

# Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

### FRONTIER REFLECTIONS ABOUT EEZKIEL



Heaven is A Lot Like Kentucky  
By Charles Byler

William Sudduth took careful aim down the long barrel of his Kentucky rifle and slowly pulled the trigger. It was New Year's Eve, 1786, and although they didn't know it at the time, their hunting camp was located at what would one day be near the center of a town called Carlisle.

Immediately after the report of the gun being fired and through the haze of gun-smoke, William watched a large buffalo bull drop to the ground.

"How many does that make, Zeke?" William asked his brother, Ezekiel.

"Hood shot Will!" Ezekiel said as he slugged his

brother on the shoulder. "That makes an even 60 buffalo since you started hunting in April."

William released quickly and Ezekiel scanned the woods for the slightest movement or shape that didn't belong. His rifle was no more the center of a town called Carlisle.

They waited a full 30 minutes before moving, and then walked to the buffalo and began skinning and butchering it.

They'd celebrated the New Year with the chain carriers

who helped them with their surveying tasks. William had learned the art of surveying as a younger man along the Monongahela River.

William was the only man at Andrew Hood's Station that could survey. But it was his remarkable marksmanship that helped his family survive thus far along the frontier.

Their quest for land, which brought them down stream in present eastern West Virginia to the Cheat River, down the Monongahela River and thence down the Ohio River to the present-day community of Maysville, earlier that year had been one disastrous affair after another. They had a cabin to build and ground to clear before planting a corn crop. And all the while, as they completed one task after another, William's deadly rifle kept several of them skinning and butchering and delivering hides and meat to surrounding settlements and traders.

Ezekiel kept count of all the deer, bear, elk and turkey William killed, and was quick to make sure he never ran out of powder or lead.

That night they said their goodbyes to the year 1786, and dined on fresh buffalo meat. The elements had been much against them but everyone in the group, especially the choicest of those who lived at Hood's Station, felt lucky that they had survived the year. They felt especially lucky that no Native Americans

had found their way, as it was off the beaten path and surrounded by several miles of luscious game fields.

All of that would change in 1786.

Hostilities between several groups of raiders and the families at Hood's Station and others nearby escalated into all-out war.

Ezekiel Sudduth, like many along the Kentucky frontier, would lose his life to Shawnee raiders in 1786.

A special thanks to her special aunts and uncles for their support during her illness, Charles & Mary Carter, Earl & Faye Mastin and Bobby & Ruby Mann.

Services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5 at Mothers-Gauche Funeral Home, 202 W. Pleasant St., Carlisle, Ala. She was a 1965 graduate of Bourbon Co. High School and attended Uhu Technical College and graduated from Forsyth Technical College in North Carolina with a degree in nursing. She worked for 12 years as a medical-surgical and rehabilitation nurse at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She made many friends with the patients and staff and kept in touch with them through the years. She was married for three years at the V.A. Hospital, Columbus, Ohio. Tammy (Goby) Duncan,

nurse and telemetry technician before becoming ill.

Other survivors include her daughter, Denise (Bobbie Matthews) Burdett, Carlisle, her special friend and buddy, and her grandson Wyatt Burdett whom she also loved very much. She is also survived by a step-grandson, Nathan Matthews, and a brother-in-law, Pete (Faye) Woodard, Tifton, Georgia.

She was preceded in death by a son, William Lewis Woodard.

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Brenda Pollitt Dailey, 55, died Dec. 30, 2008. She was born Nov. 2, 1953. She was an avid horse lover. She is survived by her son, Travis (Alisha) Dailey; three grandchildren, Jenna, Chelsea and Travis, Jr.; step-son, Mickey (Lisa) Dailey; step-grandsons, Dillon and Logan Dailey; her mother, Jean Pollitt; two sisters, Jill Johnson, and Marilyn Pollitt Fogle; three brothers, Dean, Barry and Randy Fryman; and many special nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009 at the Clark Funeral Home with the Rev. Dwayne Walkup officiating. Burial followed in the Westons Cemetery, Fleming County. Pallbearers were Travis and Dylan Dailey, Paul Fryman, Zackey (Lisa) Dailey, step-grandsons, Dillon and Logan Dailey; her mother, Jean Pollitt; two sisters, Jill Johnson, and Marilyn Pollitt Fogle; three brothers, Dean, Barry and Randy Fryman; and many special nieces and nephews.

# Steve's Report



Steve's Report  
By Steve Sealf

New Year's Resolutions

Each New Year's Day, about the only New Year's resolution I make is that I will not make any New Year's resolutions.

Let me explain. I really don't have anything against New Year's resolutions. As a matter of fact, I think it is an excellent idea to think of our lives from time to time and to set goals for self-improvement. And the start of a New Year is a natural time to set goals.

So this New Year, I intentionally avoided coming up with any resolutions or New Year's only because I wanted

to accomplish this year. That's why, on the morning of January 2nd, I was completely surprised when I walked out the front door on my way to work and the thought hit me. "Every day I need to find a way to bless someone's life - to help someone have a better day." That sounded suspiciously like a New Year's resolution to me. Still I couldn't shake the thought. All the way to work I kept humming the melody and remembering the words of a hymn:

Have I done any good in the world today?  
Have I helped anyone in need?

Have I cheered up the sad?  
And made someone feel glad?  
If not I have failed indeed!

Has anyone's burden been lighter today?  
Because I was willing to share?  
Have the sick and the weary been helped among their way?  
When they needed my help?

Where did this come from? Don't get me wrong - I didn't mind having these thoughts. As a matter of fact, I was kind of proud of myself for having such good, Christian intentions.

The more I thought about it, I realized I had thought a lot of good thoughts like that, lately. What makes the difference? Is this motivation to be a better person coming from?

Our oldest son, Sam, returned home on Dec. 22 after serving for two years as a missionary in Japan. Not only are we glad to have him back home with us, his presence has filled our home with a truly wonderful, peaceful spirit. And the good feelings are catching.

I guess that shouldn't be such a surprise - that our environment and the things we surround ourselves with

have an influence on how we think, how we act, how we feel. The music we listen to, the movies and television shows we watch, and the people we surround ourselves with - all of it has an influence on the kind of person we become.

So before I realized it, I discovered I had come up with another New Year's resolution - to keep the influences in my life as positive as possible, and spending as much time as I can with my son as I can to look up that good spirit he's brought back with him.

Wishing everyone a great New Year!

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The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids and seal. Sealed bids will be opened at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, February 9, 2009 at 4pm at Whitaker Bank.

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The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Friday.

Send letters to:  
Editor, The Carlisle Mercury  
P.O. Box 272  
Carlisle, KY 40311

Letters may also be emailed to: [editor@thecarlislemercury.com](mailto:editor@thecarlislemercury.com)

However, if e-mail is used, the sender should call 859-239-2425 to confirm that the letter was received.

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