



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Hawkins Countians With History Awards of Excellence

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 18, 2016 – The East Tennessee Historical Society's (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization's Annual Meeting on May 3, 2016 at the Foundry on the World's Fair Park in Knoxville. Since 1982, the Society has been annually recognizing individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming and interpretation of the region's history. Two Hawkins County initiatives were among the 31 awards presented.

- **Betty Blue Hagood Richardson** received the *Preservation Award* for preservation work in Rogersville. First with her husband and now with the Richardson Family Partnership, Betty Blue Hagood Richardson has spent four decades investing in the historic community and buildings of Rogersville, researching and maintaining records and original floor plans for each. Buildings remain on the tax base, and Rogersville retains its historical integrity and beauty.
- **Margaret W. 'Peggy' Cook** received the *Award of Distinction* for her work preserving Hawkins County history. In 1983, Peggy was one of seven founding members of the Hawkins County Genealogical and Historical Society and has served as vice president, historian, and co-editor of their newsletter. She was co-editor of two family histories – those of Samuel Winstead and Daniel Jones. She was appointed by the county commission as the Hawkins County Genealogist and was instrumental in starting the Hawkins County Archives, where she has logged 5,544 hours since 2005.

About the East Tennessee Historical Society:

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society has 2,000 members across the United States. Its active publications program includes the biannual genealogy magazine *Tennessee Ancestors*; the annual *Journal of East Tennessee History*; and *Newslines*, as well as other books pertaining to the region's history. The Society also sponsors the Museum of East Tennessee History, East Tennessee National History Day, and the family heritage programs "First Families of Tennessee" and "Civil War Families of Tennessee."

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