



# The Buchanan Log

December/January 2012



## The Buchanan Log House Chapter Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities



### President's Message

A review of 2011 shows a successful year of activities. Administratively, Treasurer Judy Vecchione set up our financial records in Quickbooks which is a great improvement to the previous manual accounting efforts—Thanks Judy!; Humanities Tennessee afforded Mr. David Currey to do a site assessment to evaluate the organization and make recommendations for the sustainability and future growth of the organization; Cumberland University's Anthropology honor students began a study to review early life ways associated with the Buchanan Log House and its related setting in the first quarter of the nineteenth century with the goal to identify life ways of typical settlers on the western frontier; MTSU's Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area studied our buildings & family genealogy and provided an especially interesting report, "*Contextual and Architectural History Condition Assessment and Interpretive Plan*"; and Mr. Frank McMeen from Jackson, TN facilitated a strategy planning session for the Board of Directors. Each of these contributions will assist the Chapter in its short & long term management of the organization and property.

#### Website Links

[Addison Museum History](#)  
[Buchanan Log House History](#)  
[James Buchanan Cemetery Architectural Significance](#)  
[Be a Volunteer!](#)  
[Reservation Information](#)  
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Please visit our website at:

[buchananloghouse.com](http://buchananloghouse.com)

Long needed maintenance projects funded by private donations included additional lighting in the first floor of the Buchanan Log House, and partial renovations to the Addison Museum.

Our programs were expanded to enhance visitor appreciation of our historic site. During our third year of the Summer Tour Program, many more school & church groups toured and enjoyed lunch in the historic Buchanan Log House. A monthly history lecture began in February that brought prominent historians to speak, and in one case sing and play Civil War era songs, on historical events, characters, and sites in our area. An informal monthly "free-tour" day was included where a costumed docent provides information and dulcimer music to visitors—thanks Sue Sutton! The On-line Document Research is up and running on the BLH web page thanks to Robert Cox. The Grand Old Dulcimer Group began 'jamming' at the Buchanan Log House and they are generous with their time and labor in supporting us.

We continued our Spring program (Easter Egg Hunt including a plant sale); annual fish fry & silent auction (the most attended one EVER!), Appraisal Fair, Folk Festival (the most attended one EVER!) and Cemetery Walk.

All of this said to let each of you know just how important YOU are in supporting the BLH's efforts to provide a quality experience for the Donelson-Hermitage and Middle Tennessee community. You are truly appreciated, and we are looking forward to you working with us in the upcoming New Year.

Of course, all was not happy. We lost beloved members Billy Ridley, Gail Link and Kathy Perroni. The roof still leaks - just cannot find the culprit. And our "volunteer" staff has dwindled.

But, I remain very optimistic that more of you will volunteer to help with the preservation of one of Tennessee's historic treasures, the historic Buchanan Log House.

This is our last newsletter for the year and I want to take this opportunity to wish each one of you a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and healthy holiday season, and to once again, say THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Lu

## Cemetery Walk



Members of the Nashville Old Time String Band.

As with last year the Buchanan Cemetery Walk was met with excellent weather for the more than 75 people who participated. They were greeted by the pleasant harmony of the Nashville Old Time String Band and a warm campfire. The reenactors performed superbly in recreating characters that shaped Middle Tennessee History: a Revolutionary War Soldier and his wife, Judge Frazier, 1872 Sheriff, farmers and more. Special thanks to the Davidson County Sheriff's Office for their assistance in readying the cemetery and to the BLH members who help set up for the event, provided refreshments, and greeted the guests. Special thanks to Ron Sharpe of *Sharper Images* for providing photos-Joe Cathey

**Buchanan Log House**  
2910 Elm Hill Pike  
Nashville, TN 37214  
615-871-4524

[loghouse@buchananloghouse.com](mailto:loghouse@buchananloghouse.com)

The mission of the Buchanan Log House Chapter, Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities is to promote preservation, education and interpretation of historic sites in Donelson, Hermitage, Middle Tennessee, and Tennessee.

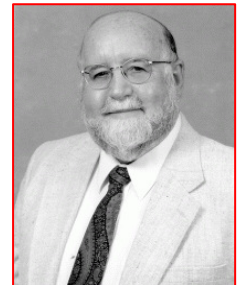
### Chapter Officers:

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Cumberland University  
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History Dept., Cumberland  
University



## November Lecture Series

*On November 20<sup>th</sup>, the Buchanan Log House hosted an extremely informative presentation by Dr. Michael Bradley, Motlow State Community College Professor and author of Nathan Bedford Forrest's Escort and Staff. During the War Between the States most General Officers were afforded administrative and escort staffs to take care of the mundane business of supplying an army and keeping up with paper work. However, one General Officer's escort staff stands out from all the rest—Nathan Bedford Forrest escort company and staff officers were held in awe by men on both sides of the conflict. They were*

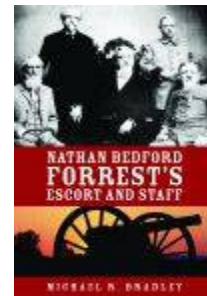


## Publisher's Statement

The Buchanan Log newsletter is produced and distributed bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December with occasional special issues during other months by the Buchanan Log House Board of Directors. Contact Patsy Phillips, Public Affairs at: [patsylee52@comcast.net](mailto:patsylee52@comcast.net) with comments, content contributions, and subscription information.

*not merely guards of couriers, but men that composed an elite force who rode harder and fought more fiercely than others. Dr. Bradley's presentation exposed the various facts and fictions of "That Devil Forrest" as he was called by top Yankee Generals including Sherman and Grant and why his men followed him every step he took into battle:*

*"In him they recognized not only the daring, able, and successful leader but also the commanding officer who would not hesitate to punish with severity when he deemed punishment necessary...They possessed as an inheritance all the best and most valuable fighting qualities of the irregulars, accustomed as they were from boyhood to horses and the use of arms, and brought up with all the devil-may-care lawless notions of the frontiersman..." As an aside, this Scribner had two Great-Great Grandfathers from Marshall County (I.J. Cathey and Barkley Derryberry) who were assigned to units under Forrest among others and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Great-Uncle who died at Shiloh (Andrew J. Derryberry) under the command of General Stewart—Joe Cathey*



## December Activities

### BUCHANAN LOG HOUSE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Dec. 11th from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Our friends and neighbors are invited to our annual Christmas Open House. Santa will be there with a small gift for the children and will be happy to have his picture made with you. Back by request is Harpist, Kell Coulter who will present a special seasonal program of lovely harp music.

Kell Coulter is an accomplished folk harper, singer, and instrumentalist who takes great pleasure in entertaining the public at every opportunity. Notably, Kell taught herself the folk harp at the age of 14. In addition to the harp, she received 10 years of classical training in piano, voice, and drums, and music theory and composition, including 3 years of instruction at the Blair School of Music. She also studied Recording Industry Production and Technology at MTSU.

Kell particularly enjoys performing at historical re-enactments, especially late 18th and early 19th century folk music. She loves the opportunity to educate others about music through this "living history".

In addition to Ms. Coulter, the Open House will also feature Dr. Carole Bucy, who will speak on the topic of Early Christmas Traditions, beginning at 2 p.m. (sharp). Dr. Bucy will close this year's very successful historical lectures, and we are so very proud to have brought such prominent speakers, musicians and singers to the Buchanan Log House for our members and neighbors enjoyment.



Dr. Carole Bucy is Professor of History and Chair of the History Department at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin. She received her Ph.D. in American history from Vanderbilt University in 2002. Dr. Bucy was the founding President of the Nashville City Cemetery Association, and authored many books, textbooks and scholarly reviews. In 1993, Dr. Bucy founded the Tennessee Women's History Project to provide teacher workshops on the contributions of women to American history. Dr. Bucy is the current Vice President of the Tennessee Historical Society and a member of Leadership Nashville. She is a popular speaker, sought after for her longstanding interests in the Civil War years as well as the history of women in politics. Most recently, she served as a keynote speaker at the State of Tennessee's Civil War Sesquicentennial kickoff event in Nashville.—Patsy Phillips

The Annual Christmas Open House will be held at the Buchanan Log House, 2910 Elm Hill Pike, (near the airport). This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be furnished.



## NEWS

- **BUCHANAN LOG HOUSE offers FREE second Saturday house tours in November and December, 2011.**

November 12, 2011 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM

December 10, 2011 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM



Join our dulcimer playing docent, Sue Sutton, for a casual visit to the home of James and Lucinda Buchanan. Our gift corner will be open for



Buchanan gifts such as mugs, note cards, caps, Phil Ponder prints, soaps, commemorative tote bags, aprons, historical books, cookbooks, pencils and Christmas cards. Limited quantities are available.

Mini-Dulcimer concerts can happen unexpectedly on these special tour days if dulcimer players drop-in to join our docent.

Dates are scheduled for 2012 as well for this popular opportunity to visit the Buchanan Log House. APTA membership information is available at the tours as well as listing of our upcoming events.

Come and visit, sign our guestbook, hear a dulcimer and enjoy our wonderful log home during these special visits.

- BLH members, The Nashville Old Time String Band and the Grand Old Dulcimer Club participated in the November house and yard cleaning that included leaf raking, window cleaning, carpet shampoo, wall dusting, and much, much more. Without the help of our volunteers the 1806 National Register Structure would be lost to the ages. We are very appreciative of the folks who support the BLH with their time and labor.

- We are happy to announce the first edition of The Buchanan Log House Hatch Show Print. Our commemorative edition is available thru Buchanan Log House Gifts ONLY and not on-line. Priced at \$10.00 per print, this item is not subject to additional discount. Please cash or check only.



The print is unique to the Buchanan Log House and makes a perfect gift for all Buchanan family members and those interested in our historic log house. Only 100 are available for purchase. Hatch Show Print is an historic print shop serving Nashville since 1879, producing the unique wood block prints at it's location at 316 Broadway. Our gift coordinator has offered to be available for your purchase of our Hatch Print and other Buchanan Log House gift items during November and December on the following dates:

- 11/27/2011 Holiday "Decorate the House" 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM**
- 12/10/2011 FREE Tour of the Buchanan Log House - 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM**
- 12/11/2011 Holiday Open House - 1:00 PM until 4:30 PM**

12/15/2011\* Buchanan Log House Gifts OPEN - 10:00 AM until Noon

12/17/2011\* Buchanan Log House Gifts OPEN - 10:00 AM until Noon

12/22/2011\* Buchanan Log House Gifts OPEN - 10:00 AM until Noon

\*\*\* FINAL HOLIDAY SALES OPPORTUNITY \*\*\*

- **GRANT APPROVED!!!** As many of you know, the Buchanan Log House Board of Directors have been trying for years to find funding to repair the west wall of the Buchanan Log House. On November 10, 2011, President Whitworth announced that the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (BLH parent organization) approved the BLH request for funding to repair the badly deteriorated logs, chinking, board and batten, and windows. We are most grateful for the time the APTA took in evaluating our grant proposal and especially for its approval.



West wall deterioration. Photo by BLH Joe Cathey 1-27-2010

## Donate

As you review your "financial giving plan" for the year for your annual report to the IRS, your inclusion of Buchanan Log House Chapter, APTA will be greatly appreciated. The Buchanan Log House is classified by the IRS as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization and all contributions are 100% deductible. The mission of the BLH Chapter is to promote and encourage active participation in the preservation of the Donelson-Hermitage area's rich historic, cultural, architectural, and archeological heritage through restoration, education, advocacy and area wide cooperation. Remember there is NO paid staff at the BLH and 100% of funds received go towards the maintenance and repair of the 1806 Buchanan House and 1840s Addison Museum, projects and programs of the BLH.

If you would like to make a donation, please send your check to BLH, 2910 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN 37214 or go to our website at: <http://www.buchananloghouse.com/donate> .

## Other Events of Interest

### *Christmas at Two Rivers Mansion Open House*



*Sat. December 3, 2011 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

*Sun. December 4, 2011 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

*Admission: Adults \$ 4.00 / Children: \$ 2.00 / under 6 free*

*Victorian Decoration, Holiday Crafts, Music, Bake Sale*

*Hosted by the Stones River Woman's Club*

*Supported by Metro Parks & Recreation*

*Proceeds from ticket go to the ongoing restoration*

*For information please call (615) 885-1112*