



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Hamblen County Initiative
With History Awards of Excellence**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 12, 2017 – The East Tennessee Historical Society’s (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization’s Annual Meeting on May 2, 2017 at the Foundry on the World’s 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 Hamblen County initiative was among the 27 awards presented.

- **Jim Claborn, Danny Underwood, & Michael Lee Beck** were honored with an *Award of Distinction* for their book *Forgotten Heroes*. Two of Tennessee’s seven World War I Medal of Honor recipients were from the Hamblen County. *Forgotten Heroes* tells the stories of Sergeant Edward Robert Talley and Private Calvin John Ward, their war experiences and their lives after they returned home. The stories are based on solid research and numerous interviews with family and friends.

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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