

Oct-Dec 2011
Volume 7, Issue 1

MATT GARDNER
HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

Newsletter

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Celebrating the Civil War 150 Sesquicentennial

In September 2011 the MGHM had our 3rd Annual Folklife Festival on the grounds of the farmstead. In addition to the usual demonstrations, vendor sales, live auction, bingo, door prizes, food, fun and games we were excited to celebrate the history of the Civil War and the 150 year Sesquicentennial. We celebrated the 150 year sesquicentennial by inviting members of the 13th United States Colored Troops of Murfreesboro Tennessee, and Tennessee member of Freeman's Battery Forrest's Artillery which displayed and performed some living history. Visitors to the festival were very interested and inquisitive about the Civil War as a whole, the role and involvement that African Americans and the color troops had in the war and the differences between the north and the south. It was a very enjoyable and enlightening presentation and display of artifacts by both represented civil war groups. Visitors to the festival also enjoyed another treat, food such as hotdogs, pinto beans, cornbread, and peach cobbler all cooked on the camp fire at the farmstead site thanks to board member Diana Steelman and volunteer Nikki Mayhew. The MGHM would like to thank both civil war groups for coming and hope they will come back again. We would also like to thank all our board members and volunteers for their time and service as well as all the businesses that donated to the festival.



(Folklife Civil War pictures courtesy Dr. George Smith - More Pictures on page 4)

Upcoming Events:

Saturday June 2, 2012

First Annual Back to the Roots Music Concert, with Jazz, Gospel and Bluegrass

Our guest Jazz artist will be Nashville's Cissy Crutcher and her jazz band performing Soul/Jazz/R&B/Blues

**Friday/Saturday,
July 20-21, 2012**

2nd Annual Big Tent Revival

Check future newsletters and our website for Gospel and Bluegrass artist and guest ministers for upcoming events.

www.mattgardnerhomestead.org

Welcome New Members

Harold Gardner – High Point, North Carolina
Leroy Ellis – Decatur, Alabama

Welcome New Board Members

Margaret Campbell (Pulaski) and James Sanders (Elkton).

The Matt Gardner Homestead Museum

is a good place to visit for heritage education.

To schedule a visit contact

Carla Jones at

carlajones@sbcglobal.net

We Shall Not Be Moved

In November the museum had the privilege and the honor of bringing and hosting the traveling exhibit "We Shall Not Be Moved." The "We Shall Not Be Moved" exhibit is sponsored by the Tennessee State Museum and commemorates the 50th Anniversary of Tennessee's Civil Rights Sit-Ins. The exhibit was organized and is overseen by Tennessee State Museum curator Graham Perry. The MGHM in partnership with Martin Methodist College hosted the civil rights exhibit. The exhibit was on display from October 27, through December 5 at Martin Methodist College's Barton Art Galley. The opening reception was given by Martin College and held in their Gault Fine Arts Center on December 7 where our guest speaker was exhibit organizer Graham Perry. We enjoyed memorable songs from the civil right era such as "We Shall Over Come" performed by Indian Creek Missionary Baptist Church of the Bryson community. We would like to thank Martin College, our speakers, Graham Perry and Ted Brown, event coordinators Bernice Davidson and Diana Steelman and the Indian Creek Baptist Church choir, Thank you to the Giles County community, our volunteer and Tennessee tourism representative Derrick Smith for the their presence, continued support and encouragement.



A special thank you to our Sponsors and Donors for the "We Shall Not Be Moved"

Martin Methodist College, First National Bank, First Farmers & Merchants Bank, People's Choice Realty LLC, Brindley Construction, Richland Inn, Reeves Drug Store, Sunshine Cleaners, McKay Service Center, Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. James Sanders, Louise Kitchen

Photos courtesy Tammy Piechoski

We Shall Not Be Moved, cont



. Photos courtesy Tammy Piechoski

**3rd Annual Folklife Festival
Celebrating the Civil War 150
Sesquicentennial**

Photos curiously Dr. George Smith



Driving Ms. Carol to the Folklife Festival



North meets South



Have You Seen It”

Humanities Tennessee’s Community History Development Fund’s video entitled: Volunteer History: Two Stories Sustaining a Place. A community is born..... Elkton! Humanities Tennessee CHDF is designed to assist emerging history and cultural institutions develop long-term growth and sustainability, the Fund provides partner organizations financial support in the various phases of its work bringing the humanities to the public. The purpose of the video is to illustrate for potential CHDF funders and partners, the value of partner organizations to their communities and the impact the CHDF has on their growth and sustainability. Check it out at: <http://vimeo.com/27787293> or visit Humanities website: www.humanitiestennessee.org



Still Moving Forward:

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee awards grants for a broad array of charitable purposes. The foundation awarded more than \$1.2 million to 242 middle Tennessee nonprofits through its annual grant process in 2011. The Matt Gardner Homestead Museum is pleased to be one of the many discretionary grant recipients. The grant was awarded to complete the last phase of preservation and restoration of the main house foundation. We say thank to the CFMT in helping us to continue to move forward in our efforts to preserve history, heritage and culture.



PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE TO RESTORE THE MATT GARDNER HOUSE

We value your donations. All money raised will go to projects to better the Matt Gardner Homestead Museum. Below is a link to make a secure credit card donation online through Paypal.

<http://www.mattgardnerhomestead.org/donate.html>