



CHRONICLER

PRESERVING OUR PAST



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Greenback Historical Society, Inc.
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WWW.GBHISTORICAL.WEBS.COM

THE OLD HARDWARE BUILDING..

With recollections from the past and a few facts thrown in

2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the prominent brick building in downtown Greenback, known to many locals as “The old hardware building”. What a fitting time for this property to be available for expansion of the Greenback Museum and to contribute to the preservation goals of the Greenback Historical Society.

The present museum building and the old hardware building share some construction similarities and the same brick from Rockmart, GA, so were probably built at near the same time.

Charles Oscar McCall, “CO”, was my granddad and ran the McCall Hardware from that building. My earliest memories, other than from home, were from the hardware business where my family spent considerable time. I also remember visits to the big white house on the hill overlooking Greenback. CO and family had moved there from the original family home on the corner of Chilhowee and Maple, where Rachel McCall (Ragain) my mom, was born.

This downtown Greenback commercial brick building was built shortly after the big Greenback Fire in 1917. The frame building that burned had been a general merchandise store but also the home of the local I.O.O.F. Lodge Hall, on the upper floor. The new building was built of brick from Rockmart, GA. (Greenback Brick Mill was apparently not yet operational.) The deed for the sale included provisions to house the I.O.O.F. Lodge.

The new 50 ft wide building was originally two stores, each 25 feet wide. One half sold to McCall-Kerr Hardware Company, (C. O. McCall, J. L. Kerr, J. F. Hammontree, and J. A. Walker) in 1920. The McCall Hardware business purchased the other half, removed an internal wall, and expanded at a later time.

When the two large wooden warehouses were built (where there is now a vacant lot across Alleghany/Hwy 95 from the RR depot) for the hardware business, the Lodge moved into the second floor of the “lower” warehouse, the one nearest the railroad. That space later became the Greenback Library, and possibly served other uses. The location of the “lower” warehouse placed it near the

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, Oct 21, 2:00PM at the Greenback Community Center.

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railroad to allow offloading of heavy products like fertilizer.

The “upper” warehouse was unique in that it had an elevator. This was a freight elevator, roughly 10 ft by 10 ft with an open sided platform. Operation was manual. The ‘operator’ pulled a continuous rope loop which turned a bull wheel, which in turn operated the rope winch which raised the elevator. As a young kid, I was intrigued with this elevator and was allowed to operate it, under supervision of course! Both of the warehouse buildings were fascinating places to a young kid. My brother Dale and I spent a lot of time at “the store”, often walking there from school. There were mysterious places in the warehouses, especially the second floor of the “upper” warehouse where the caskets were stored! Caskets to play in!

The main store had fascinating stuff too! The nail bins, the oil and kerosene tanks in the back (cranking the pump handle to give a continuous flow of oil from the tank, out the spigot, back to the tank) gave us much pleasure. There were the sewing thread racks, the GUNS in the cabinet on the wall, and then home appliances after the expansion of the store. We could care less about the stoves and other appliances but TV... now that was important! When the first television was bought by the store, chairs were set up and neighbors and customers were invited to come in and watch the limited programming. Programs would come on when someone switched on the station, and the station would shut down after the days programming. We ‘mature’ folks all remember the off-hour screens of a TV station in standby mode.

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PUBLICATIONS

Well, if it seems to you that there hasn't been much happening in PUBLICATIONS for a while, it's because there hasn't been much happening in PUBLICATIONS for a while. For a variety of reasons, things have been pretty slow this summer but hopefully activity will pick up during the winter.

Work on Volume IV of the scrapbook has been creeping along but I need to pick up the pace for safety reasons. The pile of things waiting to be scanned is getting so high it might fall on me. However, don't let my petty problems keep you from submitting any material you might have for this issue.

During the hectic period prior to the Quilt Show, the museum website saw the greatest amount of traffic ever. Thanks to several nice newspaper articles publicizing the event, people from all around Tennessee, Western North Carolina and even Georgia checked in to see what was going on. If you want your non-local acquaintances to know what a fine little museum we have, tell them to visit www.gbmuseum.webs.com and see what we have.

The Greenback Historical Society hosted a meeting of the Historical Society of Loudon County on August 20. Paul Bailey presented a slide show on the founding of Greenback and the ongoing work on the Greenback Heritage Scrapbook. Copies of the published volumes were available for attendees to examine. I would like to thank those GHS members who helped set up and who provided the refreshments for the meeting.

Oscar Lidstrom has informed me that he has learned that the replacements for the state historical markers designating the Norwood Inn and the Militia Springs sites along Highway 411 have been ordered by the State Historical Commission. No word yet on when they might actually be installed but progress is progress.

Paul Bailey

GREENBACK HERITAGE MUSEUM

7TH ANNUAL QUILT SHOW

From a coverlet woven on the McCollum farm in Greenback in 1850, to a patchwork quilt made in 1852, to Darth Vader...what a wide variety of colorful prized possessions were displayed this year. There were fun quilts like flip-flops or you found yourself turning your head side to side to pick out cubes in another and then all of a sudden there appeared a window with deer peeking inside.

So much talent...a Post Office lap quilt made for a special dad out of his uniforms... a farm quilt for a dad depicting memories from growing up on a farm in Iowa and Nana's traveling Christmas quilt showing her grandchildren's interests.

So many entries made by loved ones such as a cathedral window, doll quilt, Job's troubles, a King's garden, postage stamps, venetian blinds, a tree of life, "Overall Sam" and "Sunbonnet Sue", and lots that we were unsure of the pattern but still had such special memories.

Of course there were the many talented quilters of today, displaying all sizes including a queen-size multi-colored crazy quilt, Joseph's Coat, Kansas City troubles, Scandinavian Christmas, a quilt made from men's ties, a double diamond and many more. I could go on and on but now I need to let you know who won!!

This year's show took place September 7-9 at the Greenback Museum. There were 93 entries and around 300 visitors viewed the collection. Mary Dixon won the First Place Prize of \$100 with her beautiful pink dogwood quilt which she hand pieced and quilted. Second Place and \$50 went to Leonard Proffitt with a quilt called "Dolls of the World" which was embroidered and hand quilted by his wife Edith Proffitt. Ann Conway Burdick took Third Place and \$25 with a quilt which was made by women in Guatemala using hand woven textiles.

Congratulations to our winners and a special thank you to all who shared with us this year.

Sandra Kerr Tipton



Some of the quilts on display at the 7th Annual Quilt Show at the Greenback Heritage Museum. Shows are held each year in early September. A Craft Fair is usually held concurrently at the Greenback Depot across the street. For information on future shows, visit the museum web page.

HALLOWEEN IS COMING

The last Saturday of October is the traditional date of the Halloween *Trunk or Treat* event for kids in downtown Greenback. Setup begins at 4PM and the goblins roam from 5-8PM. Contact Colleen Ragain at 865 740 5429 or Laura at 865 384 0881 to find out how you can help.

Griffitts, Gene Douglas, 65, July 9, 2017.
Cunningham, Betty Henry, 81, July 12, 2017.
Marshall, Leah Beryl Jenkins, 97, July 18, 2017.
Bass, Larry, 65, July 26, 2017.
Cooper, Richard Henley, 74, Aug 4, 2017.
Harris, Doris Glenn Brooks, 83, Aug 6, 2017.
Potter, Homer Lee, 81, Aug 7, 2017.
Gibson, Rosa Lee Potter, 89, Aug 9, 2017.
Finger, William H. "Bill", 92, Aug 14, 2017.
Brewer, Darryl Kenneth "Kenny" "Rooster" Jr., 34, Aug 26, 2017.
Dotson, Harold B., 87, Aug 31, 2017.
Elrod, Deborah McCaffey, 58, Sept 2, 2017.
Steele, Houston Foute, Jr. 89, Sept 13, 2017.
Huskey, Virl, 91, Sept 21, 2017.
Davis, Rick Allen, 58, Sept 22, 2017.
Proffitt, Edith Annette Chumley, Sept 28, 2017.
Fuller, June R., 91, Sept 29, 2017.

HARDWARE BUILDING (Continued from Page 1)

There was a big potbellied stove near the rear of the store with chairs around it. The "whittlers" would create piles of shavings around that stove! I remember CO realizing what a bad idea that was and ran the whittlers out, to a bench out front.

The hardware was supplied from many places but House-Hasson Hardware and McClung Hardware, both in Knoxville, were major sources. The hardware had a stake-bed truck that made trips to Knoxville to pick up supplies. Dale and I were kids then, and safety was the responsibility of the parent, making possible some wonderful rides to Knoxville standing up in the bed of that old truck. The wind would toss our hair, sting our eyes (not to mention bug impacts) and put a smile on our faces. We somehow survived just fine without the laws in place today.

Charles Oscar McCall: Dec. 3, 1884 to May 25, 1955.

His first marriage was to Lora Naomi Huffstettler [McCall] (1892 - 1935). Their early home was at the corner of Chilhowee Ave and Maple Street (Hwy 95), the lot on which Peoples Bank presently resides. While at that location three daughters were born; Jean C, Mary Charles, and Rachel K. McCall. Daughter Rachel Kathleen married Robert Freeman Ragain.

CO and family later moved to a new home located on Pine Street, on the hill overlooking Greenback.

Charles Oscar later remarried to Edith Ilene Huffstettler [McCall] (1913 - 1998) and they had one daughter, Christine.

Jack Lett and Kyle McCall (CO's nephew) worked in the business for years, with Jack Lett eventually buying the business, then moving the business across the street as Greenback Hardware.

-Bob Ragain

APPALACHIAN ENGLISH

In Issue # 32, 2015, I listed much of the "Queen's English". I promised to follow-up with Appalachian English common in Tennessee and North Carolina. Much of this usage was from our Scotch-Irish and English heritage. Although held in contempt by many of the educated elite, these words were used by Shakespeare, Chaucer, or other classical writers.

Aigs: Eggs.

Biggity: Snobbish.

Briarpatch child: A child born out of wedlock.

Bunk: An untrue statement.

Chitlins: Small pork intestines, boiled or fried.

Chunk: To throw.

Crow: To brag or boast.

Deah: (Pronounced De-ah) Dear.

Dinky: Small, petite.

Dinner: The midday meal.

Fault: Blame.

Fir piece: A long way.

Fit; Fought.

Fiought(fi-ought): Another word for fought. A contest or struggle.

Far-Tar: Fire Tower.

Furriner: A foreigner or stranger (someone not from these parts).

Gaysome: Happy, frolicsome.

Giggle-soup: Alcoholic drink, usually home-made.

Go-down: Sickly, not-well.

Got me to thinking: Made me remember.

Heah: Here.

Hern: Hers.

Hisn: His.

Hist (highst): Raise.

Hoe Cake: Corn bread, made of meal and water, usually fried on a griddle.

Holler: Yell, scream, shout.

Hope: Past tense of help.

Ize: I was, or I'm going to.

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NATIONAL CAMPGROUND MEETING

For 144 years the National Campground Meeting has been held on grounds established by representatives of the Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist and Quaker faiths. Open to all who wish to participate whether they are of the above faiths, any other faiths, and no faith at all, the purpose of the gathering is to promote healing and unity of all. The area surrounding what is now Greenback had representatives of the Confederacy and the Union. Families were often split, and all suffered the consequences of a war, whether it be called “A War Between the States”, a “Civil War” or the “War of Northern Aggression”. Some fought for the preservation of their homeland, some for the abolition of slavery, and some simply for what they believed to be their independence from economists or the wealthy of either area.

September 10th the campground opened once again and once again strove to show and pray for the same healing spirit as leaders wished in 1873. For five evenings the faithful gathered to sing, pray, and hear the gospel as neighbors of differing denominations heard pastors from each, heard choirs from the different churches and asked for the healing power of God. They met in the tabernacle that was listed on the National Register of Historical Places in 1972. In 2007, the Greenback Historical Society placed the campground and tabernacle on the Civil War Trails. It is the only campground in the United States that has operated continuously since it was founded. The same bell still rings in the service as it did for 144 years.

Bobby Anderson, a descendant of W.H. Anderson, one of the original founders, has been Chairman of the Committee responsible for the Campground for many years. He also served as a Director of the Greenback Historical Society from its inception until his term expired in 2015. This year, Bobby resigned as Chairman of the National Campground Committee to be replaced by the Rev. Jimmy Guider. A Committee from the local churches is responsible for operating the grounds, arranging the services, and carrying on the purpose. Even though many of the original buildings are gone, the shelter and some of the pews remain.

Carolyn Melton Peck

JAMES MADISON AWARD

Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee was awarded the first-ever Annual James Madison Award at the Governor’s Winter Conference. The award, which signifies the advancement of the spirit of Federalism, will be given annually by the Chair of the Governor’s Conference. Alexander, who grew up in Maryville, is the son of Andrew Alexander of Friendsville, and Floreine

Rankin Alexander of Maryville. He is related to several Greenback natives, including his Aunt Lydia Alexander Lane. His parents, both teachers, instilled a love of the history of the country, an appreciation of the Constitution, of education, of music, and of the Smoky Mountains. In 2005 he introduced a law establishing Constitution Day, September 17 as a National Day. Though not a legal holiday, the law replaced the former Citizenship Day. This required that every school which received federal funds devote a day to the remembrance of the signing of the Constitution. Alexander led the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act which replaces No Child Left Behind, the Reauthorization of the Workforce and Investment Act and pushes for legislation which empowers states to solve pressing national issues, inspiring state and federal officials to work in the same cooperative spirit as designed by our founding fathers. As Governor of Tennessee. Secretary of Education in the Bush Administration, President of the University of Tennessee, and now Senator, “Alexander has the experience that exemplifies the true spirit of Federalism”, said Chairman, Governor Gary Herbert of Utah.

Carolyn Melton Peck

OCTOBER QUARTERLY MEETING

The Greenback Historical Society October Quarterly Meeting will take place October 21st at 2:00PM in the Greenback Community Center. The program will feature Mr. Jarrod Brackett, the CEO and General Manager of the Fort Loudoun Electric Cooperative, speaking on the “Rural Broadband Expansion Bill” recently signed into law by Governor Bill Haslam. FLEC is currently evaluating the option provided by the law, of allowing rural electric cooperatives to deliver broadband internet and other services to unserved or underserved communities. Mr. Brackett can answer questions about how this activity may affect the Greenback area.

Paul Bailey

A REMINDER

If you haven’t already done so, now would be a good time to pay your dues for the present year. Individual dues are \$10 per year and families are \$15. They may be paid to Treasurer Brenda Blair by mail or at the next meeting on October 21. If you would like to join our esteemed organization, a membership application can be downloaded from our web site www.gbhistorical.com on the *Membership* page.

-Thank you. The Management

Journey-proud: Enthusiasm, usually after a trip.

Jularker: Beau, boy-friend.

Kiver: Covering for a bed, cover.

Low-ground: Low-lying land, often near a river.

Melk: Milk.

Mess: Enough for a meal.

Middlin': So-so.

Morn-gloam: First light of day.

Piddle-diddle: Procrastinate.

Plumb: Indicates degree, she was plumb wore-out.

Poke-bonnet: The headpiece worn by ladies when they went to pick poke.

Poleece: Police.

Poor: Skinny.

Poorly: Not feeling well.

Quare: Queer, odd, strange.

Quietus: Calm period, usually in early morning or late evening.

Rainseed: Brownish, mottled clouds.

Red-Up: Clean-up often before company comes.

Scuppernong: Grape, of the muscadine variety, usually white.

Skeer: Scare, frighten.

Tell (Til'): Until.

Tolerable: Fairly well.

To-reckly: Immediately.

Tuck: Took.

Tuckered-out: Worn-out.

Winder: Window.

Worried: Tired.

Yander: Yonder; Direction, down yander.

Ye: You, thank ye!

Carolyn Melton Peck



Ice Cream Winners: *Left to right*, Carrie McKelvey, Tracie Littleton and Brenda Tarwater Blair.

CAROLYN'S CORNER

Even though Bob downplayed the gift of the “Old Hardware” to the Museum, this was the great news I asked you to look for in the October issue. The Museum has been bursting at the seams for a long time and the extra space will be a wonderful addition! Obviously, it will need some volunteer work so I hope that you or someone in your family or acquaintance will be willing to help. We have a museum of which to be proud and committee members and volunteers have given many hours of labor. Many donors over the more than twelve years that it has been open have given or loaned items to fill our history. We need to let Bob and his family know how much the space is appreciated. While we’re doing that, we might want to give special appreciation to Betty Carroll and to Tom and Norma Peeler for the initiative and support for the beginning of this Greenback treasure.

Although Dean Stone was not a native of Greenback, he worked diligently to preserve the history of Blount County, the Smoky Mountains, and surrounding areas. It is fitting that the Foothills Parkway Bridge be named for Dean. He is no longer with us, but his legacy will be honored forever. He has been a member of the Tennessee Historical Commission, Chairman of the Great Smoky Mountain Park Commission, and Past President of the Foothills Parkway Association. His many books about the area on the Tennessee Valley and Blount County will preserve photographs and articles for our enjoyment and that of our descendants for years. He was a treasure that will be sorely missed. I had known Dean for many years beginning in the early 1950’s and when he died in October of 2016, felt as though I had lost a dear friend and mentor.

On perhaps the hottest day of the year, we again had the Annual Ice Cream Contest. As usual, if one tasted each entry, one needed little more food for the rest of the day. Congratulations to Tracie Littleton on the first place entry of her Chocolate Cookies and Cream ice cream. She has faithfully entered each year striving for first place and gradually progressing from third to second and finally to first. Thank you Tracie for your support each year. Second place went to Brenda Tarwater Blair, for Hawaiian Delight and third to Carrie McKelvey, for Apple Pie, an original. We have never charged admission to the event, first organized by the Greenback Historical Society as an educational and outreach

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CAROLYN'S CORNER (*Continued from Page 5*)

program for the Historical Society. We do accept donations and the first year used these to open the Preservation Account. As a non-profit organization, donations are tax-deductible, should anyone like to participate.

It sounds as though the Museum had a bigger and better Quilt Show than ever. Thanks to the Museum Committee and especially to Barbara Davis, who had the idea and the initiative to start this, and to all the Museum Committee Members, who worked diligently to bring it about. Sandra's article was delightful!!!.

As I was writing this, I had just finished watching The Vietnam War on PBS. I realized that I remembered little about it, or rather the history of that War. At the time, I was busy establishing a family of four children and then entering the world of work again. I would like to have information on the history, the reasons for the war, and possibly an interview of someone who served. If anyone is interested, please contact me at 865 816 0947 or 865 635 6464.

Carolyn Melton Peck

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 15, *Historical Society of Loudon County Meeting.*
3:00PM, Trinity Methodist Church, Lenoir City.
Steve Robinson, Speaker.

Oct 21, Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting.
2:00PM, Greenback Community Center. Speaker
will be Jarrod Brackett, FLEC.

Oct 28, *Halloween Trunk or Treat, Downtown Greenback.*
5-8PM. Setup begins at 4PM.

Nov 23, *Thanksgiving Day.*

Jan 20, 2018, Annual Members Meeting. Greenback
Community Center. Potluck.