Tonganoxie Sesquicentennial (1866-2016)

Who are these two boys seen in the photo to the right. A few people may guess one, but I am buying coffee and a donut for the first person who can name these boys. First to report the correct answer is the winner.

June 10-11 were days celebrating Tonganoxie’s 150 years of existence. From Magdalena Bury’s platting of Tonganoxie in 1866 until June 2016 when Tonganoxie celebrated one hundred and fifty years of being, people came and celebrated. There was something for every one to enjoy and some remembered the past. The photo at the left is probably the earliest known photo of Tonganoxie. It was taken by Alexander Gardner in 1867. In this photo is 4th street and a few buildings existing at that time. Numerous Railroad ties are noted in the foreground. The blue line notes fourth Street. From this photo one easily notes the numerous changes that have taken place over these 150 years.

Many events were available to help celebrate these 150 years. Most did not actually involve any history. There were two exceptional exhibits that did have information about the history of Tonganoxie.

The Tonganoxie library with assistance from the Tonganoxie Historical Society developed a powerpoint program that could be observed at five locations along the east wall inside the library. Each location had several historical pictures with text explaining what the photo represented. Each exhibit was a separate display with different photos and text. I believe this material will be available for viewing for several months.

The photo with text represents the type of display seen at the library. This is a picture of Frank Henry’s grocery store before it burned. The text seen below the photo discusses the grocery store and the fact that this location became the site of the Tonganoxie Library until the library moved to 3rd street.

The Tonganoxie Community Historical Society also provided some historical displays that were located in the old Ratliff’s Drug Store. (For more history about the Ratliff pharmacy and the Ratliff family see the article below.)
Kris Roberts was in charge of TCHS’ program, but she had numerous outstanding helpers. She took the story, *The Martyrs of '56* told by a Mr. Golden, who was actually one of the Martyrs of '56, and enhanced the story by detailing by map the route taken by these three men. The men left Leavenworth and were headed to Lawrence. It was a time in our history that “Bleeding Kansas” was really bleeding. They were fleeing from the “Border Ruffians”. The entire story is true. All three men were shot and left for dead. Two of the men made it to Lawrence, but only Mr. Golden who was very badly wounded lived to tell this story. Tonga Noxie, commonly called Chief Tonganoxie, but that is another story, aided Mr. Golden by providing a place of rest and hiding.

Kris was also a force in marketing “The Traditional Tales of Tonganoxie”. This project has been discussed in previous newsletters and numerous YouTube video links have been provided in publications that provided short clips of this movie. This movie is narrated much on a style commonly known as “Ken Burns”, but it has movie clips of interviews within the narrated portion. It is over 6 hours long, and is 4 DVDs. Each DVD is ca. 90 minutes long, but don’t worry, the movie has chapters so you can watch a 10 minute chapter and later watch another chapter. It covers about 100 years of Tonganoxie beginning with the Indians and touching on the Depression and WWII. Country Schools, cemeteries around Tonganoxie and most, if not all of the buildings and people in Tongie are discussed as part of this video.

For those who have not discovered who made this movie, it is a project of Laurie’s and mine, with help of numerous historical interviews (both video and audio) of people with considerable knowledge of the history of Tonganoxie. The most interesting audio interview was of Jack Hoey, cowboy and cowboy movie star, as well as a rodeo star. Margaret Gallagher, Grace and Helen Shilling did this interview at the VA while Jack was a patient.

The picture on the left is the dust cover for the 4 DVD’s. The left side lists the Chapters within the DVDs. Here they are difficult to read.

I haven’t kept count but I believe over 60 of these DVD’s have been sold. For those who would like to purchase a set the cost is $28.00 plus shipping (if it has to be mailed). To purchase a set, contact the Tonganoxie Historical Society. It is really a very interesting video, moves well throughout. The set would make a good gift.

Bill Peak was another who had a significant role in our historical operation at Ratliff’s Drug Store. He helped in many ways. He was responsible for several money making projects. His black Bowler hat probably raised more money for TCHS than one would like to admit. I don’t think he was selling any dirt this time, but I have told it, that Bill can sell anything, even dirt. The sad part of this story is Bill and his wife Kathy Peak are leaving this area soon for Arkansas. All
kidding aside, the years he was involved with TCHS, Bill was responsible for raising many dollars. He sold tickets, chances, and probably personally sold over 30 of the DVDs. His wife Kathy helped me significantly with the historical interviews. Although she was not from Tonganoxie she in some manner prepared herself for all the interviews that she was involved. She knew her subjects, but she let the people being interviewed tell their story without interruptions. All you might hear was a question and then a “yes” or “ummh”. THEY BOTH WILL BE MISSED.

There were numerous activities for young and the young at heart. The first kid fun thing I saw was this “tent” with device that would let a kid jump like a trampoline. At my age I wondered how the people could be so active inside a tent when the temperature was 95 and the humidity must have been 200%. On Friday afternoon the celebration began ca. 4. Not very many people were around probably because they were still at work, but there was plenty of activity to keep the young happy.

By Saturday this contraption was erected and again heat didn’t seem to bother this activity either. This looked exciting to me, but my wife was smarter, as always, and wouldn’t give me any money for the activity. However, every time I saw this activity, I thought all who rode this thing really were having fun. In my mind it was the best.

The ride that surprised me was the pony ride. I don’t think it was well attended. I never saw more than one or two kids riding. Perhaps it was out of the way or I wasn’t there at the right time.

One of the more adult oriented activities was a large well painted Rumely steam engine. Although I was by there several times, I never saw many people looking at the machine. It was located on the southwest corner of 2nd and Main Street. This photo was taken ca. 11 AM on Saturday. I again thought that this good looking steam engine. It may have been too far off the beaten path for most people to see. It had to be a destination point to get there. This company was around for many years with some modification of the name, but ca. 1931 it was merged into Allis Chalmers tractors.

Another exhibit that did have good attendance was the car show located at the VA Park. For being such a distance from the main activities, it was well attended. You couldn’t see all the people until you went down into
the parking area. Although it was quite a distance from 4th street, one had to drive to get there, but there were few obstacles in driving there. There was something for everyone.

There were numerous entertainers. Generally this involved music. There were three stages, and although I didn’t get down that way very often, Stage 1 was located at Gallagher Park. This park is located on the site where Margaret and Harry Gallagher raised their family. Harry Jr., Bob, Larry and Jim Gallagher all grew up in a small house on this spot. When Margaret died, the house and lot were given to the city which made a park out of the location. Stage 1 was probably the most popular because the beer garden was on the street separating the park from the pool. It was hot and the beer was cold—so I was told.

I went down to Gallagher Park to hear the Tonganoxie City Band. Most of the band consisted of adults who had been in the Tonganoxie High School Band. It is easy to see why people liked their bands. When television, etc. was not around people were more adept at making their own entertainment. Hence the need for a city band. Tonganoxie had several Bands. The Citizen’s band had Wm Heynen and his Cornet instrument. The Tonganoxie Mirror had a Cornet Band that played at Mollie Myers wedding. Not much is known about the 20th Century band, except all the bands had identifying clothing.

Today the Tonganoxie Community Band had an excellent sound. Although they only had one practice, I suspect that each person practiced their music at home for more than one hour. Whatever the case I thought is was an outstanding performance. They sounded like one. TCHS’ own Connie Torneden was one of the band members. Here you see her playing her clarinet. One member played an electric base and I’m sure he kept the band together. He was good.

The director and founder of this band is Charles Van
Middlesworth, known as Mr. Van. I found it interesting to watch his highly animated directing. He definitely has the attention of his band. Every muscle in his body has a workout with his directing. He quite often directs by moving his body, especially his toes from standing flat footed to standing on his toes. **A job well done.** For 17 years he has been directing the high school band to numerous awards. Further information about Mr. Van is noted on the high school web page.

The pocket park is located where the old library was located, the northeast corner of 4th and Delaware Street. It has recently been adapted as a small park with “book like”references to several people who some town’s folks believed had some influence on the city of Tonganoxie.

Just north of this park was the second sound stage. This was also a very busy place. Not only did this stage have live music, people were also entertained by Dale Rawlings, played by Charles “Tuna” Conrad, Lem Evans played by John Evans, his great great grandson, Mollie Myers was represented by Kathy Peak and Tom Laming played his great grandfather, Whitsed Laming.

Nathan and Roz McCommon provided us with a quality performance at this “Pocket Park”. They live in Tonganoxie and Nathan is the city manager. Often they play in various locations around town. They have played at least twice at our TCHS site. Most recently they can be heard at the Jewell on Main, which a long time ago was the Tonganoxie Sale Barn. Now all kinds of music can be heard and seen at the Jewell on Main. Roz sings and plays an electric piano, and Nathan backed her up with his 5 string bass guitar. Roz and Nathan are well known regionally and quite often play in upscale restaurants in KC and Lawrence.

Many of the vendors were in the middle of the street as 4th street was closed to car traffic. A few of the local businesses had sidewalk displays as seen in the lower photos. This one happen to be “Flashbacks Diner”, “Tuna’s Flashbacks”, or just plain “Tunas”. I have heard the business referred to by
several slightly different names. “Tuna” as he is known is one of the local historians who has placed many photos of historic Tonganoxie all over his restaurant’s walls. He researches his history for accurate answers, but he is aware of how stories can vary from person to person. You probably can’t see the television screen under the brown tent, but “Tuna” was playing “The Traditional Tales of Tonganoxie” throughout much of the 2 day celebration. He was responsible for several people seeing the movie and then coming to Ratliff’s drug store to purchase the DVDs. I was quite pleasantly surprised. THANK YOU CHARLIE!

You can easily see that there was something for everyone and all had a good time—even if it was very hot.

THE RATLIFF DRUG STORE AND THE CRONEMEYER CONNECTION

TCHS was honored and pleased to set up their displays and exhibits in the Ratliff Drug Store. The Ratliff family harkens back to two of the very early pioneer families in town, the Cronemeyers and the Ratliffs.

Simon Cronemeyer was one of four sons of wealthy German parents who emigrated to Pennsylvania so their sons would not have to fight in the Prussian War. Ironically, Simon and his older brother, William, both fought on the North’s side in the Civil War. Brother Will was killed and Simon was severely wounded at the Battle of Antietam. Simon married Mary Ann O’neill and they had a daughter, Minna. The family of three came to Tonganoxie in 1868. TCHS owns a personal recollection of their lives as they lived over a saloon. Another treasured item is a portrait of Simon photographed by Alphonso Curtis. The photo was taken from a glass negative and the detail is remarkable. Simon and Mary Ann’s daughter, Minna married Joel Ratliff.

Ashley and Matilda Kirby Ratliff settled in Tonganoxie in 1868 when their son, Joel was 13. They were Quakers and Matilda’s brother, Tom Kirby, came west with them. Tom, a pharmacist, owned the drug business which was directly across fourth street from the present Ratliff store. The Kirby store was located in what is now The Evans Real Estate business.

Joel became a pharmacist and worked for his uncle Tom Kirby for 23 years before purchasing the business. Joel constructed the building which is currently the Ratliff drug
store, in 1900. Joel married Minna Cronemeyer. Together they had five sons. When the youngest was 2, Minna died in a burn accident. Joel married Nell (Ella) Vantine and they had a son, Dean, and a daughter.

Joel’s son Guy, a pharmacist, operated a drug store in McLouth. Joel’s son, Walter, a pharmacist operated a pharmacy in Oskaloosa. Floyd, also a pharmacist worked in the Tonganoxie store. Dean, a son of the second marriage operated the store in Tonganoxie for many years with the help of his wife, Thelma. Their only child, DW, also became a pharmacist and later an osteopathic physician. DW Ratliff died early and to our knowledge he was the last Ratliff associated with the pharmacy in Tonganoxie.

Joel was a very gregarious person and his “back room” was a social bug of the early city. He was very active in Republican politics and often would leave the store to pick up his friend, Charles Curtis, who was eventually to become the vice-President of the United States. A photograph of Curtis was given to the historical society.

In addition to the historic connections, the drug store contains many historic items from the city.

BARN QUILTS

By Jean Pearson

The barn quilt classes continue to thrive at the Tonganoxie Community Historical site. Two classes were held this spring and they filled up quickly. Fall classes will be forming soon.

A barn quilt is a quilt pattern drawn on MDO (Modified
The Glacial Hills Quilt Trail was established in October of 2015. The trail currently incorporates barn quilt blocks in Leavenworth and Jefferson Counties.

This year check out the barn quilts at the Leavenworth County Fair. They will be seen in the open class building. The county 4-H clubs will be competing against each other with their barn blocks. The winning block will go to the State Fair. The winning blocks will then be hung on the buildings at the fairground.

Please note that all barn quilts are on private property and generally along a road. Please be respectful of others when viewing these barn quilts.

Ed. note: Jean Pearson is a very special person. If you are interested in quilts, Jean Pearson is an extremely knowledgable quilt person. She has directed the quilt shows seen at TCHS for many years. If the word quilt is used Jean Pearson knows about it, and probably knows who made the quilt. Now she has taken that knowledge and moved into barn quilts. TCHS is extremely proud to have her as a member and a board member.

For more information on Barn Quilts call Jean at 913-845-3228.

THE CHEROKEE INDIANS
by Linda Day

The Cherokee didn’t choose Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, or Arkansas as their homeland. These places were forced on them. Cherokee Territory once comprised of over 80,000,000 million acres. Home was what is now northern South Carolina, Western North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and southern Alabama and Georgia. The Cherokee people were the largest indigenous nation of the southeast before and after the...
Europeans came to America. The nation was a matrix of small towns throughout this vast territory, each with a White Chief (This does not imply English white people.) to govern in peace times, and a Red Chief to govern in war time along with representative from each of the seven clans. It was their culture, values and common language that united the Cherokee people.

The Cherokee wanted a peaceful coexistence, thus they signed numerous treaties that always resulted in broken promises and always in a reduction of their homeland. They gave up their clan style of governing and became a constitutional government modeled after the United States. They built schools operated stores, and maintained farms and plantations. Although the Cherokee and local Europeans were getting along, the federal government continued to push towards their removal as states demanded more land.

In 1830 the Indian Removal Act was passed and the ethnic cleansing began. My great-great grandparents and their children were forced to leave their home and walked the “Trail of Tears” after being removed from their farm and placed in a stockade for several months with little to no food, water or shelter from the elements. As many as 8,000 Cherokee people died along the trail westward to new Indian Territory. Keethee, my great-great grandfather, was buried along the trail at Cape Girardeau, Mo.

George Washington Buckskin Waters, who later became my great grandfather, and his sister, Nannie, and two of their children were adopted by clan members to the trails end. These memories were remembered by Nannie and written down by her son, “Mac” McGee, both of Oklahoma.

Although this new land was identified as “Indian Territory” by the federal government, the treatment of the Cherokee did not change. Their new homeland was again reduced after the Civil War. In 1907 Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory were consolidated to become the state of Oklahoma. The Cherokee had no say in this matter This action forced the Cherokee to give up parts of Indian Territory that later became Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas. Although the downsizing of Indian Territory continued the Cherokee people never lost sight of their inherent sovereignty. In 1970 the US Congress passed an act that allowed for Cherokee Nation elections. A small portion of land was returned to the Cherokee people—14 counties in NE Oklahoma—and the Nation began to govern its people once again. Many of the Cherokee families that had settled in Southern Kansas, parts of Missouri and Arkansas before they became states did not relocate to the Cherokee Nation. Families living in Oklahoma were registered, given a number and identified on a federal record—The Dawes Rolls.

The greater Kansas City area having a significant number of registered Cherokee living within a 50 mile radius has established a Cherokee Community organization to provide a connection to the Nation in Oklahoma through scheduled meetings with members of the Tribal Council, including our Chief Bill John Baker.
Linda Day is married to Ed Bethard. They live in rural Tonganoxie, Kansas. Her Mother's Great Grandparents, Keethee and Bluebird, were among the Cherokees forced to relocate to Oklahoma by way of the "Trail of Tears."

Linda became a member of the Kansas City Cherokee Community in 2008 to connect with other Cherokees, and to better understand our history.

For more information please call Dee Kice at 913-710-0190 or Linda Day at 913-369-3069 and leave your name and address and I will send you information on how to become a member. We also have a web site, KCCCherokee.org.

THE JUNIOR AND BARBARA KRAMER COLLECTION

Laurie Walters, museum director

Junior and Barbara Kramer and their sons have donated to our museum a very large collection of Native American artifacts. The collection—all from their farm—represents an accumulation of finds over a period of 50 years. Their farm is on the border of Leavenworth and Jefferson Counties. The items are prehistoric tools and vessels from people living in this area LONG before the Delaware and Kanza Indians. The collection contains arrowheads, knives, axes, celts, scrapers, and pottery shards.

Dr. Brad Logan of Kansas State University and others from Kansas State University had seen this collection previously. In fact they performed an archeological dig there some time ago. This fall students, under direction from Dr. Logan will expertise and curate this collection for out historical society.

We are indeed indebted to the Kramer family for selecting the Tonganoxie Historical Society to house this collection.

A part of the Kramer Collection
Certificates of Appreciation:

Jean Pearson

Jean Pearson saw an opportunity to create a program at TCHS that was different than any other. Her love of quilts led her to look into barn quilts a few years ago. She attended a workshop and decided that she could do that here.

Since that first class that Jean took, she has led three Barn Quilt Workshops at TCHS. Each workshop brings in people who might never have been to our site before. And every attendee takes home not only a barn block, but an appreciation for TCHS.

The workshops then led to Jean proposing that TCHS start a quilt trail. The Glacial Hills Quilt Trail has been part of the TCHS website for over a year now. And, as one thing leads to another, Jean has been an integral part of creating an open class for Barn Quilts at the Leavenworth County Fair.

TCHS awards this Certificate of Appreciation to Jean for her quiet determination in expanding programs at TCHS by creating the barn quilt workshops and the Glacial Hills Quilt Trail.

Donna Wiley

In the summer of 2015, and even before, staffing the ballpark concession stands was becoming increasingly difficult. While there was some talk of abandoning this fund raiser, Donna Wiley had the great idea of partnering with 4-H to operate the concession stands.

The Reno Bobwhites started last summer and have continued in a larger role this summer of 2016. Donna has been active in recruiting members to staff the concession stand and 4-H members and their parents and grandparents have volunteered.

This Certificate of Appreciation goes to Donna for thinking outside the box and not giving up.

Connie Putthoff

Connie Putthoff has been managing the rentals of the barn and church at TCHS since the buildings were restored and ready to rent. This is no small task. It comes with the responsibility of assuring that the buildings are cleaned and ready for rental. Connie is the primary point of contact for potential renters who want to tour the buildings. She follows with preparing contracts, collecting the rent, furnishing keys.

The rental income generated by Connie’s efforts is the largest single source of income in the TCHS budget. It ends up paying for three to four months of the museum’s standard operating expenses.

For all of Connie's efforts on behalf of TCHS, we offer this Certificate of Appreciation.

Keyta Kelly

Keyta Kelly became a member of the TCHS board in mid-2014, to complete the term of Harold Meyer. At the beginning of 2015, she was elected Chairman of the Board. In addition to that role, Keyta was eager to organize events and jumped right into that role. She organized the Box Social in 2015. She started the tradition of crafting ornaments at the Christmas parties – an activity that delights young and old alike.

Keyta stepped down from the Board earlier this year. We offer this Certificate of Appreciation for all of her efforts on behalf of TCHS.
**Distinguished Service Awards:**

**Bill Peak**

Bill has served on the Board as a director for two and a half years. Prior to that, he had been the Program Chair for several years and a member of the Publicity Committee. He has arranged for monthly programs and entertainment at picnics and Christmas parties. He was active in publicizing programs around town.

Bill's sales abilities have served TCHS well, as he is a tireless supporter of TCHS in all fundraising activities. TCHS has benefitted greatly from his fundraising efforts with the chili suppers and Tonganoxie Day booths. He has continuously reached out to members of the community, promoting the activities and programs at the historical society.

Bill has brought to his work here a love of history and a desire to make the historical society a better organization. Education is important to Bill and he has been an active volunteer with the third grade program at TCHS. He and Kathy have taken the pioneer trunk to schools in Leavenworth, furthering the outreach of TCHS in the county.

We greatly appreciate all of his efforts on our behalf and present him this Distinguished Service Award.

**Kathy Peak**

Kathy Peak joined the historical society with the intention of making a contribution. She volunteered in various roles in the society before becoming President in 2012 and then serving for through 2014. Kathy took on the duties of membership chair, as well, serving six years in that role. She learned how to use the museum software program and converted all membership records to the museum software. She has continued to work with the membership duties since retiring as president.

Kathy's interest in history was manifested in her desire to contribute to the oral history project. Early on, she lent her interviewing skills to the oral history project, and has continued to conduct interviews to this past year.

Kathy has been dedicated to expanding the educational programs at TCHS. She has volunteered with the third grade program and taken the pioneer trunk to Leavenworth schools. She was a part of the committee that researched scholarship programs and created a scholarship program for TCHS. This year, Kathy and the committee were able to award the first scholarship to a Tonganoxie High School graduate.

TCHS appreciates all of Kathy's contributions and we are better for her having been a part of the organization and we award her with this Distinguished Service Award.

**Laurie Walters**

Laurie Walters' love of history runs deep and her commitment to TCHS runs deep as well. She was elected to the Board of Director in late 2008 and served for six years on the board, three of those years as Chairman of the Board. She assumed the position of Museum Director in 2014.

One of Laurie's primary roles is to coordinate the activities of the volunteers who work in the museum. She has a gift for bringing out the best in people, finding their strengths and building on those strengths to benefit the museum. She is ever aware of the value of volunteers to TCHS and she places them in roles where they shine.

Laurie is dedicated to improving the museum. She mines other museums for ideas and is open to the ideas that others suggest. She is very active in the educational programs of the museum, including the third grade program and the current college intern program. She loves to teach. Laurie does not hesitate to support all activities of the society and is always a willing volunteer herself when others ask for her help.
Another of Laurie's talents is her knowledge of local history, and her willingness and eagerness to share it with others. She is uniquely qualified to do research as requested by patrons of the museum. She is exacting in her standards for accuracy in her research.

For Laurie’s past and on-going contributions to TCHS, we award her this Distinguished Service Award.

Perry Walters

Perry Walters brings a wealth of knowledge of local history to TCHS. He also brings a commitment to historical accuracy. Perry’s contributions have been many. He took over responsibility for the TCHS newsletter in 2011 and he continues to edit the newsletter. The newsletters are treasure troves of history, but they are also solid documentation of the activities of TCHS.

Perry is rarely without a camera. He is dedicated to documenting local history. He has been the videographer of the society's oral history program. He was instrumental in converting old VHS tapes to DVD and converting old audio tapes to digital.

Perry’s early research project on the railroads led to his book on Ghost Towns. This book is frequently referred to by visitors and volunteers alike. When Perry commits history to black and white, he has researched it and it is as accurate as it can be.

This year, Perry worked closely with the library to provide photographs and verbiage describing those photos for the monitor display on the library east wall. Perry’s high standards for accuracy are seen in those displays and his contributions there remind all who view the displays of the value of our historical society.

It is no wonder that a man with a camera would gravitate to creating the DVD set that he entitled Traditional Tales of Tonganoxie - a nod to the fact that sometimes history simply cannot be guaranteed accurate. His many hours spent on this project will yield benefits to our society for years to come - both financially and educationally, as his stories entertain and teach us.

For all of Perry’s contributions and his dedication to the preservation of local history, we award him this Distinguished Service Award.

I am extremely pleased to have this award given to me. I am almost embarrassed to read what has been written about me just above. I have been retired now for over 16 years and in those 16 years I have had two hobbies that provide me with great satisfaction. One is mentioned above — that of making movies and editing movies that involves history. This award gives me a very warm feeling to know that many people are also pleased about my work. What is missing here are names of all those people who have given their time in helping me perform this work. I am having fun at this job. THANK YOU ALL! Perry Walters

And now a fun final story in preparation for the 4th of July

This horse provided the two boys seen here with their first two businesses. While in the summer of the 5th grade we decided we needed to make some money. In the 1950’s not very many horses were around for riding. In fact this horse was probably one of three horses around. Janice Knox had one but it was outside of town. Anyway we decided to sell rides on this horse. 3 cents for a couple of times around the block. When we acquired 21 cents it was time to put the horse away and buy some Viceroy...
cigarettes. Viceroys were the only filtered cigarette at the time and of course our parents couldn’t smell the smoke that had been filtered. The older boy bought the cigarettes and we went down to the RR bridge over Tongie Creek and smoked a few. That job lasted a week.

The largest job we used this horse for was collecting pop, beer and quart beer bottles that had been discarded along the highway. US 24/4 had been recently constructed to go around Tonganoxie as it is today. Several weeks before The Fourth of July, Larry Gallagher and Perry Walters would saddle this horse, get two or three gunny sacks and ride the new highway picking up pop bottle and so forth. The value for pop bottles was 2 cents, beer bottles were 3 cents and quart beer bottles were a nickel. The two of us could make enough money to buy all the fireworks that we could manage. AND THAT WAS A LOT of fireworks. Neither of us were interested in night fire works—Just Bull Dog Salutes, Cherry Bombs and M-80’s. We never got any injuries, nor were we ever close to getting injured with all these firecrackers. We did this for two years.

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**Hostesses for 3rd Quarter**

July

See you at the fair!

August 23 @ 7PM

J.W. & Ferry Evans - Mike & Keyta Kelly

September 27 @ 7 pm

Gladys Walters - Theresa & Mike McGee