FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From the Cherokee to the Present -- Celebrating Our Region’s History

Annual East Tennessee History Fair
presented by the East Tennessee Historical Society

10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, August 16, 2014
Downtown Knoxville – Market Square & Krutch Park, Clinch & Gay Streets

Historic Crafts ~ Historical Characters ~ Children’s Activities ~ Historic Home Tours ~
Music ~ Graveyard & Museum Tours ~ Vintage Films~
Vintage Baseball ~ Authors ~ Living History ~ Davy Crockett’s Birthday

The 2014 East Tennessee History Fair will celebrate the region’s history with reenactments, activities, and tours. Presented by the East Tennessee Historical Society, along with dozens of businesses, historical organizations, museums, musicians, and individuals from across the region, the East Tennessee History Fair features fun and educational activities highlighting the people, places, stories, and events that comprise the shared history of our 35-county region. The event is free and open to the public. Special highlights include:

• Free admission to the Museum of East Tennessee History, including Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee and Reading Appalachia: Voices from Children’s Literature exhibitions, plus the Streetscape with Streetcar 409 and Corner Drug Store, c. 1920-1930.
• WDVX and Clayton Country Music Stage featuring Russ and Becky Jeffers, Good Time Ceilidh Band, David West and the Cider Mountain Boys, Grassroots Gringos, Nostalgia, Naughty Knots, and the Appalachian Hippy Poet
• Living History Timeline—Cherokee to Vietnam War
• Abraham Lincoln and wife Mary Todd, along with other historic characters will roam the crowd
• Dozens of historical and genealogical societies representing county, regional, and state organizations
• Tours of the Tennessee Theatre led by Bill Snyder
• Tour Underground Knoxville, sponsored by the Arts and Cultural Alliance
• Book sales by Friends of the Knox County Library featuring Civil War, WWII, and other local and American history-themed books for children and adults
• “History Hound” Dog costume contest—guests are invited to bring their pets to Krutch Park dressed as their favorite historical character. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the
contest begins at 10:15. Celebrity judges will award prizes for “Best Costume” and “Most East Tennessee Spirit.”

- Civil War-themed bus tours
- Bus tours featuring free admission to open house at Blount Mansion, James White Fort, Mabry Hazen House, and Bethel Cemetery Museum.
- Blacksmith, spinning, cornhusk dolls, raku pottery, woodworking, chair caning, basket making, natural fibers, clay work, lye soap making, and other craft demonstrations
- Graveyard and stained glass tours at First Presbyterian Church from 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Children’s activities include storytelling by the “King of The Wild Frontier,” Davy Crockett, along with a birthday party with cake for Davy’s 228th birthday, plus a musical show by Sean McCullough from WDVX’s Kidstuff
- Walking tours of “Knoxville in Story, Song, and Art”
- Market Square Farmers Market
- Food by Dale’s Fried Pies—featured recently in Garden & Gun and the Huffington Post
- New!! – Vintage baseball game by the Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball at the World’s Fair Park Performance Lawn. Doubleheader begins at 12:00 and 2:30 p.m.
- “East Tennesseans on Film” Film Festival by the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound at the Bijou Theatre. 11:30 a.m.—Sergeant Alvin York: The Showman and the Hero; 1:00 p.m.—Bill Landry: An Actors Showcase - Screening and book signing; 2:30 p.m.—Louie Bluie: Sweet Old Song with live music by Nancy Brennan Strange & Don Cassell
- Handmade miniatures soldiers and weapons display to demonstrate Civil War battles
- Authors tent featuring Gordon T. Belt, Martha Wiley, and Natalie Sweet
- Attorney Wanda Sobieski’s collection of Women’s Suffrage memorabilia
- Display from the Tennessee Newspaper Digitization Project

The 2014 East Tennessee History Fair is sponsored by Knoxville CBID, Tennessee Arts Commission, Arts & Heritage Fund, Clayton Bank & Trust, City of Knoxville, WDVX, PetSafe, Boyd’s Jig & Reel, Comcast, Food City, and WBIR Channel 10. For more information on the History Fair, please visit www.eastTNhistory.org or call 865-215-8824.

About ETHS

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society is one of the most active history organizations in the state and enjoys a national reputation for excellence in programming, teacher and student education, and exhibitions. For 180 years the East Tennessee Historical Society has been helping East Tennesseans hold on to our unique heritage -- recording the events, collecting the artifacts, and saving the stories that comprise the history we all share.

The historical society pursues its educational mission through publications, lectures, conferences, school programs, museum exhibits, and heritage programs such as the popular “First Families of Tennessee” and “Civil War Families of Tennessee.” The East Tennessee Historical Society and Museum are housed in the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, across from the Tennessee Theatre. Also located in the center are the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection and the Knox County Archives.

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