

CHRONICLER

Preserving Our Past

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

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that we have been working on this organization for more than five years now. We will be having our Annual Meeting, an annual report, an election of Board Members, and a pot-luck luncheon at the Greenback Community Center. It is important that we have a Quorum and we hope you can attend. Our meeting is open to the public so invite your friends and neighbors.

We are fortunate to have Ethiel Garlington as our speaker. Mr. Garlington is with Knoxville Heritage and the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance. He will be able to tell us what resources are available to our organization and speak to activities of other East Tennessee Organizations with a similar purpose.

We have operated on a very small budget so we would encourage you to pay your 2011 dues if possible. These dues have been used in the past to sponsor Civil War Trails and Appalachian Trail Markers, to purchase equipment and supplies for the Museum, to purchase binders for the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook and to aid with the printing and placement of those in area libraries. They also help to defer the costs of the newsletters.

MUSEUM MUSINGS

During the dreary days of winter, what a wonderful time to take a morning or afternoon to spend in the Greenback Heritage Museum. Grab a snack and a cup of coffee and settle down to look at the many resources that are available here. Not only have we accumulated local family scrapbooks and history, we also have a growing supply of CD's and DVD's The equipment was purchased by the Historical Society for just this purpose. Instructions for the use of the DVD, VHS and screen are taped to the top of the DVD player. **Be careful not to sit on the antique stool, please**

One can look at the History of Greenback prepared by Paul Bailey, a copy of the speech Bob Anderson made to the Loudon County Historical Society on the National Campground and the people who founded it, A Visit with Gene Black, the Black Family Reunion 2010, Greenback Industries by Richard Woods, or Memories by Owen and Coy Evans. Admission is Free and the Museum is open Thurs-Saturday 10-2

NEXT MEETING -

January 22, Noon
Community Center

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Directors

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October Meeting
Trigonia

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FROM THE SCRAPBOOK

An updated draft of Volume n of the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook (1900-1930) is now in the museum. There are still some sections that need additional text in the way of overviews and introductions but this version contains all of the material contributed by the community. A major component of this volume is the content of the Greenback Scrapbook compiled by Edwin Best, Sr. that we obtained with the help of his son, Edwin Best, Jr. Please take time to drop by the museum and go through the draft to help us spot errors and omissions. Use a sticky note on the pages to indicate problems so that they may be corrected in the final edition.

We are still accepting material for Volume HI (1930-1960) and Volume IV (1960-Present) A good start has been made on Volume III and it will become the focus of our efforts once the second volume goes to the printer. If you have questions, please contact Paul Bailey or Betty Carroll.

ABOUT OUR DIRECTORS

The last of our present Directors is Carolyn Melton Peck. She is not a descendant of Greenback Founders but came here with her parents, C.L. and Nola Melton, at the age of five when her father was retained to head the Merchants and Farmers Bank. --

She graduated from Greenback High School and then attended Ward-Behnont Jr. College and Music Conservatory where she received a Certificate in Speech. Following that she received a B.S. in Business Administration at the University of Tennessee with a major in Journalism. She and her husband, Claude Peck, returned to Greenback and then moved to Maryville after he returned from the Navy. They had four children and after their births, Carolyn began working for the State of Tennessee as a vocational counselor, a welfare counselor, and County Director. During that time, she returned to the University of Tennessee for a Masters in Public Administration, specializing in Social Services and Law. By the time she retired from state service, she had worked in many of the counties in the East Tennessee and Southeast Tennessee Regions.

After the death of her husband Carolyn returned to the Greenback area and supervised an intensive counseling program with Child and Family Services. She later developed and initiated an intensive counseling program for the Juvenile Services Department and worked part time for the Department of Education in Loudon County. Never losing interest in Greenback, it's people and it's heritage, she became involved with the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook Committee and later the Greenback Historical Society of which she is currently serving as President.

IN MEMORIUM

Kathleen Hughes Hudson, 89, December 18, 2010

McCOLLUMFARM

It was a cold, *dreary* day in early December. The Open House sponsored by the Greenback Historical Society had been publicized and planned for weeks. Tim Grindstaff, who had graciously offered his renovated home for a fund-raiser, his mother and sister who had worked to see that the house was ready, wondered if anyone would actually come. The brave men from the Sheriffs Office withstood the cold to be sure people knew where to come, where to park, and to keep us safe.

Sandra Tipton, Kay Brooks and Barbara Davis manned the table while Shirley Hall made sure there was hot Friendship Tea for anyone who came in chilled. Extra cookies and sweets seemed to appear from nowhere. The old house was beautiful but sometimes had steps one was not expecting. Betty Carroll and Colleen Ragain carefully watched and instructed to see no one would fall.

Beautifully dressed as colonial dames, Charlotte Miller and Shirley Hall put everyone in a festive mood. Thankfully, Charlotte brought her camera as President Peck had forgotten that important detail.

Roy M. Brooks was stationed at the front to accept tickets and have guests register and Bob Anderson was at the side porch to take tickets, register guests and be sure those who had difficulty with the high steps could enter without incident. Neither of them believed that more than a very few would appear. "When out on the lawn, there arose such a clatter, we went to the windows to see what was the matter." No one could believe that around 200 people suddenly appeared. While they didn't come by sleigh and no reindeer were seen in the old barn, they trudged through the snow and rain, they shivered in the cold, and told us how grateful they were to be there. Granddaughters Cindy and Dottie were thrilled with the house, the people, and the folk who honored their family. Paul Bailey went home and returned with another camera before the afternoon was over.

Participants marveled at the workmanship and the antiques in the house. Memories were exchanged and all were grateful to Tim for so carefully restoring the old house, built by Joseph McCollum who brought his new bride Nancy there to live in pre-Civil War days. Master craftsman and fanner, he built caskets because his neighbors needed them; he made shoes to cover their feet; his wife loomed wool in the old looms house and he raised beef[^] sheep, and mules as well as the food for their tables.

It is with pride that Greenback Residents can now speak of the McCollum House!!!! Many of us remember how excited and proud Ms. Ruth McCollum was to have the property placed on the National Register and the farm named a Century Farm. Thank you, Tim. We are glad to have you here and we hope you will be with us a long time.

INMEMORIAM

Billie Jo Lynch Lewis, 77, November 26, 2010

OCTOBER MEETING

Charles T. Walker, Civil War Reenactor, spoke to the October 16 Quarterly Meeting of the Greenback Historical Society. Mr. Walker, who is with the Tennessee 63rd Volunteer Infantry Unit, gave much of the history and background of the music of the Civil War Era. This unit has appeared in the movies *Glory* and *Gettysburg*.

According to Mr. Walker, the Rebel Flag and the tune Dixie, were not official symbols of the Confederate forces. The actual Anthem "God Save the South" was the official Anthem of the Confederate States. The tune, "The Bonny Blue Flag" represented the official flag. He commented that he was glad to read in Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind* that Scarlet and Rhett named their daughter Bonny Blue. As with many other misrepresentations of the War Between the States, commonly known as the "Civil War", the Rebel Flag was a battle flag and the tune Dixie was written in the north. With a beautiful voice, Sgt. Walker sang the songs about which he told us, including a sad ballad of the time.

First Sergeant Walker presently teaches Journalism at Mississippi State and formerly taught in the UT Extension Service.

GROWING UP IN TRIGONIA

Tina Jo Pugh Sanders (with input from James R. Pugh, Jr.)

Trigonia, a name derived for the Latin -tri- meaning three and gonia meaning angle, is situated in the angled corners of Blount, Loudon, and Monroe Counties. Prior to having this name, Blockhouse and Fort Loudoun were villages in the same area. Around 1819, John McGhee began buying land from the Indians and the first white settlers began arriving.

I was born in Trigonia in my Dad's family home place on a farm which he had purchased from his siblings upon his father's death. I was delivered by a Dr. McCollum from Vonore who rode around in one of the few cars in the area ((Model A Ford with a rumble seat trunk). He had previously administered to the surrounding area on horseback, as did the area doctor before him, Dr. Foute.

I never met my paternal grandparents because they were both deceased before my dad married. However, my mom's dad (Roy Murr) along with his rather large family, was the sharecropper on our dairy farm. With them living very nearby, they became our extended family. I have a younger brother, J.R. Pugh, Jr. Most people called him "puney" or "junior". We were both amazed by the order in which the cows always went to the same stall for feeding or milking; and would beg our grandparents or our uncles and aunts to squirt the cow's milk directly into our open mouths. All the milking was done by hand which required a lot of people to accomplish this task.

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GROWING UP IN TRIGONIA

Continued from p. 4

The kids' toys were mostly homemade except for the "little red wagons and pedal cars" nothing electronic, not even most of our houses. In our house we had electricity because my dad had installed a battery/Delco generator (this was used in the afternoon and early evening hours) but in almost all the other houses in the community, light was furnished by Aladdin lamps or kerosene lanterns. I remember once I made my grannie cry because I tried to light an Aladdin lamp by sticking a match into the mantle which made the lamp promptly disintegrate... she cried because the mantle replacement would cost ten cents, and she knew my grandpa would be very upset.

One of the toys our dads made for us was a strong wire, crimped and bent, into a handle with a box "U" at the bottom. We would push around a flat-sided 8-10 inch diameter steel circle with this wire homemade toy and the feat was to see who could keep the hoop rolling for the longest distance. We would draw hopscotch squares in our yard, and we would play hopscotch for hours. The boys played a lot of marble games but most of the girls could not flip the marbles strongly enough to compete in this sport.

Our social life was built around the church, circuit riders or lay preachers were the speakers. Of the first two pastors that I remember, Daniel Jones and Marvin Gass, each rode a bicycle to the church to deliver the sermons, and for a while each lived in our upstairs bedrooms and mom provided his meals. I scarcely remembered these lanky young men, but I do remember their bicycles. Later, we had a minister assigned to our small parsonage, Reverend Bull, who served both Trigonía and Calderwood, so each Sunday at Oakland, we had Sunday School but only had church services every other Sunday because of the rotation.

Rev. Bull had a rather large family and sometimes he would take some of his children's friends, (me and others) with him when he spoke at Calderwood. On one of these occasions, I was exposed for the very first time to a telephone. ... I suppose it was in the ALCOA offices at the Calderwood Dam. With the preacher's daughter, I remember dialing random numbers and when someone answered, asking them if their street light was burning and when they checked and responded yes, we would ask them to put it out and then we'd hang up.. just the usual kid's pranks

At the church, there was a rather huge bell (it's still there). This bell would be rung to announce the start of services, but in addition, it would be rung for an extended periods of time to announce to the community that someone had died. The bell could be heard for long distances. The length of the bell tolling alerted the listeners to the age of the deceased.. long period denoting an older person and a shorter period for a younger person. All the men would then gather at the church to dig the grave for the deceased, with the person ringing the bell knowing all the details and the exact spot to begin digging. To be continued

UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 22,2011 Greenback Historical Society, Annual Meeting, 11:30 Pot-Luck
Greenback Community Center, Ethiel Garlington, ETPA**

February 24, 2011 Board Meeting 7:00 PM Museum

March, , 2011 Fund=Raiser; Bean or Chili Supper, Lower Level, Community Center
Exact date and time TEA

April 23, 2011 Happy Survivors, Noon, Community Center. Reservations Required
Greenback High Classes 1924-1957

**April 28,2011 Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting, 7:30 P M
Greenback Community Center**

Greenback Historical Society, Inc.
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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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