



CHRONICLER

PRESERVING OUR PAST



ISSUE 49, OCTOBER 1, 2019

Greenback Historical Society, Inc.
6725 Morganton Road
P.O. Box 165
Greenback, Tennessee 37742

WWW.GBHISTORICAL.WEBS.COM

MUSEUM MUSINGS

The Greenback Heritage Museum held its 9th annual quilt show on Sept. 5th, 6th, and 7th. There were 67 quilts entered. This year we used three categories. They were old, new and miscellaneous.

The winners were determined by votes from monies placed in piggy banks by the visitors. We are happy to announce there were 206 visitors to the museum during the 3-day event. The visitors were from Loudon County, nearby counties and even a couple passing through from Florida who saw our sign on highway 411. We heard many good responses about the quilts such as one lady said even though we are a small town with a small show, the quality of the work and craftsmanship was better than some of the larger shows.

The winners were:

Old Quilts:

First Place, William Oren - *Crazy Quilt*

Second Place, Tonya McGrimsey - *Star in a Circle*

Third Place, Mary Dixon - *Grandmother's Flower Garden*

New Quilts:

First Place, Judy Hudson - *Sunbonnet Sue*

Second Place, Ira Massie - *Tee Shirt*

Third Place, Marilyn Hoenie - *Peace Cottage*

Miscellaneous:

First Place, Joan McIntee - *Crocheted Miniature
Bedsread*

Second Place, Amy Chaney - Wall Hanging - *I Like Mine
Spiked*

Third Place, Eileen Sebastian - Wall Hanging - *Miniature
Violets*

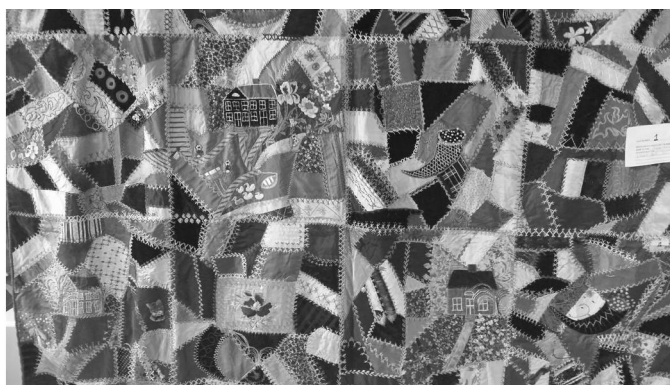
The Quilt Show Committee wants to thank everyone that participated in the show and for visiting the town of Greenback. We look forward to next year.

-Linda Berry

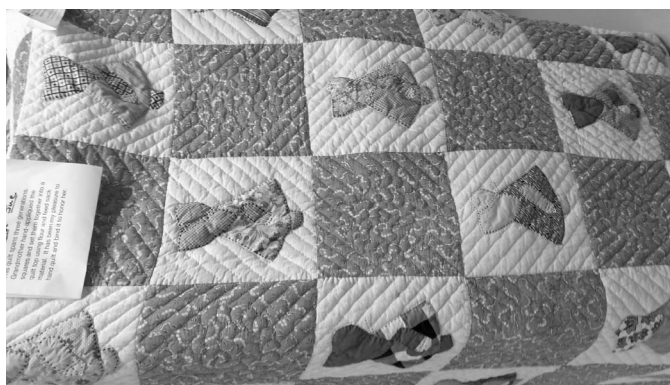
**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, 2 PM, October 12,
Downtown Greenback**

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Crazy Quilt by William Oren. First Place in the Old Quilt category.



Sun Bonnet Sue by Judy Hudson. First Place in the New Quilt category.

QUARTERLY MEETING SUMMARY

The July 13th, 2019, quarterly meeting of the Greenback Historical Society was held at the Greenback Community Center with President Shirley Hall presiding. There were 11 members in attendance. We did not have a quorum, but there was no business to vote on. Colleen Ragain read the minutes of the previous Quarterly meeting, and they were accepted as read. Cindy Benefield read the Treasurer's notes. A copy will be filed. Cindy mentioned the following:

1. The prizes at the June Ice Cream Contest were donated back to the Historical Society, and \$138 was donated by attendees of the contest.
2. We wrote two checks, one for \$50 for the use of the Greenback Depot, a donation from us to them, and another check for \$1450 to pay for the Historical Marker, which was approved, and will be put up in front of the Depot. The sign should be here late Nov/early Dec. Oscar Lidstrom informed us that the facility that makes them produces them for the whole state. Oscar was responsible for the replacement of the Norwood Inn and the Militia Springs signs on Highway 411.

Cindy told us the latest news on the Museum renovation project. Joseph Construction, and Justin Hall measured, took pictures, and gave a quick estimate of \$175-\$200 per square foot to restore the building. That would be approximately one-half to three-quarters of a million dollars. She mentioned some of the alternatives to a restoration: Keep the storefront, inner supports, and pour a concrete slab to make a pavilion-like structure. In this case, there would be a limited number of artifacts that could be displayed there. Another option is to purchase the Regions Bank building which is for sale. Cindy spoke to one of the realtors that posted a for sale sign at the bank. The purchase would include the ATM area, which would pay a lease-back to the property owner(s). There are no Federal grants available, due to litigation going on in the City at this time. The Regions Bank property is selling for around \$250,000.

Cindy introduced Beverly Sweeney, one of the people involved in the 150th Anniversary of Loudon County, which will be going on in all of 2020. Ms. Sweeney (who also works at the Loudon County Museum) said they are interested in all of the events going on in Loudon County and trying to include them in the celebrations. There will be a social media effort to promote the year-long celebration. She mentioned a logo they are working on for the event. If people have suggestions for them, contact Cindy, who is also involved, and will pass the information or suggestions on to the appropriate people.

Cindy announced that the next Music Jam will likely happen in October, after the Quarterly Meeting.

The next meeting program might be based on the Greenback Walking Tour Brochure, if the weather permits. The supply of brochures has been dwindling, more need to be printed.

Shirley Hall introduced our program speaker, Violet Wolfe, who told us about the Vonore Heritage Museum, and their efforts to compile a Vonore history and how it led to the creation of their Museum. Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned.

Based on notes taken by C. Ragain, with input from Cindy Benefield and Paul Bailey.

GREENBACK GENEALOGY

The "Greenback Genealogy Tree" which is half of Anita and Judy's book needs your help! Please, give me a copy of your family's genealogy at the GHS October 12th meeting, or drop it off at the museum. We want to include as many historical Greenback families in the Greenback Tree as possible....we are all related to each other! Judy has made great progress with her stories from the past. A big thank you to Thelma Cooper for putting her editing skills to use! Now, let's get the leaves on the tree!!!!

--Anita McCollum

TRUNK OR TREAT TIME AGAIN!

This year's Greenback Halloween Trunk or Treat is Saturday, October 26th. Set up is at 4PM and Trick or Treat goes from 5PM to 8PM-ish, or when treats run out. This is great for folks who get no trick-or-treaters through no fault of their own! Any one is welcome to bring a car or table or booth, and hand out treats to the kids! For more information, contact Colleen Ragain.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GHS, Inc. has an opening and a need for a new treasurer. If you would be willing to serve in this capacity, please contact Shirley Hall, President or Cindy Benefield, Vice President. It would be helpful if you could do this prior to the October Meeting so that you could be nominated at that time.

Discussion leaders are wanted at each site on the Walking Tour. If you have knowledge about a historical location on the route and can answer questions or make presentations, please contact Cindy Benefield at 615-533-9587.

If you have a story for the quarterly Newsletter, an historical one, a Greenback Legend, one about Growing Up in Greenback, or any of the surrounding communities, such as Brick Mill, Morganton, Sinking Creek, etc. please contact Carolyn Peck 865-816-0947 or CarolynPeck83@outlook.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Hinton, Elizabeth "Betty" K., 88, June 30, 2019.

Roberts, Charlie F., 82, July 8, 2019.

Blankenship, William Virgil, 89, July 10, 2019.

Hammontree, George Ed., 83, July 10, 2019.

Hargis, Ray A., 90, July 13, 2019.

McGhee, Rev. Robert, 94, July 16, 2019.

Cross, Patsy Gwendolyn Worde, 79, July 23, 2019.

Middleton, Benny Jr. "Ben", 83, July 26, 2019.

Anderson, Helen "Aileen" Clemmer, 85, July 31, 2019.

Goddard, Roy Lawrence, 91, Aug. 20, 2019.

French, George Donald, 94, Aug. 27, 2019.

Tallent, Gertie, 92, Aug. 29, 2019.

Collins, Lynn, 77, Sep. 7, 2019.

Lea, Joseph Wayne, 80, Sep. 9, 2019.

Hester, Felix Andrew, 91, Sep. 11, 2019.

Lett, Nancy Eileen, 90, Sep. 12, 2019.

Short, A. Barbara, 77, Sep. 14, 2019.

Connatser, Paul A., 83, Sep. 18, 2019.

Helton, Charlie Hubert, 92, Sep. 21, 2019.

RUTH NAOMI HOWARD JOSEPH, 3/31/35-6/8/19, was one of the very first members of the Greenback Historical Society, Inc., and rarely missed a meeting. She often came with her friend Grace Henry, sometimes with her daughter Kimberly, she occasionally even drove or she later arrived by taxi. She was born in Greenback to Leo and Dana Howard and attended first Craig's Chapel School and Craig's Chapel Church. After her family moved to Alcoa she grew up there and attended and graduated from Charles M. Hall High School. She then attended Tuskegee University and later went to Penn State for her Master's Degree. While at Tuskegee, she met her husband, Peter Joseph and they were married March 26, 1960 until his death in 2007. They had four children and are survived by Kimberly, Kevin, and Bernard. Kenneth died in 2009. The family endowed an educational scholarship in Kenneth's honor at the University of Maryland, College Park, where Kenneth worked for many years.

After teaching in the D.C. Public School system and working as a tax preparer, Ms. Joseph became interested in genealogy. When she moved back to East Tennessee, she also became a member of the Loudon and Blount Historical Societies. Active in Our Lady of Fatima Church of Alcoa, she and Peter had joined in 1960. Ruth had many friends and former students. Her ready smile and warm hug will be missed by our members and her quick wit and intelligent comments can never be replaced. When Kimberly was asked if there was something she would like to add, she said, "My mother loved the south!"

--Carolyn Melton Peck

OCTOBER QUARTERLY MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Greenback Historical Society is Saturday, October 12th with a call of order at 2:00 P.M. We will meet at the museum since the program will consist of A Walking Tour of Historical Greenback. Extra parking is available at the bank just east of the museum. Please, be careful not to block the ATM.

We will have a short business meeting followed by a member participation program. The minutes of the July 13th meeting are included in this newsletter. After the minutes are corrected/approved, we will begin with the election of a treasurer and a board member. Your attendance is very important to ensure a quorum. If no other business, the walking tour brochures will be distributed and we will begin "A Walking Tour of Historical Greenback" at the museum which is stop #1 and end with stop #14, the drugstore.

The discussion leader will read the information given in the brochure and then ask for members to share their knowledge/memories at each site. Don't let the idea of "walking" keep you at home. If you need to sit outside the museum, you will be able to see most of the sites and share your stories. We'll have some bottled water, or bring your Yeti. All are invited to join us for a fun, learning and sharing experience on a warm, fall day. In case of inclement weather we will meet at the First Presbyterian Church pavilion and still share the information and stories since few of the buildings are still in existence.

--Anita King McCollum

CAROLYN'S CORNER

I was just checking my comments in January of this year and found that I did not make much progress on my New Year's resolution of cleaning out a lot of the paperwork accumulated over the years. Some of my research, lesson plans, and records are difficult for me to shred or burn. It may be a little vain to think that someone, someday, might have a use for them. I was looking at the Fort Loudon Magazine and saw how they were teaching management to their Board of Directors. It made me wonder if I might contact some organizations to offer manuals and/or training books for their management training programs. Greenback Library does not have room. Also, I saw that Alex Russel won a trip to D.C. for our electric company's annual trip. Thank you Fort Loudon for giving this opportunity to our students.

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By: Seth Eddins, Greenback High School**2019 Nola Melton Elam Essay Winner**

Howard Baker Jr. was a true statesman and someone to be admired. He devoted his life to this country, serving 18 years in the United States Senate, serving as the White House Chief of Staff under Reagan and as the Ambassador to Japan. He was a great leader admired by both parties. He was known for his ability to bring both parties together to tackle the important issues which earned him the nickname, "The Great Conciliator." ("Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr. | Howard Baker Center.") He was a moderate conservative respected by Republicans and Democrats alike. He was the first popularly elected Republican senator in Tennessee history with bipartisan support. His life of service was filled with many remarkable accomplishments.

Howard Baker Jr was born in Huntsville, Tennessee in Scott County in 1925 to Dora Ann Ladd and Howard Baker Sr. Public service was a family affair as both of his parents served in the House of Representatives. His father-in-law, Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois served as the Senate Republican leader from 1959-1969. Although public service seemed to be the family business, as a young man he did not aspire to be a politician, but rather an engineer or pilot. However, he demonstrated leadership skills serving as student body president while attending the University of Tennessee. ("*BAKER, Howard Henry, Jr.*") Unfortunately, his college education was put on hold as World War II interrupted his studies, and his leadership was needed elsewhere.

In 1943, World War II was being fought in the South Pacific. Howard Baker Jr. heard his calling and enlisted in the United States Navy, serving as a lieutenant and PT boat officer. PT boats, or Patrol Torpedo boats, were small, fast, and expendable vessels used to defend the homeland and to assault larger vessels. ("*BAKER, Howard Henry, Jr.*") He faithfully served his country for three full years and lived to see the end of World War II when the United States bombed the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. With the war ended, he returned home to finish his education.

Howard Baker Jr. earned his law degree from the University of Tennessee, College of Law in 1949. He was admitted to the Tennessee Bar and began practicing law in his hometown of Huntsville. His legal practice was very successful. In 1959, his firm, while representing the Steams Coal and Lumber Company, won a one million dollar judgment from the United Mine Workers. After the death of his father, Howard Baker Sr., in January of 1964, he left his law practice to pursue a career in politics. This would prove to be a wise decision that would benefit both Baker and the country. (*Rogers*)

In November of 1964, he ran for the Senate against Democrat Ross Bass and lost. Two years later, after

running a strong campaign, he defeated Frank Clement in his second run for the Senate. He was the first popularly elected Republican in Tennessee history taking all three of the grand divisions and garnering great support from the black community. He went on to successfully serve eighteen years in the Senate. He served two terms as Senate Minority Leader and two terms as Senate Majority Leader. ("*Howard Henry Baker Jr.: A Featured Biography.*") His leadership skills and ability to work across party lines were greatly admired in the Senate. He also served as vice-chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee asking his famous question, "What did the President know and when did he know it?" ("*The Curious History of What Did the President Know, and When Did He Know It?*") What most people do not know is that when asking that now famous question, Baker was actually asking to defend President Nixon. It wasn't until later in the investigation that he realized Nixon's guilt. ("*Watergate Leaks Lead to Open Hearings*")

The first Senate hearing on the Watergate break-in occurred on March 28, 1973. Nine months prior, five burglars and two accomplices had been arrested for breaking into the DNC's Watergate offices. At that time, Baker believed Nixon to be the victim of a smear campaign by the Democrats. He believed the President was uninvolved in the burglary and sought to defend President Nixon. However, once the Watergate committee learned of the President's secret tapes, Baker's thoughts on the matter began changing. Speaking to the Associated Press in 1992, he stated, "But a few weeks into that, it began to dawn on me that there was more to it than I thought, and more to it than I liked." ("*The Curious History of 'What Did the President Know, and When Did He Know It?'*") The discovery of these tapes marked the turning point in the investigation. Baker and the other Republicans on the committee voted to issue a subpoena for the tapes. This was the first time a congressional committee had ever issued a subpoena on a sitting President. Nixon did not comply with the subpoena. Baker then warned that our nation was "on the brink of a constitutional confrontation between the Congress and the White House." Ultimately, the Watergate investigation led to the resignation of Richard Nixon in 1974. Howard Baker Jr's work on the Watergate Committee earned him a reputation of being both intelligent and fair. This reputation followed him throughout the remainder of his political career. (*Cass*)

Not only did Howard Baker Jr. play an important role

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in the 'Watergate Scandal', but he also played an important role in one of the most famous foreign policy debates in U.S. history, the 'Panama Canal Treaties'. The Panama Canal is a man-made, 50-mile long canal that allows ships to bypass the long journey around South America. In 1903, the United States Senate approved the original treaty granting the U.S. rights to the canal with the provision that the U.S. provide economic support and protection for Panama. However, the people of Panama did not like the United States controlling the canal and protested it. Debates were held and new treaties were formed in 1936 and 1955, passing from presidency to presidency. Due to the work of Democratic Leader Robert Byrd and Republican Leader Howard Baker Junior, in 1977 a new Panama Canal deal was passed and signed by then-President Jimmy Carter that returned control of the canal back to Panama. Robert Byrd acknowledged that he could not have completed such a task without the assistance of Howard Baker Jr. ("*Senate Leaders and the Panama Canal Treaties.*")

Yes, Howard Baker truly had a remarkable career in politics. In 1980 he made a failed presidential bid and instead became the Senate majority leader, enjoying bipartisan popularity. Not only did he successfully serve in the Senate, but he also served as the White House Chief of Staff from 1987-1988 under President Ronald Reagan during the Iran-Contra controversy. His bipartisan popularity and reputation of being both intelligent and fair helped restore the reputation of the Reagan administration. He retired once more in 1988 and went back home to Tennessee to practice law. ("*Howard Baker, Jr.: Tennessee's Favorite Son and One of Our Country's Finest Leaders*")

On July 14th, 1998, he gave a speech in the United States Senate titled, "On Herding Cats." He truly had a way with words, and the speech highlights what a true leader and dedicated statesman he was. In this speech, he listed what he called "A Baker's Dozen" which were 13 rules for great leadership in the Senate. His second rule really stands out as it was something he was greatly admired for. Rule two stated, "Have genuine and decent respect for differing points of view." This was something he practiced with great skill and is what allowed him to work well across parties and gained him the respect and admiration of Republicans and Democrats alike. Another rule that highlighted his statesmanship was rule six, "Listen more than you speak." He shared that his father-in-law had told him in his first year in the Senate to "occasionally allow yourself the luxury of an unexpressed thought." Finally, rule eleven also demonstrates why he was such an admired leader. Rule number eleven states,

"Tell the truth, whether you have to or not. Remember that your word is your only currency, devalue it and your effectiveness as a Senate leader is over." What powerful words we should all live by. Howard Baker offered these and many other rules for Senate leadership as he himself followed these rules and they brought him great success. ("*Address by Howard H. Baker, Jr., July 14, 1998*")

After leaving public service in 2005, he once again returned home to Tennessee keeping a very active lifestyle. He practiced law and served on the boards of directors for several big corporations including Federal Express and Pennzoil. He also continued to pursue photography as a hobby and enjoyed outdoor recreational activities even penning an article for National Geographic about Big South Fork National Recreation Area. Howard Baker Jr. passed away on June 26, 2014, at the age of 88 after suffering a stroke. His funeral was attended by family, friends, and many Washington elites such as then Vice President Joe Biden, former Vice President Al Gore, Senator Fred Thompson, and Senator Harry Reid. His eulogy was given by his longtime friend, Senator Lamar Alexander. ("*Howard Baker, Jr.: Tennessee's Favorite Son and One of Our Country's Finest Leaders*") He was a man who lived a long and fulfilling life. We should all be so fortunate. His service to our nation is one that should be applauded. I am thankful that I have learned all of this about him He truly was a great statesman.

--Seth Eddins

In order to conserve space, the references for this article have not been printed here. They may be obtained from CHRONICLER editor Carolyn Peck.

CAROLYN'S CORNER, Continued From Page 3

PBS is running a series on the History of Country music. Although I have often written or talked about our Appalachian brogue being descended from the Queen's English or Shakespeare's language, I'm afraid that I have not been sufficiently aware of how much of our music was brought here from immigrants who came from all the other countries. Some of the tunes, some of the words with our own adaptations, came to us from centuries of music. One of my favorites as a child was "Barbry Allen." I first heard it by Grandpappy on the Mid Day Merry Go Round, WNOX, in Knoxville thinking it came from our own mountains but later learning that it was adapted from a centuries-old melody. In learning more about the

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

Stamp

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CAROLYN'S CORNER, *Continued From Page 5*

Carter Family, I gained a much greater appreciation for their talents and a greater appreciation of their skills as musicians.

On the Walking Tour at our next meeting, (according to the old statement "The Good Lord Willing and the Creek don't Rise) I will be scheduled to be at the old bank (Merchants and Farmers). The bank has changed owners many times until it became Regions, always being the same bank with the same employees at the time. If you or any of your relatives worked at the bank, I hope you will sign a register giving the name and dates worked. I would like to make a register, particularly of those working between 1933 through 1990. The bank, currently owned by Regions, closed on April 1 of this year. If possible, I could take the register until closure. My memory is still good, but not nearly that good!

The leaves are falling and it will soon be cooler. We can begin to complain about being cold (b'rrrrr) instead of being hot!

Carolyn

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sep. 24, *Rick Atkinson, The British Are Coming, The War For America, Vol. I of the Revolution Trilogy, 1775-1777. First Presbyterian Church, 620 State St., Knoxville 6:30PM.*
- Oct. 12, *Greenback Historical Society Quarterly Meeting, A Walking Tour of Old Greenback. Downtown Greenback. 2PM.***
- Oct. 17, *Senior Expo, 1:00-4:30 PM Clayton Center for the Arts, 502 E. Lamar Alexander Pky., Maryville, Free Admission Parking and Shuttle Available.*
- Oct. 18, *Octoberfest, Louisville, 10AM - 4:00PM.*
- Oct. 20, *Hist. Soc. Of Loudon Co., 3:00PM, Program by Ruth Henderson McQueen, Trinity Methodist Church, Lenoir City.*
- Oct. 25, *Trunk or Treat, Downtown Greenback.*
- Nov. 2, 7:00PM, and Nov. 3 3PM, *"To Know You" the Walker Story, Clayton Center for the Arts, Harold and Jean Lambert Recital Hall.*
- Dec. 14, *ET Historical Society Holiday Open House, 11AM - 3PM. 601 S. Gay St. Knoxville, TN. Free.*