



Missouri Town Messenger

September 2019

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been the first week of school at The Schoolhouse, my private elementary school. Going back to school has certainly changed dramatically over the years. Here is one of my favorite descriptions of schooling in early Jackson County.

Fannie (Fristoe) Twyman was born in a log cabin home in 1829 at Firstoe's Fish Trap near Blue Mills on the Little Blue River. Here is her description of her early educational experiences in Jackson County.

"I was raised and educated in Independence, but never graduated beyond the Blue back spelling book. The first teacher I went to was a lady, Mrs. Fulton. She taught in one of my father's houses, a brick, and one story. The next school I went to was taught by Mr. Hogue. The house stood just east of where Mrs. Swope's house now stands, at that time, it was the home of Gov. Boggs. It was a log house with a wooden chimney well dobed with mud, rock hearth, a log was sawed out of the south side for a window, this window extended across the side of the house, holes were bored in the log underneath . . . and pegs underneath it. On these pegs a wide plank was laid. This was our writing desk. Rude benches without backs for our seats. We had to be in our school promptly from sunrise to sunset, with plenty of switches in sight. 15 minutes recess in the forenoon the same in afternoon. One hour for dinner. We spent the time riding stick horses in Mrs. Parker's pasture, the girls riding side ways, the boys in boy fashion.

The next school I went to was taught by Mrs. Tolbert, the log school house was built on the same plan, it was located some place near where the cider mill now stands. We got drinking water from the big spring near by. The grapes, persimmons and hazel nuts were all around the school house, and plenty of black haws. Oh we did have a glorious time at recess. It was eat, eat until our stomachs could hold no more. The only difference in our teachers, one used the rod, this one used a cat o' nine tails, and this was a leather strap, the end of which was cut in nine strips, so with every lick you would have nine red marks. It came down on my shoulder once, oh my how it did hurt, I never dared to whisper in school after that."

This, and other, reminiscences of Mrs. Twyman can be found in the archives of the Jackson County Historical society. The information about the Fristoe family came from Pearl Wilcox's book, Jackson County Pioneer.

Mary Childers, President, The Society of the Friends of Missouri Town 1855

***Next Board Meeting at Woods Chapel Historic Church
Monday September 9, 2019 @ 6:30 pm***

MEMBERSHIP by Gwen Prince

June was our annual membership renewal month and 21 of our members have not renewed. Letters from the Board were mailed in early August telling them that their names will be removed from the Roster if their dues have not been received by September 1. We currently have 118 annual members, 18 Life Members, 6 of whom are Charter, and 39 Youth Members. Our total membership is 175.

Each member's support is appreciated. We truly make Missouri Town 1855 a living history village.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MISSOURI TOWN 1855

Saturday, September 14: Paranormal Investigation at Missouri Town 1855

<https://www.makeyourdayhere.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=257&month=2&year=2019&day=18&calType=0>

Saturday, October 5 & Sunday, October 6: 43rd Annual Missouri Town 1855 Festival of Arts, Crafts & Music

<https://www.makeyourdayhere.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=261&month=2&year=2019&day=18&calType=0>

Saturday, December 7: A Christmas Celebration

<https://www.makeyourdayhere.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=268&month=2&year=2019&day=18&calType=0>

UPCOMING THEMED WEEKENDS AT MISSOURI TOWN 1855

Soap Making and Laundry

November 9

MUSIC HISTORY submitted by Sandy Hearn

Probably one of Missouri Town Band's most-played tunes is the American classic, Soldier's Joy. Soldier's Joy is documented as one of the oldest fiddle tunes, as early as the 1760s but its origins can be traced to Scotland. During the late 18th century, the tune appeared in sheet music and dance instruction manuals on both sides of the Atlantic. There are numerous renditions of Soldier's Joy and although it is an upbeat and fun tune to play, lyrics added during the Civil War gave the song a much darker meaning, referring to substance abuse. The term "Soldier's Joy" was known as the combination of morphine and alcohol, usually whiskey or gin, given to the soldiers to ease amputation. In England during the 18th century, Soldier's Joy referred to the spruce beer that the British army drank. The National Library of Scotland shared this image from a book called the Songster's Companion from around 1778.

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When the shrill trumpet sounds on high, &c.

When the shrill trumpet sounds on high,
And wide the floating banners fly; When the
fierce foe with dire alarms, Provoking, me-na-
ces to arms: When glit'ring swords and cannons
play, And death in triumph guides the fray, The
foe to slaughter and destroy: This is
alone

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alone the foldier's joy.

But, when sweet peace expands her wings,
And high the happy olive springs;
When conquest brings the laurel home,
The ensign furl'd, and mute the drum;
Then how he quaffs the mantling bowl,
And with fresh rapture cheers his soul:
Then love and wine his hours employ,
For such is then a foldier's joy.

Haste, haste, ye patriot friends! advance!
And let us scourge perfidious France!
Strike all your instruments of war,
And let the sound be heard from far!
Till, level'd from their hopes on high,
Beneath your feet the victims lie:
Then love and wine each hour employ,
For such shall be the foldier's joy.

Y The

Credits:

Library of Congress

Wikipedia

Fretandfiddlehmb.com

LOST - I lost one rectangular basket with a tin crochet hook tube in it, among other items. I made the basket a few years ago, and Tim made the crochet hook case for me this year. If you find it, please notify me! Thank you! Angela Lunceford (816) 461-3577

CLOTHESLINE by Trish Brown

Sewing circle dates for September:

Wednesdays, Sept. 4 & 18, 0900-noon at Missouri Town.

Monday, Sept. 23, 2-9 p.m. at Woods Chapel



I thought I'd share a bit of a discussion I recently had on armscye geometry. Remember these sleeves?



Vogue #727 from 1980

They are dropped shoulder style. Even a slight raise of the arm would lift the entire side of the shirt. Then, if the shirt was tucked in, it would be bunched just above the waist and hang over the waistband.



Now for the 1850's version of "dropped shoulder".

This is Laughing Moon Mercantile pattern #114, silk day dress.

The shoulder is dropped, but the bottom of the armscye is raised into the armpit, which completely changes the hinge point where bodice meets sleeve, so even a fitted bodice and fairly narrow sleeve affords ample mobility and is very comfortable to wear. Men's frock coat sleeves were designed the same way.

This is a good example of how details make the difference. And you thought you would never use high school geometry!

WHO'S WHO AT THE FRIENDS OF MISSOURI TOWN

OFFICERS

President **Mary Childers**
816-461-0285
marychildersatschool@gmail.com

Vice-President **Stefan Gliniecki**
913-787-3439
smfgliniecki55@gmail.com

Secretary **Mavis Gippner**
816-373-9147
mickmavis@comcast.net

Treasurer **John Loughran**
816-224-2617
jloughran5221@cgmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Expiring 2022

Trish Brown
816-537-6889
pabrph@comcast.net

Kristina Light
816-942-3301
kristina@kcparent.com

Angela Lunceford
816-739-2503
fxlinkskc@swbell.net

Expiring 2021

Jean Loughran
816-224-2617
jloughran5221@gmail.com

Denise Grow
816-380-6345
freewind@embarqmail.com

Gwen Prince
816-246-6640
gmp@prodigy.net

Expiring 2020

Mick Gippner
816-786-7738
mickmavis@comcast.net

Jay Clasen
816-400-3432
clasenjl@swbell.net

Charlie Prince
816-246-6640

cwprince@prodigy.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: **Gwen Prince**
816-246-6640
gmp@prodigy.net

Finance: **John Loughran**
816-224-2617
jloughran5221@cgmail.com

Woods Chapel
Building **Charlie Prince**
816-246-6640
cwprince@prodigy.net
Mick Gippner
816-786-7738
mickmavis@comcast.net
Mick & Mavis Gippner

Rental

Village:
Gardens **Dee Wolfe**
816-225-8537
baileywool@aol.com
Research **Angela Lunceford**
816-739-2503
fxlinkskc@swbell.net

ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Contra Dancers **Mavis Gippner**
816-373-9147
mickmavis@comcast.net

Messenger **Bob Brown**
816-537-6889
rabphd@comcast.net

Sewing Circle **Trish Brown**
816-537-6889
pabrph@comcast.net

Website **Bill Barker**
816-224-2330
banjobarron@sbcglobal.net

Address:
Friends of Missouri Town 1855
PO Box 1907
Lee's Summit, MO 64063