



The Link



preserving our heritage and building a future together

Volume 14, Number 3

Summer 2015

Honoring Tennessee's Role in Passing the Nineteenth Amendment

Bob (Roberta) had come with her brother to the big city of Nashville that summer day in August, 1920 to sell produce from their garden. When she saw a demonstration on the courthouse steps, she had to see what was happening. The 19-year-old stood on her produce box and took a sign from another protester - and became a part of history. She was arrested, but was sent home to her family on the promise of not causing any more trouble.



Heritage Alliance Board Member Jules Corriere, Anne Mason, and DAR Member Carol Redmon on the Pickett Line. Photo courtesy of Bob Dunn.

In August 95 years ago, the State of Tennessee played a critical role as the final state needed to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

After that close "yes" vote by the Tennessee Legislature, women across the U.S. were granted the

universal right to vote. Prior to ratification, women's voting rights varied widely by state - in Tennessee women could vote only for the president and in some municipal elections. In Virginia, women had no voting rights.

On August 18, the State of Franklin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution organized a protest on

the anniversary of that significant day 95 years ago. Along with 1920s cars and honorary lawmen to do the arresting, they gave out yellow roses to remind onlookers of Tennessee's role in women's voting rights. This day has a very special meaning for organizer Carol Redmond, who's "Aunt Bob" was the farm girl arrested that day in Nashville. The Heritage Alliance was honored to be a part of this commemoration.



Shanks Tree Set to Join Select State List of Historic Trees

Not all significant historic artifacts have been manufactured - some are alive and still growing. The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC) maintains the Tennessee Landmark, Historic, and Heritage Tree Registry. These lists recognize noteworthy trees or groves for their significance to Tennessee communities, the state, and/or the nation. The website (tufc.com/registry.html) includes a brief description of significance for each listed tree or grove, and also includes nomination forms if you know of a tree you think should be nominated to one of these registries. There are three categories of trees identified:

A Landmark Tree must be commonly recognized as an established and familiar feature of the community, confirmed as a significant part of the community's heritage, or planted to commemorate special events or community leaders more than 50 years ago.

12 are identified statewide, these include the Tusculum Oak on the Tusculum College campus and the grove of Willow trees at Andrew Johnson's homesite in Greeneville.

An Historic Tree must have been a direct witness to a historic event or cultural movement that was significant nationally, regionally, or within the state and confirmed to date from that time.

12 are identified statewide, but currently none are located in Northeast Tennessee.

The Heritage Tree list recognizes trees that would qualify for the Landmark and Historic Tree Registry but died before it was created or were on the Registry but have since died; however, their contribution to the history and heritage of Tennessee deserves preserving.



The Shanks Oak in Jonesborough

13 trees are identified statewide – these include the King Oak and the Pemberton Oak in Bristol, the Rotherwood Elm in Kingsport, Suttles' Boundary Oak in Sevier County, the Trigon Elm in Blount County, and the Watauga Treaty Sycamore in Elizabethton.

Jonesborough's Shanks Oak, located on Main Street, has been nominated to the Landmark Tree registry. It is expected to be added to this impressive list of state trees at the Council's next meeting in October.



“A Spot on the Hill” Outdoor Drama Updated for 2015

The popular outdoor drama *A Spot on the Hill*, held in the Old Jonesborough Cemetery, has been updated and expanded for the fall of 2015. The show will include new characters and, for the first time, be accompanied by live music.

New characters include Dr. Panhorst, Caroline Dosser, and Georgia May Stuart, among others. You are invited to hear their tales of triumph and woe. Why did these people come to Jonesborough? What kept them here, and what ultimately happened to them? What do the spirits at the top of the hill have to say to us? Come and listen to real stories of real lives among the weathered tombstones.



Performances for *A Spot on the Hill* will take place at 6:30 p.m. on October 10 and 24. Tickets sell for \$8.00 per person and are on sale now. All proceeds from the shows go to benefit tombstone restoration and preservation in the Rocky Hill and College Hill cemeteries.

This year, the performances will be held at one spot, so attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to sit on. Audience members should arrive 15 minutes prior to show time. Parking is available in the First Baptist Church parking lot and downtown. Golf carts will be on hand to help people who need it get to the top of the hill. The program is not suggested for children under 10 years of age. In case of inclement weather, shows will be moved inside to the Jonesborough/Washington

County History Museum in the Visitor's Center.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Heritage Alliance at 423-753-9580, or at the Jonesborough Visitor's Center at 423-753-1010. They can also be purchased online at <http://boxoffice.printtixusa.com/jonesborough/eventcalendar>.

Photos courtesy of Mountain Photographics, Inc.



New Lodging Room Now Open at the Chester Inn

“A Place to Lay My Head,” is a new exhibit that lets you visit a lodging room from the late 1800s. Last year the Chester Inn State Historic Site and Museum received two donations of bedroom furniture. The Heritage Alliance used these pieces to interpret a room on the third floor of the historic Inn.

When Dr. Chester first opened the Inn in the late eighteenth century, there were five dormitory style rooms on the third floor. In these rooms, multiple guests, predominately men, were accommodated. Where you slept often depended on how much room there was, and how much you were willing to pay. You may have gotten your own bed, but more likely you were sharing it with others, and sometimes you would have to sleep on a makeshift bed on the floor. The rooms were really just a space to lay one's head.

The ways Americans traveled changed with time, and by the 1890s, the railroad provided comfortable travel for more families and women, and the concept of a “vacation”, or traveling solely for pleasure, was beginning to take hold.

Through interpretive displays, “A Place to Lay My Head” takes visitors through the various stages of travel in Jonesborough and of accommodations available at the Chester Inn.

The room itself is set up for a



family of three visiting town in the 1890s, a time when the Inn was known as the Planter's House. The room provides everything the family may need for an extended stay, and based on old register books, we know that some guests stayed for longer periods of time. Even though the rooms of the 1890s were starting to resemble the hotel spaces we know today, there are still many differences, like the wash basin and pitcher instead of a tub or shower.

The furniture in the room has its own stories to tell. The two beds and side table were made by James Phelps in 1893 as a wedding present for his daughter and her groom. He made them in Abingdon, Virginia, and they were shipped by rail to Jonesborough. The smaller bed is stamped with “Jonesboro” for the

railroad. The beds then traveled by wagon to their new home in Leesburg, Washington County, TN. We are honored to have the furniture back in Jonesborough, and thank Patricia Scott-MacLean who donated the set and shared some wonderful memories that have become a part of the exhibit's interpretation.

Come and visit the oldest commercial building in Tennessee's Oldest Town. If you've toured the Inn before, make sure you come back to see the lodging room and learn how much has changed when it comes to travel and accommodations. For more information on the Chester Inn State Historic Site and Museum, please contact the Heritage Alliance at 423-753-9580, or the Chester Inn Museum at 423-753-4580.



Volunteer Spotlight - Pat Stern and the Crew of the Heritage Alliance Salvage Warehouse (Join the Fun!)



Pat Stern with some of the Fabulous Doors Available for Sale at the Salvage Warehouse.



One of the Heritage Alliance's most valuable service to those restoring and maintaining historic properties is the Salvage Warehouse, located on Depot Street in Jonesborough. Pat Stern and her crew of hardworking volunteers keep the warehouse organized and accessible for those needing doors, windows and a wide variety of smaller historical items.

Pat and husband Patrick have been married 46 years, with five children and 17 grandchildren. Pat runs a small business with her daughter Ginine baking and designing wedding cakes. She operates the Embree House Wedding Cakes out of her home, the historic 1791 Embree House, located in Telford.

Pat says, "I volunteer at the warehouse because I love old houses and buildings, I love the history and the importance of sharing that history with our younger generations and I love being able to be a resource to people who share that love through restoration."

The warehouse is open to the public 8:00 am – 11:00 am on the first and third Saturday of every month, from Spring through Fall. In addition to Pat, volunteers Jim Rosenmeier, and Brad and Linda Talcott also assist at the Warehouse.

The Heritage Alliance could use more warehouse helpers. If you are available to help on the Saturdays when the warehouse is open, or other times to assist in organizing and accepting inventory, please call the Heritage Alliance at 423-753-9580. It's your opportunity to be "hands on" with our local history.

Please Frequent Our Business Members as They Help Support Our Region's History:

Historic Embree House
Bed & Breakfast
142 Matthew Mills Road
Telford, TN
423.913.3812
www.embreefarm.com

Herald & Tribune
702 West Jackson Blvd
Jonesborough, TN
423-753-3136
www.heraldandtribune.com

The Law Offices of
Mark D. Edmonds
125 E Main St
Jonesborough, TN
423.753.8696



Calendar of Events ***September - October, 2015***

- **Chester Inn Museum:** 11:00-6:00 Mon and Wed-Sat and 1:00-5:00 Sun
- **Downtown Walking Tours:** 1:00 Mon, Wed, Fri, and Sat
- **Cemetery Tours:** Saturdays at 2:00 through 10/31
- **Architectural Salvage Warehouse:** Open Sept 5, Sept 19, Oct 3, Oct 17 from 8:00-11:00
- **Yarn Exchange:**
Sept 28 - 7:00
Oct 26 - 7:00

Sept 19: Volunteer appreciation Open House at Oak Hill School from 3:00-5:00.

Sept 20: Book launch party for *The Creative Kids Complete Photo Guide to Crochet* at Oak Hill School from 2:00-3:30. Meet the author Deb Burger and the kids involved!

Oct 1-4: International Storytelling Festival. The Chester Inn Museum will be open extended hours and we'll have additional Town Tours & Cemetery Tours, check back for more info soon.

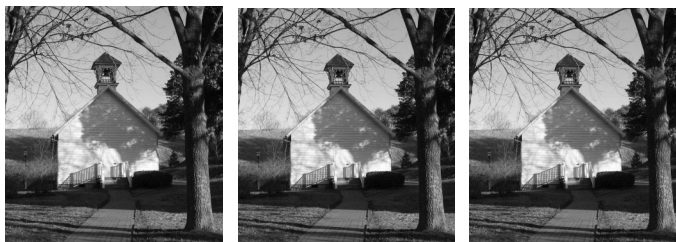
Oct 10: *A Spot on the Hill* in the Old Jonesborough Cemetery at 6:30.

Oct 24: *A Spot on the Hill* in the Old Jonesborough Cemetery at 6:30.

Oct 30: Haunts and Happenings, the Chester Inn Museum will be open late, stop by for candy and a special, Victorian death customs exhibit.

Calendar events are subject to change, and new events may be added. Like us on Facebook and visit us at www.hertiageall.org to view the up-to-date online calendar.

Volunteer Appreciation Open House **September 19, 2015 from 3:00-5:00**



Hey, Volunteers! You've helped us out during the past year, and we'd like to thank you. Come by Oak Hill School (214 E Sabin Drive), and enjoy some snacks and fellowship. Separate invites will be mailed. Please RSVP no later than 9/14 by calling 423.753.9580.

Please Frequent Our Business Members as They Help Support Our Region's History:

Franklin House Bed & Breakfast

116 Franklin Avenue
Jonesborough, TN 37659

423-753-3819

www.franklinhousebb.com

Team Bridal Wedding & Event Loft

119 East Main Street

Jonesborough, TN

423-753-2903

www.theweddingloft.com

Main Street Café and Catering

117 West Main Street

Jonesborough, TN

423-753-2460

www.mainstreetcatering.net

SonGear: A Christian Lifestyle Company Jack Van Zandt, Customer Servant

423.948.0237

www.songear.com

Jonesborough Genealogical Society c/o Washington County Library 200 Sabin Drive Jonesborough, TN 37659 <http://jgstn.wordpress.com/>





From the Director's Desk

An Invitation...

Mark your calendars – on the morning of Friday, October 16th, the Tennessee Historical Commission is meeting in Jonesborough! This is the state agency primarily tasked with the documentation, preservation and perpetuation of Tennessee's history and historical assets. It consists of 29 members - 24 are appointed by the Governor, along with the State Historian, State Archeologist, State Librarian and Archivist, with the Commissioner of Environment and Conservation serving as an ex-officio member. Commissioners come from all across the state, with Jonesborough home to member Tobie Bledsoe, who has served on the commission since 2011 (2015 will be her final year). Together with a small staff, the Tennessee

Historical Commission oversees both federal and state programs designed to protect our state's diverse history.

They are the agency who (among other things) oversees the wonderfully diverse State Historic Sites... from the Alex Haley House to the Burra Burra Mine Site. Our region holds four of the state's Historic Sites: Rocky Mount, Tipton Haynes, Jonesborough's own Chester Inn, and the newest site, (still undergoing restoration) Sabine Hill in Elizabethton. To find out more about their activities, visit their website at <http://www.tn.gov/environment/article/board-tennessee-historical-commission>.

The commission meets quarterly and rotates meeting locations across the state. This fall's meeting marks the first time they have met in Jonesborough since 2005. Not only is it an honor to have them here, it is an opportunity to let the

commissioners know how important these state sites are, to thank them for their stewardship, and to advocate for the resources necessary to continue and expand interpretation and preservation efforts at the state sites. The meeting is open to the public and we hope to see a great turnout!

And on a final note.....many of you enjoyed Anne G'Fellers Mason's original play "A Spot on the Hill" when it debuted last fall. It is back with changes this fall in a new and expanded form, and we hope you will come out to see it. In the mean time, below are photographs of the work your financial support of "A Spot on the Hill" has made possible. Monies raised through ticket sales go directly into the preservation of Jonesborough's Historic Cemeteries...work we could not possibly do without your help!



Restoration work under way on the Birdwell family marker in College Hill Cemetery (Jonesborough's African American burial ground), funded by proceeds from cemetery tours and "A Spot on the Hill." Photos by Gordon Edwards.





212 East Sabin Dr.
Jonesborough, TN 37659

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Bill Stover, Johnson City
Vice-President: Terry Countermine, Jonesborough
Secretary: Suzanne Kuehn, Jonesborough
Treasurer: Pat Wolfe, Telford
Bill Alton, Johnson City
Jules Corriere, Jonesborough
Joe Grandy, Jonesborough
Jimmy Rhein, Jonesborough
Patricia Stern, Telford
Nansee Williams, Jonesborough
Advisory Position: John Kiener, Jonesborough

HA Office Phone: 423-753-9580
Chester Inn Museum: 423-753-4580
www.heritageall.org
info@heritageall.org



Newsletter printed courtesy
of the Historic Jonesborough
Visitor's Center and the
Town of Jonesborough.

Executive Director: Deborah Montanti
dmontanti@heritageall.org
Special Projects Coordinator: Anne
G'Fellers-Mason
amason@heritageall.org
Chester Inn Museum: Skye McFarland
chesterinn@heritageall.org
Oak Hill School: Marjorie Shaefer and
Deanna Carey
Graduate Assistant: Chad Bailey



*Preserving the architectural, historical, and cultural
resources of our region and providing heritage
educational experiences for a wide range of audiences.*

Giving Opportunities: THANK YOU
for your commitment to preserving our
heritage and building a future together!

Name: _____	Membership Level	Join a Circle!
Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> General \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer \$100
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Business \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin \$250
Email: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Heritage \$500
		<input type="checkbox"/> Founders \$1000

Memberships and donations to the Heritage Alliance are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. If you have questions concerning your contribution to the Alliance, please consult your tax advisor. No goods and/or services have been provided to the donor by the Heritage Alliance in consideration of this donation and membership.

Go online to www.heritageall.org and join via PayPal
or mail checks to Heritage Alliance 212 E. Sabin Dr.
Jonesborough, TN 37659