room at 2:00 prior to the contest. Tasting and voting on the best homemade confection runs from 2:30-3:30 PM. The winners will be announced around 3:45. Visiting and cleanup goes from 4:00 to 4:30.

The contest is open to all. Members and non-members, residents and non-residents, individuals and organizations are welcome to enter their best recipe or simply come to taste and vote. First prize is \$100. This year we are adding a Second Prize of \$50 and a Third Prize of \$25.

All entrants participating for the prizes must complete a Contest Agreement Form and submit it by 4:00PM, July 15. The forms can be picked up at the Greenback Heritage Museum, the Greenback Public Library or from directors of the Greenback Historical Society. It can also be obtained from the Society website at [www.gbhistorical.webs.com](http://www.gbhistorical.webs.com). More details can be found on the entry form.

For more information call Bob Anderson at 865-856-3202 or 865-335-3367.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 4 *Independence Day Parade 1:00; Fish Fry, 4:00-7:00 Rescue Squad, Main Street, Greenback Community Center. Greenback Depot: Open for viewing, Morganton Rd.*

**July 14 *Heritage Scrapbook Potluck. Greenback Community Center. 11:00***

July 15 *Ice Cream Contest Entries Due*

July 21 *1:15-4:15 ETHS Beginning Genealogy, Registration July 9. 601 S. Gay St., Knoxville.*

**July 28 *Quarterly Meeting and Ice Cream Contest. Community Center Lower Level and Pavilion. 2:00 – 4:30PM.***

Aug. 12 *Loudon County Historical Society; Dr. Joan Markel: The Civil War in East Tennessee.*

Sept. 6- 8 *Quilt Show, Greenback Heritage Museum (See article on page x)*

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