



**Mossy Creek Cruzers
Car Club**



OCTOBER 2022 Edition
Volume 127 • Editor: Pat Dukes



REVEALING THE HAUNTED PAST OF HISTORIC TALBOTT, TENNESSEE

Intentionally ignored, and buried, in the Hamblen County records for many years, public interest has once again brought the Jeremiah Lexer murders to light. Once a dark blemish on the seemingly quiet East TN county, Hamblen County now receives notoriety as the birthplace and home of one of America's Earliest Known Serial Killers — Jeremiah Lexer. It is located at 7588 W. Andrew Johnson Hwy Talbott, TN 37877.

Lexer lived on a massive plantation on the outskirts of Hamblen County with his extended family from 1826–1902. Records show that he was a seemingly upstanding member of the community, with no notable grievances with either the government or neighbors.

Beginning in 1887, multiple missing people cases were reported to the Hamblen County Sheriff James Franklin Hayes over the next 15 years. These reports were considered unlinked and attributed to dangerous mountainous wildlife or becoming lost in the massive Appalachian Mountains. No one suspected that a quiet citizen was responsible for these suspicious disappearances. Tragically, it was discovered a murderer lived amongst them.

On July 5, 1902 Jeremiah Lexer took his own life after a brutal killing-spree that left his entire family slain and nothing but bloody carnage left for people to discover the following day. After his plantation was searched, the gruesome discoveries of over 30 bodies was a shock to the community. The blatant disregard for human life and extensive torture tactics discovered, sickened those who saw it. Some victims were locked in a giant ironclad room, within one of his barns, where they were left to literally starve to death. Many of the asphyxiations took place upstairs in his office. The victims' bodies were dropped by secret chute from his office to the basement, where some were meticulously dissected, stripped of flesh, crafted into skeleton models. Lexer also burned some of the bodies or placed them in lime pits and other chemicals for disposal. Within the basement were discovered two giant furnaces as well as pits of acid, bottles of various poisons, and even a stretching rack.

Recently, this property has been used as a restaurant but closed after too many documented accidents. Many blame the spirits of the past as previous workers cite specific examples of this property being infested with restless spirits. Some stories have included violent, paranormal activity — others passive experiences. Multiple paranormal groups have verified activity. Now it is "Frightmare Manor".

A little girl can often be seen in the 2nd bedroom, gazing out of the window, facing the East. Many people driving on 11-E report seeing a man with an axe outline peering out of the windows.

The Lexer murders were covered up and forgotten for years. The government officials who took it upon themselves to cover up these atrocities, for the good of the community, have long since passed, and the secret Lexer files were officially released in 1987. Today the Lexer Plantation serves as the home of Frightmare Manor — a highly successful and nationally recognized Haunted Attraction. This is privately owned property. Go for a tour and definitely be frightened!!

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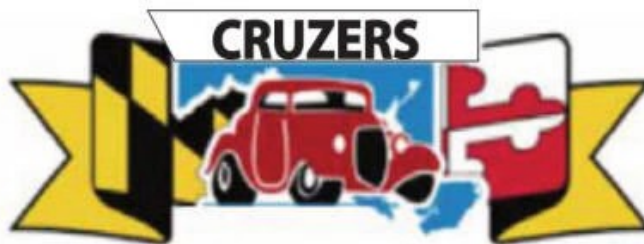
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Upcoming Events



Recurring Events:

Weekly on Friday April through October, 5:30-8:00

Event Name: **Mossy Creek Cruzers**, Cruise In

Location: Big Lots, 264 E Broadway, Jefferson City, TN

Weekly on Saturday April 2 through October Event

Name: **Carter County Car Club** Cruise In

Location: 507 East Elk Ave, Elizabethton, TN

Weekly on Saturday April 2 through October

Name: **Hamblen County Car Club** Cruise In

Location: Subway Shopping Center, Highway 11-E, Morristown, TN

Weekly on Saturday April 2 through October

Name: **Grainger County Ridge Runners** Cruise In

Location: Food City, 180 Rutledge Pike, Blaine, TN

Weekly on Friday April Through October 5-9pm

Event Name: **Foothills Cruise In**

Location: 197 Foothills Mall, Maryville, TN

Date: Second and Fourth Friday of each month, 5-9 pm



WHEN:

Friday, October 28th

TIME:

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

WHERE:

**At our regular Cruise In
BIG LOTS**



**Mossy Creek Cruzers
Car Club**

*Meeting of MCC is still the first Tuesday
of each month at Shoney's,
but now starts at 6:30 P.M.*



Jackie's Corner

By Jackie Swank



3 Ingredient Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Bread

The Best easy holiday treat for fall!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Box Spice Cake Mix (Betty Crocker)
- 1 (14 ounce) can 100% pumpkin puree (Not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1-2 Cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat your oven to 350 degrees, and grease or line a bread pan.
- In a large bowl, mix together the entire box of spice cake mix and the pumpkin puree until well incorporated.
- Fold in one or more cups of chocolate chips to the batter, and then pour it into your greased pan. Top with more chocolate chips, and bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes, or until a toothpick come out clean.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

The November meeting is nearly here and time to nominate new or re-nominate seated officers. Each member has a duty to look at our members and nominate the person that they think is suited for each office. This is a serious time for our club and shouldn't be approached lightly. Everyone should attend the November meeting and voice your opinion. You may choose to renominate officers that are already in office or to choose new officers. There are *no term limits* in our club. Pat Dukes has been nominated for President again and Bob Latham has been nominated as Treasurer again. Both of these were nominated and elected at the October meeting.

Election will be at the November meeting from the October nominations, if there are more than one nominated for each office.

Our club continues to grow and we need new ideas from members, new and old, to keep our club lively and interesting. All suggestions are welcomed from members and will be taken under consideration.

The club was started as a fun organization which could also help in our community. Through the years we have helped individuals that are sick as well as local charities and we want to continue to help where we can.

Car enthusiasts gathered together to create the Mossy Creek Cruzers in 2012. The club consists of 42 memberships, mostly couples, with total membership close to 75. The cars featured in the club range from self built restoration projects, to classics driven just for fun. Every Friday night the club can be found displaying their cars at Big Lots in Jefferson City. MCC will hold a variety of events throughout the year of 2023, including a show at the American Book Company in July and the Fill the Truck with Toys show at Bush's Visitor Center in October. If you would like more information about the Mossy Creek Cruzers Car Club please contact Club President, Pat Dukes at 865-363-5891 or go to our web site at mossycreekcruzers.org.

Thanks to each of you for making this a great year for our car club, the Mossy Creek Cruzers.

Fill the Truck With Toys

What a perfect day we had on Saturday, October 8th, 2022 for our Fill the Truck with Toys Car Show! The weather was perfect with sun shining all day, until late in the afternoon a slight breeze started and it was a little cool.

We had 102 vehicles sign up so we had lots of toys, many of which had been donated before the show. Canopies were set up everywhere and lots of laughter could be heard throughout the show. There were a few cars there that were not registered.

The three food vendors worked out perfectly with a vast variety of food. We had a hot dog cart which served homemade chili and cole slaw. Then the one trailer had hamburgers, fries, lots of sweets and many other things, And lastly but not least, there was barbeque which was smoked on the premises from Friday afternoon and it was delicious!! All three want to be at our next show which is in July.

The silent auction had lots of nice gifts and all of them sold. Our charities will be happy with the money we raised!

This was the 11th year of having the "Fill the Truck With Toys". Bush's has been great to help us out with this show year after year.

