



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Dennis Craig Stewart
With History Awards of Excellence**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., June 18, 2015 – The East Tennessee Historical Society’s (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization’s Annual Meeting on June 4, 2015 at the Foundry on the Fair Site 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. One McMinn Countian was among the 27 award recipients.

Dennis Craig Stewart, of Etowah, was the recipient of an *Award of Distinction* from the East Tennessee Historical Society for his book *The Real Life Homer Simpson*. “This book is a wonderful example of excellence in research and storytelling,” says Cherel Henderson, ETHS executive director. “It is remarkable how after all of these years Mr. Stewart has brought a new and unexpected end to this old story.” Homer Simpson of Cleveland, Tennessee, was a former police chief and World War I hero who was convicted of murder, sentenced to death, and executed in the electric chair in 1929 but afterwards proven not guilty of the murder charge.

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 *Newsline*, 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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