

# ESTILL COUNTY'S CEDAR GROVE - A Kentucky Community and Its People

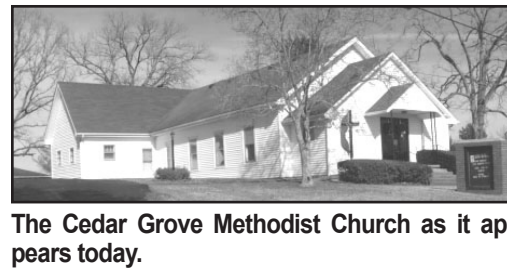
The following is the third in a series of articles about the community of Cedar Grove and the west-central part of Estill County that have been compiled by Jerry G. Rose and are from information included in his book, "ESTILL COUNTY'S CEDAR GROVE - A Kentucky Community and Its People"

by JERRY G. ROSE

## Public Facilities in Cedar Grove

Sometime around 1900 as the population increased a weather-boarded one-room Cedar Grove School was built somewhere near the Cedar Groves. This operated until 1925 when the 4-room brick school was built in Cedar Grove nearer to West Irvine. The Clear Creek School (near the junction of the Station Camp Road and the turnpike) and the Cedar Grove School were combined.

In 1950, after 25 years, the 4-room brick school burned. A much larger consolidated school was built within West Irvine at the abandoned lumber mill property, close to the former Clear Creek School. This ended the existence of schools within the Cedar Grove community. The schools are described later in this series.



The Cedar Grove and Clear Creek Schools were closed and consolidated into a Four-Room Brick School in 1925.

The establishment of the Cedar Grove Methodist Church in the 1881 can be considered a significant and the longest lasting of the events shaping Cedar Grove. An even earlier church, the Clear Creek Baptist Church, was located on Stacy Lane; it closed in 1856. Later the New Beginning Fellowship Church was established as an Inter-Denominational Community [Church or Worship] on the site of the old West Irvine School. Several other churches have been established and served for various lengths of time. The Methodist Church is the only early church still in operation. The churches will be described later in this series.

The residents of the Cedar Grove area normally used Post Offices at either West Irvine or Rice Station. The office in West Irvine was closer to most of the residents and more widely used. Also, beginning in 1891, with the arrival of the Riney-B Railroad, the post offices in West Irvine and Rice Station were served directly by passenger trains having railroad post office cars.

The Rice Station Post Office operated from 1891 to 1974 serving a large area of the county during the early development. The West Irvine Post Office operated from 1909 to 1982.

With the coming of "rural free delivery" mail service, the residents' incoming mail was delivered and out-going mail was taken from each resident's mailbox. The rural mail carrier, as the U.S. Post Office delivery person was known, also sold stamps and accepted packages. The carrier even let folks "hitch" a ride. Many of the old folks actually looked forward to meeting the carrier as he/she stopped by (referred to as "the mail run" and they often chatted for a while. The carrier was familiar with everyone on the route.

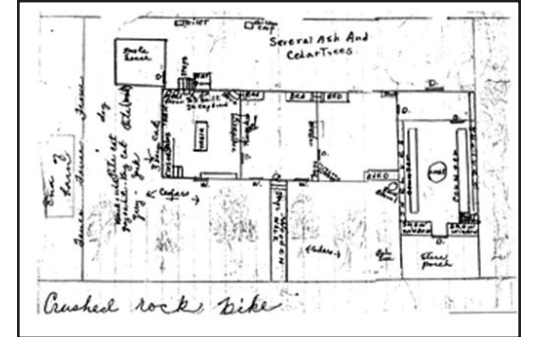
There is record of a post office at Cedar Grove for about 1 1/2 years in the 1870s. The location is not known, but was likely near the Sand Hill Road. The recorded dates and postmasters are noted below:

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Elias M. Pryse   | August 8, 1876    |
| John N. Henry    | October 1, 1877   |
| Arehilles Kelley | October 26, 1877  |
| Discontinued     | February 11, 1878 |

In addition, Wallace and Weeden M. Witt operated a post office at Weeden from 1883 to 1892 at a location likely around the Sand Hill Road or slightly west of there. There is very little documentation of this post office except for the following photograph that Gladys (White) Stewart provided along with a sketch of the combination store and post office as she remembered as a child.

Cedar Grove did not attain as high of level of status and recognition as did West Irvine and Rice Station. This was likely due to the fact that Cedar Grove did not have a continuing Post Office, did not have a Train Station, and did not have a Central Business District as the businesses were scattered over the two to three miles distance. It was basically a strip development. The families along the "strip" coalesced as a group, participating in many joint activities. Front porch visits were common occurrences. Many of the activities related to the Methodist church.

Brothers Wallace and Weeden Witt in front of Combination General Store and Post Office at Weeden, thought to have been on KY 52 west of Cedar Grove toward Rice Station.



A sketch by Gladys (White) Stewart of the layout of the Witt Combination General Store, Post Office and House at Weeden.

For many years Cedar Grove had a Voting House for the Cedar Grove prescient. It is unknown when it was established and discontinued. In later years it was located near the Sand Hill Road across from the Cedar Grove Church. The old vine covered building still stands.



Recent view of the remains of the old Cedar Grove Voting House, located directly across the old road from the Garage.

## To Be Continued

## Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Early Cedar Grove School.



The early 1881 Church Building (above) and the new Sanctuary built sometime after 1920 (below), with the original building moved behind and turned sideways to accommodate Sunday School Rooms and other activities.



And Early Clear Creek School.

## Thirty-six from Estill receive EKU degrees

Eastern Kentucky University recognized 1,999 graduates at the conclusion of the Spring 2017 semester. The graduates were honored at separate academic college commencement ceremonies May 12-13, 2017.

### Local EKU graduates include:

- Kimberly Renee Turpin-Rose, CERTUM, Gr., Rural Hlth Nursing Prac.;
- Donna J. Officer, AA, Sr., General Studies;
- Leona Clark, BSN, Sr., Nursing;
- Rachel Dawn Godby, MSN, Gr., Nursing;
- Jacob Earl McGee (P), BS, Sr., Environmental Health Science;
- Hannah Elizabeth Gregory, BS, Sr., Health Services Admin.;
- Carrie Lannette Chaney, AA, Jr., General Studies;
- Kayla Renee Wilson, BSN, Sr., Nursing;
- Kristina Danielle Belcher, MA, Gr., Student Pers Serv in Hi Ed;
- Melissa Pearl Norton, BSN, Sr., Nursing, Cum Laude;
- Kaylyn Lynn Chaney, BA, Sr., English;
- Jon Tracy Ballard, AAS, Applied Engineering Mgt.;
- Jordan Frances Kenniston, BS, Sr., Biology;
- Krana Paige Puckett BS, Sr., Biology, Magna Cum Laude;
- Shannon Elizabeth Horn (P), BS, Sr., Elementary Education; Magna Cum Laude;
- Mallory Amanda Puckett (P), BS, Sr., Mathematics Teaching, Summa Cum Laude;
- Logan Stanley Spradlin, BA, Sr., Public Relations, Cum Laude;
- Brooke Le'Shae Neal, BS, Sr., Health Services Administration;
- Tierra Denise Murphy, BA, Sr., History;
- Brandi Nicole Mckinney, BS, Sr., Occupational Science, Magna Cum Laude;
- Tanner Blake Chaney, BFA, Sr., Art, Magna Cum Laude;
- Savanna Marie Floyd, BSN, Sr., Nursing;
- Brett Tracy Noland (P), BA, Sr., History, Summa Cum Laude;
- Kayla Danielle Wolpert (P), BS, Sr., Criminal Justice, Summa Cum;
- Jacqueline Renae Horn, BA, Sr., Art;
- Matthew Stephen Smith, BS, Sr., Computer Science, Cum Laude;
- Mitchell Jacob Plowman, BA, Sr., General Studies;
- Jerran Thomas Webster, BBA, Sr., Accounting
- Jeremy Keith Mccoy, BBA, Sr., Computer Information Systems;
- James Ray Brinegar, BA, Sr., Art
- Kelsey Anne-Marie Baxter, BA, Sr., English
- Tiffany Danielle Richardson, ASN, Sr., Nursing
- Kayla Lynn Banks, BS, Sr., Child and Family Studies;
- April Nicole Hall, MAT, Gr., Teacher Education;
- Shavonna Leeann Hatton, MAED, Gr., School Counseling;
- Aaron Ryan Burgher, BS, Sr., Computer Science;

The new degree holders join more than 140,000 Eastern alumni in Kentucky and across the United States and world. Eastern Kentucky University is a comprehensive university serving approximately 17,000 students on its Richmond campus, at its educational centers in Corbin, Danville, Manchester, Lancaster and Hazard, and throughout Kentucky.

**Birding BITS** BY Cindy Brook

*Feeding Fledglings*  
Keep it simple when feeding baby birds. White proso millet, whole-grain bread, peanuts, safflower seed and sunflower-heart chips are just a few foods young fliers love. If you toss seed on the ground, make sure it's by a brush pile or somewhere where birds can easily take cover.

E-mail: [birdingbits@flrr.com](mailto:birdingbits@flrr.com)  
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## Dean's List, President's List and Dean's Award List at EKU announced

Eastern Kentucky University has announced that 3,305 students earned Dean's List honors for the Spring 2017 semester. Estill County students are listed below. EKU has also announced that 1,559 students earned President's List honors for the Spring 2017 semester. Those students are indicated by \*. Eastern also announced 424 Dean's Award recipients for the Spring 2017 semester with those students indicated by a ●.

### Estill students include:

- \*Lori Lynn Dixon, Jr., Pre-RN Pre-Nursing
- Kelli Marie Cole, Sr., Health Services Administration
- \*Christen Renee Goosey, Jr., Psychology
- \*Jacob Earl McGee, Sr., Environmental Health Science
- \*Elisabeth A. Bebout, Sr. Medical Lab Science
- Kyle Dewayne Clowers, Sr., Sport Mgt.
- Teri Lyn Conner, Sr., History
- Donald Oscar Peterson, Sr., Computer Science
- \*Steven Ray Garrett, Sr., Health Services Adm.
- Krana Paige Puckett, Sr., Biology
- \*Shannon Elizabeth Horn, Sr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- \*Mallory Amanda Puckett, Sr., Mathematics Teaching
- Karen Rae Long, Sr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- Taylor Anne Isfort, Sr., Biology
- Brandi Nicole Mckinney, Sr., Occupational Science
- Tanner Blake Chaney, Sr., Art
- \*Brett Tracy Noland, Sr., History
- \*Kayla Danielle Wolpert, Sr., Criminal Justice
- Briana Tre' Cahal, Sr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- \*Brandon Michael McKinney, Sr., Middle Grade Ed.
- \*Kordel Lee Day, Jr., Fire/Arson & Expos Invest
- Corey William Neal, Sr., Music
- \*Matthew Stephen Smith, Sr., Computer Science
- Anna Nicole Logsdon, Sr., Anthropology
- \*Austin Bradley McClanahan, Sr., Public Relations
- Brittney Michelle Viars, Sr., Recreation & Park Admin
- Joshua B. Baber, Sr., Art
- \*Alexandria Cheyenne Hall, Sr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- \*Dustin Tyler Abshear, So., Accounting
- \*Bethany Danielle Hall, Jr., Pre-Communication Disorders
- \*Kaisee Marie Riddell, Jr., Political Science
- \*Sarah Allison Barnes, Jr., Pre-Occupational Science
- \*Mary Elizabeth Plowman, Sr., General Dietetics
- Lindsay Susanne Descoteaux, Sr., Communication Disorders
- Kaitlyn Emmaline Frederick, Sr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- Dylan Scott Travis, Jr., Broadcasting & Elect Media
- Adam Dalton Horn, Jr., Applied Engineering Mgt.
- Aaron Thomas Dorton, Sr., Criminal Justice

- Andrew Stephen Farmer, Sr., Biology
- Michael Boone Tucker, Jr., Biology
- Alma Nicole Fox, Sr., Agriculture
- Ethan Wayne Price, So., Biomedical Sciences
- \*Timbre Rein McCoy, So., History Teaching
- Jordan Clay Martin, So., Marketing
- \*Emily Marie Walton, So., Pre-Health Services Adm.
- Alyssa Nicole Wysong, Jr., Ele. Ed. Teaching
- Nicholas Scott Lay, Jr., Construction Mgt.
- Zachary Ray Lemmon, Jr., Wildlife Mgt.
- Evan Garrett Stelter, Jr., Physics
- Robert Levi Flynn, Sr., Pre-Homeland Security
- \*Adam Nicholas Estes, So., Pre-Medical Lab Science
- \*Austin Tyler Witt, So., Criminal Justice
- \*Nicholas Anderson Prewitt, So., Enviro. Health Science
- \*Jessica Lynn Watkins, So., Special Ed. Teaching
- \*Sarah Jean King, Jr., English Teaching
- Daniel Caleb Click, Sr., Statistics
- \*Kayla Lynn Banks, Sr., Child and Family Studies
- Austin Grant Howell, Sr., Medical Laboratory Science
- James T. Miller, Sr., Recreation & Park Adm.
- \*Allen Eric Baker, Jr., Network Security & Electronics

To achieve **Dean's List** honors at Eastern, students attempting 14 or more credit hours must earn a 3.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0. Students attempting 13 credit hours must earn a 3.65 GPA, and students attempting 12 credit hours must earn a 3.75 GPA.

"We are always pleased to recognize outstanding academic achievement at Eastern Kentucky University," said EKU President Michael Benson.

The **President's List** was established by the University to recognize outstanding academic achievement. It is bestowed upon full-time undergraduate students who attain a perfect 4.0 grade point average for a semester.

"All of us at EKU are committed to academic excellence and the success of our students," EKU President Michael Benson said, "and we are especially pleased to recognize those students who have excelled to the point of perfection during a semester's work."

To earn the **Dean's Award**, students must achieve Dean's List honors at EKU for three semesters, not necessarily consecutive. A lapel pin is presented to students by the dean of their academic college.

Eastern Kentucky University is a comprehensive university serving approximately 17,000 students on its Richmond campus, at its educational centers in Corbin, Danville, Manchester, Lancaster and Hazard, and throughout Kentucky.