

SUE W. MAGGART
President of the Smith Co., TN
Historical and Genealogical Society
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Sue W. Maggart was born in Akron, OH, where her parents E.B. and Elizabeth (Vantrease) Woodard had migrated in search of lucrative employment offered by the industrial plants of the North. After the “Crash” of 1929, Mr. Woodard and his wife returned to their native Smith County with their young family, settling at Gordonsville, where he engaged in the livestock business. He was a staunch Democrat and was active in both local and state politics. He served three terms as Smith County Court Clerk and represented the County in the State Legislature 1957 – 1985.

Sue attended school at Gordonsville until her junior year when her parents moved to Cartage, where she enrolled in Smith County High School. She also attended Cumberland College at Lebanon and Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee.

In 1966, Sue began her career with the U.S. Postal Service as a clerk in the Carthage Post Office. In 1981, she received an appointment as Postmaster at Gordonsville, a position she continues to hold.

Sue and her husband, O. M. Maggart, Jr., now deceased, were parents of two sons, Stephen M. and Michael L. Steve and wife, Michelle (Detorre) are Certified Public Accountants and manage their own firm in Nashville. Their sons are John Stephen and Michael Todd. Mike and his wife, Regina (Zanoli) reside in Knoxville, where Mike is a cardiovascular surgeon. Their children are Rachel, Alison and Michael John.

Even as a child, Sue demonstrated an avid interest in history, composing her first essay, “The History of Gordonsville,” when she was a 5th grader after an “interview” with one of the town’s oldest citizens, Civil War Veteran, J. G. Gold. Along with friends F. C. Key and Jane Turner, she assisted in compiling and publishing two volumes of Smith County cemeteries and Smith County Wills 1803 – 1898. Her most challenging and rewarding literary endeavor was as co-editor of the History of Smith County during Homecoming ’86. More recently she has worked with other volunteers in the cataloguing of loose papers of Chancery Court records.

Sue is the Newsletter editor’s right arm, advisor and counselor, often providing a willing shoulder for lamentations or an ear for explosions or complaints, but always patient, supportive, encouraging and understanding. Actually, it is she who prevailed upon the editor to attempt this project. She prints all the pages; types the labels; is a member of

usually, a three woman assembly crew; then, when all copies are completed, she lugs all 200 of them to the post office for mailing.

Active in church and civic endeavors, Sue is a member of the Carthage Unite Methodist Church, currently serving on the Board of Trustees. She is a chapter member and past regent of the Caney Fork Chapter DAR; member of the Colonial Dames of America in Tennessee; United Daughters of the Confederacy, Murfreesboro Chapter; and a member of the Thomas Hart Benton Chapter, War of 1812. Sue has been a member of the Smith County Historical and Genealogical Society for several years and has held various offices in the Society, including that of president where she now serves.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>