



# BARRY COUNTY REFLECTIONS

A Quarterly Publication of the Barry County Museum

Volume III, Issue 3

September 2010

Treasuring the Past  
Embracing the Present  
Envisioning the Future

The Barry County  
Museum  
is located south of  
Cassville  
on Highway 112

**HOURS**  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday—Saturday  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday

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## Dry plate photographs on display

Rolfe C. Davis willed land to June West, grandmother of Dutch Mitchell, on which antique camera equipment and dry plates were found inside an abandoned boxcar.

Rolfe was born November 26, 1879 to Leonidas Davis and Lucinda Appleby (Davis appears to be Lucinda's third marriage). A native of Reading, Kansas, in Lyon County, Rolfe had relocated to Barry County, near Seligman, by the 1930 census, after the deaths of his half-brothers Charles D. Appleby (1868-1920) and William T. Appleby (1870-1926), whose name is written in one of the camera boxes. They were buried in the Phillips Cemetery near Reading, KS. Rolfe died in 1953 of heart trouble and was buried in Corinth Cemetery in Barry County. His death certificate listed his usual occupation as gunsmith.

Dry plating was developed to replace wet plating, which required the photographer to use the plate within 20 minutes of being prepared. In 1871, Englishman Dr. R.L. Maddox introduced the idea that silver bromide held in a layer of gelatin could be used instead of collodion to coat dry plates. In 1878, Charles Harper Bennett developed a way of treating the plates to make the silver bromide emulsion more stable and sensitive to light. But it was George Eastman who would popularize the dry plate in America thanks to his patent

of a dry plate coating machine in September 1879 that was able to mass-produce dry plates for photographers. For the first time photographers could expose plates and then develop them at their convenience.



Samples of Dry Plate Photographs by Rolfe Davis

#### Photographs by Maud Stacy

Martha Maud Stacy (January 22, 1873-July 11, 1949) of Central Township, Barton County Missouri, was listed on the 1900 census with the occupation of photographer.

Never married, Maud seemed to give up the trade on later censuses, with her occupation listed as "none."

Maud's photos of rural schools Farmer, Prairie Star, and Oskaloosa were located near the farm owned by Maud's father, William Isaac Stacy. Amy Jackman, teacher of the 1907 class at Oskaloosa, appears to have been a neighbor of the Stacy family. The 1910 census of Barton County lists the teacher of Prairie Star, Willa M. Veale's, occupation, as "teacher" at a "bible school."



Samples of Dry Plate Photographs by Maud Stacy

Maud Stacy plates are on loan from James Barsotti, Sr. Mr. Barsotti purchased plates at a sale in Cassville and generously shared them with the Museum for preservation.

# Pasley School—District 86

## Poetry Nook



Pasley School circa 1897. Students identified are: (1) Claud Blaine Stubblefield, (2) Victoria Stubblefield Freeze and (3) Allen Stubblefield.

Thomas J. Pasley and his wife Suzanna, deeded one acre to George Dodson, Nathaniel Weddle and said Thomas J. Pasley, Township Board of Education, for Section 18, Tw. 22, Range 27, on June 2, 1868 (located 5 miles South of Cassville, MO), with the express understanding between said parties that the land be used for a school house site for said township. It is unknown when the first school building was erected, but supposedly it was shortly thereafter, with the school named Pasley, and becoming School District #86. It is known that at least three different buildings were built. The second building burned in 1951. At that time School was held in nearby Corinth Baptist Church until

a new building was erected. In 1952 Cassville Consolidated School purchased the property, but school was still held in the building until 1956-57 school year, known as Pasley Ward School. After that year students attended school in Cassville. On December 10, 1957 Cassville Consolidated School sold back the property to Pasley Community Center, whose trustees were George Cox, Barney Fogg, Gail Hopkins, Albert Sanders and Albert Stubblefield. For several years the building was used for the Head Start Program. The property was sold to David and Tricia Vaught December 30, 1993. The Trustees were Lynn Smith, Gilbert Stubblefield, Red Edens and Tom Vandorn. The proceeds

from the sale were divided between Corinth Baptist Church and the Corinth Cemetery Association. The Vaught's remodeled the building to make it their home. \*\*\*\*\*  
*Photograph and information submitted by Allene (Stubblefield) Brock.*  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
*The Pasley School is just one of 112 rural Barry County schools currently being researched by the Rural School Project. Fran Bolton and Penny Bailey meet Wednesdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Barry County Museum.*  
*If you have photographs, information, memories or anecdotes about any rural school please contact them at the Barry County Museum (417) 847-1640.*

### SUNRISE

Sunrise, what a beautiful sight  
 We've made it thru another night.  
 We see them over and over again,  
 And in it the beauty of God's glorious hand.  
 Soon birds, animals and people are all astir about the business of the day,  
 The beauty of the sunrise gone away.  
 But if you stop and give a thought of the beauty God has wrought you'll see it again, at . . . Sunset.

### SUNSET

Day is done . . .  
 Now comes the setting of the sun.  
 The horizon is painted with colors we can only guess  
 From center to center setting to the west.  
 All around the land we can see God's majestic hand.  
 Soon will come darkness of the night.  
 The lovely colors faded from our sight.  
 Then comes the stars and the moon  
 And again very soon, another Sunrise.

By Doris (Moore) Hayes  
 \*\*\*\*\*



No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face.

John Donne



A fallen leaf is nothing more than a summer's wave good bye.

## Volunteer Spotlight—Darrell and Bev Ledenham



Bev and Darrell Ledenham

Darrell and Bev have been volunteering at the museum since January of 2009. They have assisted with book signings, displays, and sharing their vast knowledge of the history of this area.

Both Darrell and Bev come from long-time Barry County families and have grown up in the area. They recently celebrated their 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary and are the parents of three children and have six grandchildren.

Darrell retired from the Department of Health and Senior Services and currently works at the Cassville Post Office. He enjoys buying and refinishing antiques. Bev retired from the Division of Family Services and enjoys spending time with her

grandchildren and reading.

The Ledenham family came to Barry County from Texas in 1872 in a wagon train. J.F. Rowley, along with his daughter Anna and new son-in-law, Henry Franklin Ledenham, and J.F.'s best friend Andrew Hopkins settled in Barry County. The Rowley family left Texas at the constable's urging because 12-year-old Columbus Rowley had killed another 12-year-old boy by the name of Black during an argument over whether a body of water was a swimming hole or a fishing hole. The Black family posted a large reward for Columbus—dead or alive. Both the Blacks and the Rowleys were prominent and wealthy families in Texas.

Henry Franklin and Anna

Ledenham became parents of three children; Perry, Belle (Leon Erwin's mother) and Susie, who had downs syndrome and died at the age of 62.

Perry Ledenham was the father of Pharis Ledenham, who was Darrell's father. Pharis told his children about playing with arrowheads taken from his grandmother Anna's covered wagon. Anna and Pharis were very close until her death in 1926.

Mr. Rowley had quite a life history. He rode with Quantrill and his group and went to California during the Gold Rush. He had many children by different wives and named them some unusual names, such as Columbus, Lafayette, Napoleon, and Amazon, as he had also been to South America. He died in his two-story flagstone house in Washburn. Several years ago some extended family came to visit and the current owners invited them into the house. Mr. Rowley was quite crippled in old age having suffered gunshot wounds and a buggy wreck. In his bedroom there was still a hook on the ceiling that he had attached a rope to to get himself out of bed.

In later years, after Andrew Hopkins was elected sheriff and Columbus was 19, Hopkins turned on the family and decided to collect the reward money. Columbus was cutting logs by Corsicana when he got the news that Hopkins was after him. He cut the work horses used for skidding logs loose, jumped on one and began to ride away as he saw Hopkins coming. Andrew shot him in the back of the head and killed him. The family buried the boy on their place in Washburn, which now belongs to Glen Erwin. They put up four large

posts and hung lanterns on them and lit the lanterns at night and chained dogs to the posts for fear someone would dig him up for the reward money.

At a later date Napoleon Rowley was in the saloon at Washburn (old town Washburn on Hwy. 37) when Sheriff Hopkins came in to make peace because there had obviously been bad blood between the families. Andrew offered to buy Rowley a drink. Rowley replied, "No, SOB that shot my little brother can buy me a drink!" Napoleon killed Andrew Hopkins. Andrew Hopkins was the great-grandfather of Jimmy Hopkins, who still has the badge Andrew was wearing when he was killed.

Beverly Cantwell Ledenham has long ties to Barry County as well. Beverly is the daughter of Clida and Wilma (Decocq) Cantwell. Clida grew up on the 120 acre Cantwell farm in the Pasley community, and attended Pasley School. The Cantwells farmed and raised cattle. They also ran cattle in the hills on open range, and in Dry Holler. They would brand their cattle so they would know whose belonged to who. In 1996 the farm was recognized as a Century Farm.

Wilma DeCocq is the first of ten children born to Benjamin Henry Decocq, who was born in Monett, and Jewett (Keeling) Decocq, who was born in Cassville. Jewett's parents, George Allen and Mary Jane (Phillips) Keeling were both born in Barry County and spent most of their lives in the Butterfield Area.

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*The Volunteer Spotlight is a new feature honoring the generous people assisting the Museum.*

*Volunteers' names were placed in a flower vase and will be selected randomly to spotlight.*

# Marie Crowe's Scrumptious Bread



## Marie Crowe's Bread

- 3 cups lukewarm water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2/3 cup shortening, softened
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 pkgs. dry yeast
- 7 cups flour
- 1 egg

Dissolve yeast in 1/2 cup water. Put water in large bowl or pan; add sugar, softened shortening, salt, egg, and yeast. Mix and add flour gradually until the batter becomes stiff. Pour onto floured board and work until easily handled. Put into large, well oiled pan. Fill pan 1/2 full. Let rise to top of pan. Put into preheated 350° oven for 30 minutes or until it is golden brown. Brush with butter. Remove from pan.

\*\*\*\*\*

We moved to Cassville when I was seven years old, around 1942. There was me, Rena, Zella and Vera. Rena and Zella are both gone, so it's just me and Vera; she lives in Hawaii.

Daddy got sick right after we got here. They thought he would only live three months, but he lived until 1960. We lived in a little white house behind McGruder's on Hwy. 37, the next road out. There is a little white house and a bigger white barn, that's what we bought when we got here. When Daddy got sick we had to sell that, and moved to what we called the Shaggy Down

house. When it snowed there was as much snow on the floor as there was outside. We didn't really realize we were poor. Mother grew a garden and canned and we always had chickens. She'd run out there and whack one of their heads off and we'd have it for lunch.

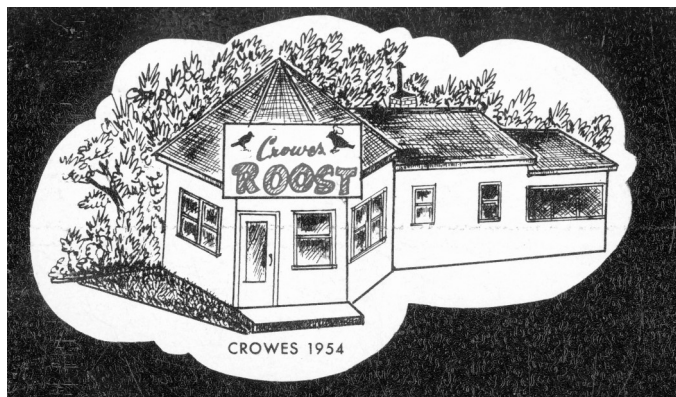
did, milk cows and farm.

My parents started the little cafe up by the railroad tracks in 1954. It was called the Crowe's Roost. It was right there by that creek that runs across by that little station; there's a concrete pad there now. They ran that for two

where The Rib is now and ran Crowe's Dinner House. They bought that in '56. It was just the little room where they hold parties now—that was the whole restaurant.

Just about everybody in town worked for us at one time or another. The girls that were in high school fought to get the jobs as waitress. We had a lot of fun. It wasn't quite as strict as it is now. Me and some of the waitresses would take off and go skiing in the afternoon in the summertime. It was a lot of playing as well as work. Of course, then people worked; everybody really wanted to work then. Everybody really got along good. And then, I really like cooking too.

One of the most fun times was the Jamboree. I got married every day there for a few



First Crowe's Restaurant

years, and then they bought

And we slaughtered a pig or a cow for meat. We always had enough to get by on. We didn't have anything extra. We went barefooted in the summer and had shoes in the winter.

My parents, V.V. and Marie Crowe, opened the restaurant right after I went into the service. Mother had worked for John Hancock at John Hancock Dinner House, down where the health department is now. Vera was the only one at home and Mother decided she wanted to open a place. All the years we were home Mother stayed home and we milked cows. That's mainly what we



Marie and Jerry Crowe

Fields' Photo Archives



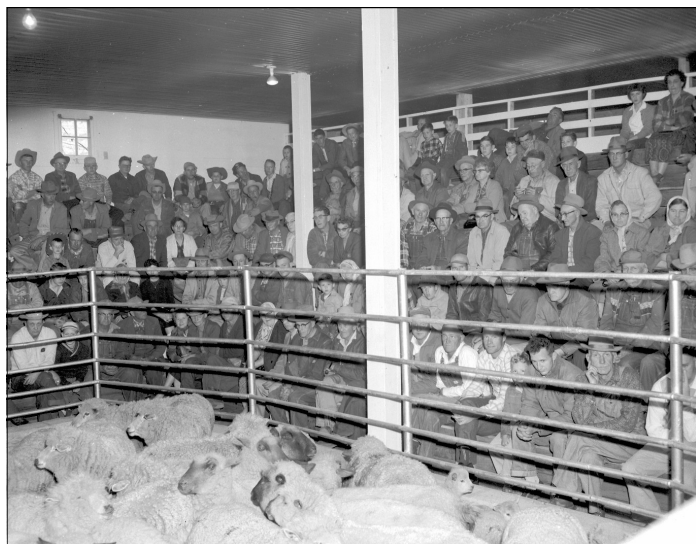
Crowe's Dinner House

Fields' Photo Archives

days. Had a shotgun wedding and I was always there. We had a family style dinner, we had real long tables and everybody came—it was a lot of fun. It was talking to the people and all the help. It was more like family than it was employees really.

*Recipe and information provided by Jerry Crowe.*

## Fields' Featured Photo



Keen Sale Barn Opening Day, 1961

Fields' Photo Archives

Worth Keen and his cousin, Wendell Keen, purchased the sale barn from Earl Hood and Lester Loftin around 1951.

In the late '50s Worth and his wife, Lona Mae, bought the auction house in Harrison, Arkansas and the Cassville sale barn was not in use for a while.

In 1961 Worth bought Wendell's portion of the business. Fresh out of the service, Gary Keen, Worth's and Lona Mae's son, along with his wife Rosetta, gave the old barn a good makeover and began having cattle auctions.

Gary was called back to the service in 1962 and once again the sale barn had to be closed.

When Gary was released six months later he started buying butcher hogs, and the sale barn served as his buying station.

In the early '70s Gary and R.G. Edmondson formed a partnership selling feeder pigs. The pair continued in the feeder pig market for several years.

In 1980 Gary bought R.G.'s share of the business and began cattle auctions as the sale barn.

Throughout their ownership of the sale barn Rosetta worked alongside her husband, often as the sole bookkeeper. When the cattle auctions be-

gan extra help was needed, but all work was done by hand—no computers to assist.

The sale barn was not only a place of business, it was also a time for farmers and friends to meet and catch up. "It was a lot of hard work, but it was also a social time. It was a family effort, a family business." Rosetta shared.

In 1988, on December 15 the sale went on as always. The following day Gary's and Rosetta's oldest son, Greg, was involved in an accident that would take his life. From that time on the barn was used only for the Keen's personal livestock needs; the auctions no longer took place.

"I've had a good, blessed life," Rosetta states. "There have been ups and downs, but it's been a good life."

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*The Barry County Museum is incredibly fortunate to house the photo negative collection of Fields' Photo Archives.*

*Beginning with Ma and Pa Fields and continuing with their son Max and his wife Margie, the business operated in Cassville for over five decades.*

*We are proud to offer the negatives for others to enjoy, and preserve Barry County history.*

## Save History Coming Soon

For over five years Barry County Museum employee Schrediah Mahurin has been conducting oral histories with local residents. In addition to the wonderful stories told by each individual, a great deal of Barry County history is being recorded for future generations to enjoy.

In addition to the stories, Mahurin has also been entrusted with many, many old photographs to be used in the publications. These photographs are loaned to the museum on a temporary basis, scanned, then returned to the owner.

We invite anyone who has old photographs of Barry County, people or places, to bring them to the museum to be scanned so that history can be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

Along the same line, in our reference room we are seeking publications documenting the history of all towns and communities in Barry County, and surrounding areas. While we have several high school yearbooks, our collection is far from complete.

Our current inventory includes: **Cassville**; 1927, 28, 29, 30, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, 45, 47, 48, 49, 58, 59, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 77, 79, 83, 84, 85, 86, 90, 92, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 2000, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10. **Exeter**; 1954, 63, 67, 69, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 89, 2001, 02, 05, 06, 07, 08. **Purdy**; 1967, 71, 72, 73, 90, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 2001, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09. **Southwest**; 1956, 76, 94, 96, 2000, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 07, 08. **Wheaton**; 1981, 82, 83, 85, 87, 89, 92, 97, 2002, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 09, 10.

We would greatly appreciate the donation of any of the missing years for our reference library.

In addition to the book signing for Volume 12 on September 24, the following events are being planned:

- September-October, hunting and fishing displays. Also featured is artwork by Larry Hayworth and Linda Pickens.

- November-December, annual Christmas displays.

### **CALLING ALL COLLECTORS**

The museum is seeking individuals with interesting holiday related collections to display. There will be a contest, to be decided by visitors to the museum, for best commercial and best individual displays. Ballots will be collected and the winner will be announced December 17.

The award for best individual display will be a complete 13-volume set of *Lifetimes of Memories*. Award for best commercial display will be a **Sho-Me**® rechargeable light. Please call the museum for more information. Display cases and locations will be granted on a first come basis.

- December 3, book signing for *Lifetimes of Memories* Volume 13, and drawing for *Notes of Harmony* quilt.

- Barry County Museum float in local Christmas parades. (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!)

- January, Antique quilts display.

February, FFA display (tentative)

- CALLING ALL SHUTTERBUGS—We would love to sponsor an amateur photography display/contest. Show us your best shot!

If you have any items or stories that would enhance any of the displays, or if you would like to help assemble the exhibits, or if you have suggestions for future displays, please contact Amber or Kay at 847-1640.

Postage

### The Barry County Museum

- Collecting, preserving and exhibiting items that illustrate the past, present and future of Barry County.
- Fields' Photo Archives - a collection of more than one million negatives available for public viewing and researching.
- Oral History Project - capturing the stories of long-time county residents to create a collective memory of Barry County life.
- Display space for community art exhibits and collections.

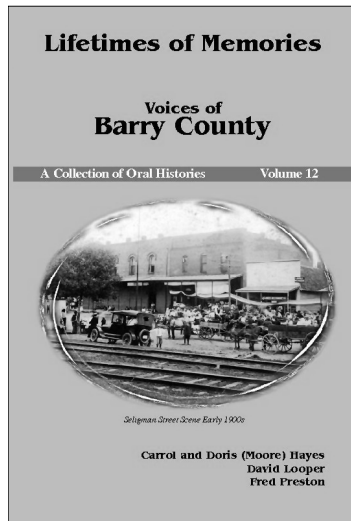
Would like to receive  
Barry County Reflections?  
Become a museum member!

Lifetime Benefactor	\$1000
Annual Sustaining Gold	\$ 500
Annual Sustaining Silver	\$ 250
Annual Sustaining Bronze	\$ 100
Annual Patron	\$ 50
Annual Family	\$ 20
Annual Senior (60+)	\$ 10

#### Members Receive

- 10% discount in museum gift shop
- Exclusive invitations to special events
- Subscription to Barry County Reflections

## Lifetimes of Memories - Volume 12



A book signing for *Lifetimes of Memories, Voices of Barry County* Volume 12 is scheduled for Friday, September 24, 2010 from 3 to 6 P.M.

The new celebrities sharing their stories are Carrol and Doris (Moore) Hayes, David Looper and Fred Preston.

Light refreshments will be

served and narrators will be on hand to autograph their stories.

Previous narrators include; Volume 1: Alta (Stamps) Coffey, Loren Cole, Charlene (VanZandt) Jeffries, Eunice (Patton) Lyall, Esther (Kelley) Weddington. Volume 2: Buck and Peggy (Carey) Calton, Nelle (Stanton) Campbell, Aubry McNabb, Raymond Phariss, Lloyd Reed. Volume 3: Dorothy (Sullens) Atwell, Jewel (Nafus) Bratton, Richard (Sarge) Carney, Wilma (Mizer) Hall, Cora (Hilburn) Reed, Nellie (England) Stever, Charles Weathers. Volume 4: C.E. Atwell, Wilma (Decocq) Cantwell, R.G. Fisher, Eva (Oxendine) Holder, Opal (Long) Santee, James Woods. Volume 5: Hansford Ash, Mary (Tucker) Higgs, Emory Melton. Volume 6: Jewell (Nickle) Davis, Joseph Eng-

land, Freddie (Akin) Hemphill, Juanita Louise (Dodson) Neill. Volume 7: Noel and Floriene (Joel) Brock, Dorothea (Rorebeck) Cox, Wilma (Thomas) Easley, Fredalene (Cooper) Horner, Loretta (Smith) Mitchell. Volume 8: Jewell (Hutchens) Farwell, Nettie (Pozniak) Feeney, Mildred (Henry) Hendrix, Lola (Smith) Isley, Robert and Mammie (McCormick) Lane, Edna (Smalley) Painter. Volume 9: Sue (Hawk) Blythe, Geneva (Mitchell) Girouard, Jean (Sanders) Melton, Robert and Marjorie (Young) Ryder, George and Opal Fern (Beam) Utter. Volume 10: Max Fields, Dick Harris, Dr. Eugene Miekley. Volume 11: Vern and Lucy (Baker) Dalton, Carl & Christine (Jones) Davidson, Lorene (Miller) Meadows, Madge (Holman) Sparkman.



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