

MUSEUM MUSINGS

WESTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

OCTOBER ~ NOVEMBER ~ DECEMBER 2013

P.O. BOX 266 ~ 601 MAIN STREET ~ WESTON, MISSOURI 64098 ~ 816-386-2977



Team Awesome: standing, left to right, are Brad Bunge, Shane Bartee, Paul Norman, Duncan McQueen, John Wurtenberger and Gerald Shroyer. Sitting is Chris West.

Team Awesome Takes Trivia Trophy

After coming in second three times in a row, Team Awesome, anchored by Chris West, finally broke through the competition and took home the Trivia Trophy in the Museum's fall Trivia Night contest, Saturday the 14th of September.

A smaller than usual crowd gathered for a night of fun and friendship at Cline's Opry. Forty or so Museum members and friends fielded ten sets of ten questions and a tie-breaker. The emcee, Dennis Fulk, kept the evening light, while the judges – Ruth Marr, Jeanne Braneff, Jean Hartley and Marsha West – were once again badgered by contestants. Ann and Dennis Saugstad served as bartenders and President Carl Felling welcomed all. Larry Clemens was scorekeeper. Ms. West and Carolyn Larsen arranged the evening.

Our next Trivia Night will be in March. So start studying now!

Annual Museum Dinner Scheduled for Nov. 3rd

The museum's annual dinner is to be held on Sunday, November 3rd and it is hoped that all members who can possibly make it attend. The dinner will be held in the lovely *Eventful at Locust Grove*. Owners Kate Parsons and Christy Shafer have graciously offered the venue to us for this occasion.

The cost of the dinner, with gratuity, will be \$25.00 per person. Please fill out the accompanying form and mail or bring it into the museum. Mailing address is P.O. Box 266, 601 Main Street, Weston, MO 64098. Reservation deadline is October 28.

A cash bar will be set up.

The featured speaker will be Mr. Gary Hicks, of Overland Park, Kansas who will be dressed in the attire of Alexander Majors and will greet people at the door.

Mr. Hicks will give an interpretive portrayal of Alexander Majors who was associated with such historical greats as Wm. Cody, Benjamin Holladay, Brigham Young, Abraham Lincoln, etc. In his talk he will explore the life and times; the challenges and hardships he endured; the successes and failures of his freighting business and the Pony Express; his faith and his family.

A past president of the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City, Hicks is also an advisor to the Wornall-Majors House Museums, Inc. of Kansas City, MO.

We hope everyone will come to enjoy this special evening and perhaps bring along a friend or family member who also might be interested in the program as well as possibly becoming a member of our Historical Museum.

Shopping Now for Christmas?

Check out *The Nostalgia Store* for lots of books, note cards and Ulmer prints.

Check out our site at <http://www.westonhistoricalmuseum.org> for more information.

Adopt A Block Receives First Donations

In these days where museums and similar institutions are hurting for funds, many just to keep the doors open, we wish to express our deepest appreciation to those who have generously helped us out in the past as well as most recently in giving to the "Adopt a Block" quilt fund.

Among those sending funds to help with the restoration/preservation of the quilt are:

1. William Baskett of Connecticut, who noted he particularly wanted to support block #32 as it had Glen Hall's signature upon it. He says, "I think that might actually be Glenn Hall at about age 15. Glenn Hall being my father-in-law, upon marrying my lovely bride Clara."

2. Suzanne Goodpaster and Sue Gabbert of Wes-

ton, in honor of Julia Etta Kyle, mother and grandmother, quilt block #4.

3. Patrick and Cathryn Egan of Kansas City, who adopted two names, Lilliewood Kyle (Pat's grandmother) and Minnie Kyle (Lillewood's sister and Pat's great aunt.)

4. John Bless has donated adopting any two blocks.

5. Mr. and Mrs. John P. Coldren have also adopted a block.

6. Mr. Bill Ohlhausen and his wife, Jean have adopted Blocks 12, 18, 26, 34, and 37. The familiar name of Ohlhausen is found on each of the blocks.

7. Mrs. Virginia Hall has adopted a block of this one-of-a-kind quilt.

8. Mrs. Ann Saugstad also adopted two unspecified blocks.

9. Mrs. Margaret Wilson has donated towards the fund as had Mrs. Marcella Cannon, who adopted twelve signatures who were relatives of her.

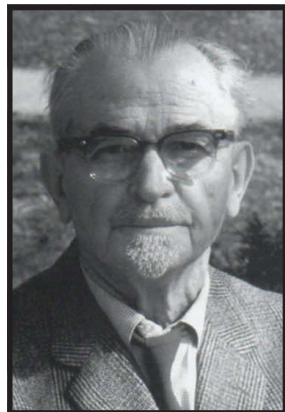
We are asking anyone who sends us a check, to adopt a block or a signature, please put the words "quilt" or "adopt a block" in the memo line. This will help us insure that the amount gets correctly noted and put into the specified fund. Check out the Museum's website (www.westonhistoricalmuseum.org) to see the list of blocks still available.

To these people we extend a warm thank you. In coming editions of Museum Musings we will add the names of others who have helped us out with this particular project.

Nobel Prize Nominee's Relatives Gather at Museum

Recent visitors to the museum were relatives of Dr. Theodore Lentz, who was born in Platte County in 1888. Dr. Lentz was a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize in the 1950's. He graduated from Weston High School, earned a B.A. from Park College, and A Ph.D. in Psychology from Columbia University.

Dr. Lentz taught Philosophy at Washington University for a number of years, leaving there to write three books on the science and philosophy of peace. He died December 14, 1976 in St. Louis where he was living at the time.



Among the family members visiting were a granddaughter, Ms. Janie Lentz of Dunstable, Massachusetts who was the "instigator" of the gathering. She planned to come to St. Louis and while there, decided to come to Kansas City for a visit with an aunt and also to get in touch with her family roots in Platte County.

Others who came with her to the museum were Robert and Earlene Fulk, Theodore Olvis and Mrs. Ruth Marr. Theodore Olvis also took her to visit the farm, near Beverly, where her grandfather grew up. The farm is basically still in the family as Dennis Fulk and his son are presently farming it.

"Adopt A Block"

Please fill in the information below, enclose your check or money order and return to:

The Weston Historical Museum
601 Main Street • P.O. Box 266
Weston, MO 64098

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

We'd like to adopt the following name(s) or Block # _____

Please use a separate blank sheet if needed.

Readers Help Us Find Answers

The day after the last newsletter went out in the mail, we were getting phone calls from many who could identify either the school, or some of the students, or the teacher in our "Mystery Corner" photo.



Among those calling in were Jerry Adams, Helen Sue Gabbert, and Virginia Hall, Karen Wheeler and her mother, Mrs. Melba Carter.

The teacher was identified as Mrs. Nadine Pumphrey; the school as Pleasant Ridge. Second row, far left is Paul Burchette, fifth from left is ___ Cline, then Michael Layton. First Row, third from left is Martha Burchette and next to her is Curtis Burchette, 6th from left is Judy Layton.

If this information jogs any memories, please give us a call at 816-386-2977.

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Mrs. Virginia Hall called to tell us that the Hazelwood Extension Club was either the oldest or one of the oldest extension clubs in the county.

She also named Rosa Wilkerson, Bess Love, Juliette Divina, Mrs. Ford Burrows, Mildred Gabbert, Judy Gabbert Graves, Carol Gabbert Neideree, Mrs. Mary Hull, Ida McDonald, Mrs. Frank Martin, Mrs. Virginia Jones and Mrs. Maggie Woodruff as all being members of the club at one time or another.

Does anyone know of any other early day social or service clubs and their members? Please let us know by calling 816-386-2977. Or drop us an e-mail at westonhistoricalmuseum.org anytime. Thanks!

A hug is like a boomerang - you get it back right away.
 Bil Keane

Ohlhausens Gift Museum With Plasma TV

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Life Members Bill and Jean Ohlhausen of Platte Woods, the museum is now the proud owner of a large flat screen plasma TV.

It has been set up on the first floor of the museum on the desk of the Honorable Bill Hull.

Plans are to take some of the photographs of museum events, as well as video-taped family interviews done by museum member Judy Juergens, and put them on a continuous stream for visitors to watch and enjoy.

With this addition to the museum, plus the new computers and museum software program we procured last year, we have finally moved into the 21st century.

New Hostess at Museum

For the past few years, Barbara Bless has served as a daytime hostess for the Museum. Last fall, she cut her time to one day a week and Susan Cline Grinlinton, one of our regular Monday volunteers and Friday hostess, stepped in to take over Barbara's Thursday shift.

Barbara has chosen to step back from hostessing duties altogether. Volunteering to take her Wednesday duties has been Bonnie Stewart, late of the Weston Chamber of Commerce. She and her husband Allen are active in many community groups and events. We are grateful she has decided to join us.

Barbara will continue to do graphics and layout of the *Museum Musings*.

Museum Officers & Staff:

President	Carl Felling
Vice-President.....	Clay Bauske
Secretary	Patricia Benner
Treasurer	Ted Wilson
Director	Barb Fulk
Curator	Carolyn Larsen
Hostesses	Sigi Rowland
.....	Susan Grinlinton
.....	Bonnie Stewart

Bits and Pieces from Bertha's Morgue

An item in the local newspaper of Nov. 7, 1922 reads thus: "The debating Club of Burrus met Monday night and effected a complete organization. Officers are president, John C. Harris; vice-pres., John Pepper; secretary, Miss Naomi Fulton; treasurer, C.J. Bonnell; sergeant at arms, Joe Bonnell; editors of neighborhood paper, Mrs. Terrel Richardson and Mrs. J.C. Harris; program committee, Mesdames C.J. Bonnell, Wm. Murphy, Brice Ross, J.C. Harris, Dewey Richardson and Miss Bess Kay.

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A story in an issue of The Weston Chronicle, dated November 3, 1933 we find the following: "Thomas Kephart, a resident of Smithville, is the oldest tobacco grower in Clay County, having raised 5 acres of tobacco in 1872 and every year since. Two of his crops cleared the mortgage on the farm with \$1200.00. In 1926 he topped the market of 68,000 lbs. white the average of \$33.50.

Kephart sold his very first crop near 4th & Main in Kansas City for 4c a pound. He can remember when Burley was first introduced in this area; Missouri buyers at St. Louis were afraid of the new leaf and wouldn't bid. Kentucky buyers sensed a good buy and gave fabulous prices."

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"Rev. W.M. Case, the husband of Mabel Hamm of this city, preached at the Presbyterian church in Parkville. He officiated at the wedding of the oft-divorced Barbara Hutton when many other ministers refused to do so," according to an article in the July 22, 1938 Weston Chronicle.

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An item from the Nov. 22, 1965 issue of The Weston Chronicle gives us this: "The Midland Empire Cowboy, Ernest "Tex" Cashman died at Wadsworth, Kansas, October 7th at the age of 66 years. Tex was born April 4, 1899 at Clinton, Mo., to Jess and Nell Earp Cashman.

Tex was very well known in this area for his participation in civic and fund raising events. He wrestled at the Weston tobacco show many times and led the Centennial at Platte City, riding his famous horse "Judy", in 1963. At that time "Judy" was the oldest known parade horse in the United States at the age of 29 years old.

Tex and his wife, Flora, lived at Bean Lake for a number of years until moving to St. Joseph. Flora preceded him in death on March of this year."

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An item from the May 13, 1966 issue of the local newspaper reads, "Jim Pepper, Freshman at Missouri University, has received word from Washington, D.C., that he has been selected for Marine Officers Training. He will leave for Quantico, Va., on June 13 for 6-8 weeks of training. The program consists of summer training and at least three years in the Marine Corps following graduation from College."

Schaback 26 Years Manager Of Pleasant Ridge Cemetery

This article is from "The Weston Chronicle" issue of November 3, 1950.

Tuesday Wm. Schaback rounded out his 26th year as manager of the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, which in its approximate 106 years has grown from a very small beginning to a well kept cemetery. Visitors from many places have said they knew of none that had better care. Mr. Schaback has spent much time in various ways in the upkeep and sometimes has had to use a firm hand in seeing that the policies of the Association were carried out.

The oldest monument in the cemetery bears an inscription of 1844. The Association has been incorporated since 1878.

When Mr. Schaback first became manager, the finances of the cemetery were in very bad shape and through a care fund for future maintenance begun through his efforts, the financial condition is one of which he may well feel proud, and should be a source of a great deal of satisfaction to those whose loved ones sleep in this beautiful, well-cared for spot. The prices of the lots have not increased commensurate with the times. A lot of detail and much time is spent in the management of a cemetery and it is sometimes a thankless job, only last year Mr. Schaback made 108 trips to the cemetery in the interest of the public and in the transaction of its business. He has even been known to build some of the foundations for the stones.

Tuesday at the annual meeting of the Association there was not a quorum and Wednesday morning Mr. Schaback began his 27th year with the Association.



Weston Historical Museum Annual Dinner Meeting

Sunday, November 3rd • 6:00 p.m.

The Eventful at Locust Grove
25180 JJ Highway • Weston, Missouri

THE EVENING'S PROGRAM

Gary Hicks

“An Interpretive Portrayal of Alexander Majors”



**Reservations are
\$25 per person.**

*Deadline for
reservations is
Monday, October 28*

Please fill out the form below and mail it or bring it to:

The Weston Museum
P.O. Box 266, 601 Main Street
Weston, MO 64098

Name _____

Phone Number (____) _____

No. of Reservations _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Weston Started Missouri Tobacco Industry

This article was dated Jan. 5, 1921 and came from "The Weston Chronicle".

Weston has the first loose leaf tobacco market in Missouri, to the envy of some of our larger neighbors, but Weston ought to have it as she started the tobacco industry in Missouri. The market was formally opened Wednesday morning. Quite a number of growers in adjoining counties and every farmer from near Weston were present.

The first basket was raised just outside of St. Joseph in Buchanan County, and brought \$26 for J.M. Wilson. Something like 80,000 pounds of tobacco was sold during the day, at a price average of #9.54 per hundred pounds. Mr. Barnard of Louisville, Ky., said tobacco sold higher on the Weston market Wednesday than on any market in the U.S. These sales will continue from two to four days each week until the crop is all sold.

The men promoting this market are entitled to every encouragement and support. Our fellow townsman, J.B. Doran, is the leading local spirit in promoting this market. With him are associated men of experience in the tobacco trade from Louisville, Ky., among them J.C. Stone, who is well known here among tobacco raisers, J.B. Doran is general manager; R.N. Beatty, secretary and treasurer; Lawrence Jones, superintendent of prizing dept.; Smith Baker, manager of the sales force; and W.H. Brill, weightmaster; C.C. Layton, auctioneer.

Welcome to New and Renewing Members

The Museum and Historical Society added another new membership last month:

- Dan and Danielle West, Family

If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining the Museum as a member, please contact Clay Bauske, Membership Chairman, at the Museum 386-2977. We would be happy to send prospective members a copy of the latest newsletter via regular or e-mail.

Please be on the lookout for renewal notices which will be going out in the next month or two. Membership dues for 2014 are due January 1st.

Did You Know . . .

. . . that Mr. H.L. Watchous opened a variety store in Weston in 1936? A year later he sold to W.C. Crume and was employed as an engineer on a housing project at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.

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. . . that Elbert Tuennissen opened a "first-class" meat market in Weston in 1890? He came to America from Holland in 1885 and sold his meat shop in 1901 to Engel who moved the shop to the location of present day Pastimes Restaurant.

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. . . that Weston had an Athletic Club in 1913? It was organized in February of that year with a membership of 40. Officers: Terrence Riley, pres.; Louis Turner, vice-pres.; Eugene Doppler, secretary; Neal Houser, Treas.; T.J. Bradley, Advocate. Board of Trustees were Terrence Riley, George Schroeder, W.T. Miller, Charles Quinley and George Holladay.

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. . . that the girls were not left out? In September of 1916, the ladies of the town formed their own Athletic Club with Esther Ohlhausen as president.

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. . . that Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Carpenter celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July 1915? He was a well-known photographer in Weston. The couple had a two-story home at the top of Main street, with his photography shop on the street level of the home. Mrs. Carpenter (Ann Eliza Givens) was called "Carp." She ate rose petals and cream and talked to her favorite birds in her yard, to the delight of Weston's children.

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. . . that two brothers from the Weston-Platte City area were both killed in W.W.I? Jack Barnett was killed in action in July of 1918 and Stanley, his brother, was killed in France in November of that same year.

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. . . that Mrs. John Kirkendahl (nee Theresa Trudersheim) was one of four people who were able to make it through a huge blizzard for Easter Services at Holy Trinity Catholic church in Weston? The others were Shortridge Baker, Wm. E. Cash, and Mrs. Solomon Casner (Lena Haas). This was April 4, 1920.

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. . . that Mildred K. Carroll opened a beauty shop in Weston in 1956? The Shop was called the Weston Beauty Shop and was located on Market street next to the Chronicle building.

2013 Weston History Essay Contest

The Weston Historical Museum is sponsoring its second *Weston History Essay Contest*. Open to anyone, the contest offers cash and other prizes for the best original essays on Weston's history.

This year's essay theme is:

A Moment in Time: Weston's Most Memorable Year

The contest will be held in three categories, as follows:

Elementary School Division: Open to students in elementary school (grades K-6) as of October 25, 2013. Essays should be 200 to 700 words and may be hand printed or typed. First Place prize is \$50.00 cash. There will also be gifts for second and third place, and certificates of appreciation for all entries.

Junior and Senior High School Division: Open to students in junior and senior high school (grades 7-12) as of October 25, 2013. Essays must be typed and should not exceed 2,000 words. First Place prize is \$150 cash. There will also be gifts for second and third place finishers, and certificates of appreciation for all entries.

Open Division: This division is open to any applicants of any age. Essays must be typed and should not exceed 3,000 words. First Place prize is \$250 cash. There will also be gifts for second and third place finishers, and certificates of appreciation for all entries.

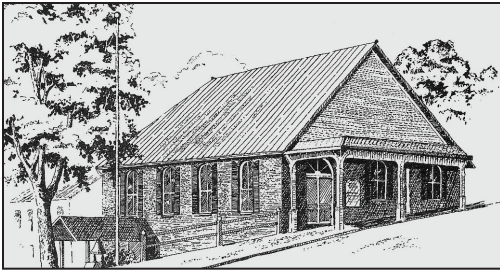
All essays must be original works specifically created for this essay contest and must reflect the theme "A Moment in Time: Weston's Most Memorable Year." They cannot be versions of articles and essays that have been produced previously as a school research paper, a published article, or any other previously-produced essay. The Weston Historical Museum can provide resource materials, topic suggestions, and other advice. Call the Museum at (816) 386-2977 for assistance.

Essays will be judged by a panel selected by the Weston Historical Museum Board. Judging will be based on the quality of the essay and its adherence to this year's essay theme. Contest participants shall retain their rights to the articles but shall agree to grant the Weston Historical Museum non-exclusive rights to publish the essays in any form (including, but not limited to newsletters, website, and other formats).

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Complete an official 2013 Weston History Essay Contest Entry Form. The Entry Form is available at the Weston Historical Museum or can be downloaded from the Weston Historical Museum website at www.westonhistoricalmuseum.org.
2. Hand deliver or mail the contest Entry Form, along with a copy of your essay, to the Weston Historical Museum, 601 Main Street, Weston, Missouri, 64098, no later than Friday, October 25, 2013.

Deadline for entries: Friday, October 25, 2013



WESTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

P.O. Box 266 • 601 Main Street
Weston, Missouri 64098

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U.S. Postage

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Permit No. 7

"If we do not know our history, we will lose our road to the future."

Unknown

Today's Mystery Corner:

This picture was probably not taken in Weston, but this group is thought to be connected with our town.

It is thought that the man standing at the far left of the picture is either a Herndon or a Mothershead, both superintendents here in Weston at one time.

We also believed one of the trombonists in the picture is Alexander White, who was killed in 1917 by a jealous husband when



White was performing in St. Louis. White was considered the 2nd best trombonist in the world next to Arthur Pryor. He was a relative of Mrs. Mahlon Gabbert

and is buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Does anyone recognize anyone in the photo or the place it was taken?