

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Around Town

The old faded and peeling paint has been stripped from the front of Sellers' Service Station in preparation for a fresh coat of paint. Renewed Heritage will be holding a “paint day” on Saturday, September 19th, 2009 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. If you are over the age of 18 and would like to help bring this landmark back to its former glory, please contact Tim Storey of Renewed Heritage at 765-714-5320. The restoration of the exterior will continue as long as the weather permits. Please show your support for this wonderful project by volunteering to help with the restorations or donating to Renewed Heritage.



Volunteers begin scraping paint at Sellers' Station.

The former Morocco Sport & Hardware building at the corner of 41 & 114 has been painted.

Two new groups trying to start in Morocco are a Vintage Dance Group and a Morocco Artisans Group. The Vintage Dance Group will meet approximately once a month and dance to big band tunes, swing, and even a little ball room dancing. The Morocco Artisans Group is for anyone interested in the arts. Please contact Trudie Gruber at 219-285-6074 if you are interested in signing up for one (or both) of these groups or for more information. These groups are for all ages, everyone is welcome.

The Morocco Youth Bowling League began the week of Labor Day week. They bowl on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. or Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. If you are interested in the Youth Bowling program, please see “Doc” Schanlaub or stop by Legion Lanes.

September 15th marked the first day of classes at the Morocco Cooperative Preschool which operates out of Morocco First United Methodist Church. Mrs. Diane Gonczy is the teacher. This is her second year teaching at the Morocco Cooperative Preschool.

Roger & Harriet Webb and Brian & Pam Vanderwall planted new Weigela Bushes and added new bricks to the 'Welcome to Morocco' sign on the southwest side of town on SR 114. Projects Unlimited sponsored this project and it looks absolutely beautiful. Thank you Projects Unlimited for all that you do for Morocco.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

* * *

Construction continues at Morocco Elementary School. The new building at the front of the school is completely framed out with steel beams. Insulation is being installed on the outside and the duct work (for the heating and air conditioning systems) is complete. The building addition at the rear of the school (which will house the new cafeteria) is much further along in the building process with exterior bricks already being laid. The bricks will match the rest of the school.



The new building at the front of the school will house the classrooms and is set to open in February of 2010.

Morocco Cooks

It kept me busy this summer finding ways to cook the bountiful fruits and vegetables found at Morocco's Farmer's Market held each Saturday morning at Betty Kessler Park on State Street. Many of my purchases have been used in the old standard favorites, zucchini bread, succotash, apple pies, etc. However, every once in a while I want to expand my horizons and search out

new/old recipes to try. Here are three that I have tried successfully.

Baked Green Tomatoes

4 large green tomatoes
1 cup brown sugar
½ cup white sugar
Salt and pepper
2 cups coarse butter-cracker crumbs
1 stick of butter.

Cut tomatoes into ½ inch slices and arrange a layer in shallow, oiled baking dish 13 x 9 x 2-inches. Sprinkle a thin layer of white sugar over tomatoes. Season with salt and pepper. Then cover each slice with 1 tablespoon brown sugar. Cover with crumbs and dot with butter. Repeat until all tomatoes are used up ending with a layer of crumbs dotted with butter. Bake in a 350 degree oven until tender, but still firm, about 45 minutes to 1 hour.

(From *The Farmington Cookbook*, Louisville, Kentucky, 1979)

I first encountered Giovanna D'Agostino (Mama D's) cooking when visiting friends in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she ran a restaurant and cooking school. Her cooking is simplicity itself and her food tasted wonderful, so I had to purchase her cookbook. Filled with down-to-earth advice on cooking, as well as practical Italian recipes, I have used her book over and over again. “Cook with what you have. You don't need fancy special bowls and pans. It's nice if you have all the fancy gadgets—but

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

you don't need them to be a good cook. Cooking for your family with love is the most important thing”. “I use four basic seasonings—salt, pepper, oregano and garlic. Used properly they will do a very good job. I should emphasize, though, that oregano, a popular herb, is bitter and should be used very sparingly. Too much oregano can ruin a meal prepared by even the best cook.”

Cauliflower Salad

1 small head cauliflower
2 medium potatoes, boiled, peeled and diced
Pinch of salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
1/8 teaspoon oregano
1 or 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
¼ cup olive oil (or canola oil)
1 tablespoon wine vinegar
2 tablespoons grated Romano or Parmesan cheese
Wash cauliflower; separate into flowerets. Cook your cauliflower in boiling water for about 10 minutes until tender, but not mushy. Drain; put into salad bowl. Add diced potatoes, salt, pepper, oregano and garlic. Mix oil and vinegar; sprinkle over salad. Toss gently; sprinkle with cheese.
(From *Mama D's Homestyle Italian Cookbook*, 1975)

Here is a simple snack that is a good use of the limes that are now in season.

Lime Bars

2/3 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar, packed
1 cup old fashioned oatmeal
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 ½ cups flour, sifted
1 can Eagle Brand, sweetened condensed milk
2 egg yolks, lightly beaten
½ cup lime juice
1 teaspoon grated lime rind

Grease a 9 x 13-inch pan well. Cream butter and sugar and then stir in oatmeal, salt, baking powder and flour, mixing until crumbly. Spread half of the mixture in prepared pan. Pack firmly and evenly. Combine the milk, egg yolks, lime juice and rind, then let stand a couple minutes to thicken. Spread over crumb crust; sprinkle with remaining crumb mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Cool 15 minutes in pan. Chill several hours in refrigerator; cut into strips or squares for a very refreshing summer dessert.
(From Mason's *Sahib Temple Cookbook*, Sarasota, Florida, 1992)

Happenings

Richard Watts left for Vincennes University on August 20. He is majoring in Conservation Law Enforcement and tells me he is on Vincennes' soccer team. They had their first game on August 23rd. Richard is the son of David & Lorena Watts of Morocco and the grandson of Wilma Watts Whaley and the late Marion Watts of Brook and Louis Rolls.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

* * *

The Morocco Public Library welcomes Janet Sickler as the newest member of their staff. You may already know Janet as the secretary at Morocco Elementary School.

* * *

Tyson and Emily Bridgeman's son, Hayden Levi Bridgeman, who was born on April 18, 2009, was baptized on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at Morocco First United Methodist Church.

Hayden's maternal grandparents are Mike and Debbie Wiseman of Morocco. Paternal grandparents are Randy and Marci Bridgeman of Kentland. Great grandparents are Chuck and Barb Bridgeman of Brook, Bob and Patty Hutchinson of Kentland, Dale and Kathy Wiseman of Morocco, and Virginia Golden of Williams. Great-great grandmother is Ruth Doty of Morocco.

* * *

Vic & Betty Carlson celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary earlier this month.

* * *

On July 25th, 2009, Larry “Doc” Schanlaub hosted a cookout at his home for family and friends.

Friends joining Doc were Ron Dowty and daughter Ali of Palatine, Illinois, Rev. Tom Vance (of the United Church), Dave and Carolyn Nantais, Larry Dowty and his wife Cindy and her daughter Rachel all of Morocco.

Family members present were cousins George & Pearl Schanlaub of Morocco, Leon Schanlaub of Gilbert, Minnesota, Wanda Schanlaub and her daughter Pat Wynn of Morocco, Wanda's son John Schanlaub of Lafayette.

Sister, Audrey Duley, her son Jerry Duley and Audrey's daughter Cindi Philpott all of Lafayette. Doc's sister Donna LaCosse and her husband Harold of Morocco. Donna and Harold's son Ron LaCosse and his son Bill, Ron's daughter Natasha, her husband Adrian Foster and children Isaiah and Miley of Lafayette. Niece Jodi Brown and her son David of Monticello.

A surprise visitor was Doc's nephew, Jamie Reece of North Carolina. Jamie had just recently retired from 22 years in the Army and had not seen his Uncle Doc since 1993.

It was a great day for visiting with family and friends.

(Submitted by Doc Schanlaub)

* * *

I had the pleasure of meeting with Doc Schanlaub at Mel's Downtown Diner for late morning refreshments a couple weeks ago. He tells me that was recently named Youth (Bowling) Coach of the Year which came as a surprise to him. Earlier this year Doc was inducted into the Quad County Bowling Hall of Fame.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Doc has been coaching youngsters in bowling since 1982 and gives credit to Rev. Don Crellin who, in 1964 got Doc involved in working with children.

* * *

The 92nd annual Kessler-Goddard reunion was held on August 16th a Recher Park. In addition to food, family, and fun, there was a silent auction. I had the pleasure of finally meeting Dave Carlson who was in town from Manistee, Michigan for the reunion.

* * *

The Hivley Reunion was held at Bass Lake on August 2nd, 2009 with a generous group of family members. The weather was cool but sunny and, with all the good food and games, a great time was had by all.

* * *

Summer is winding down and the humming birds are in a feeding frenzy, the gardens are mass producing, and the grass is green and lush. Also it seems the flowers are at their most beautiful time now.

* * *

Sarah Blaney (Dan Blaney's daughter) was recently in town visiting from Oklahoma.

* * *

Dave & Bonnie Wagner have been blessed with visits from their siblings and a family reunion. Dave's brother Jerry Wagner and his wife Sally who reside in Florida were recently in town for a visit followed by Bonnie's brother Doug Boyd and his wife Jayne who recently moved to Florida. On Saturday, September 12th, 2009

Dave & Bonnie hosted the Boyd Family reunion at their home. Children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of William & Josephine Boyd were in attendance. Of William & Josephine's seven children, only Shirley Storey was in attendance (five of their sons passed away and their other daughter's husband was too ill to travel.) As a chatted with Bonnie, who was reading a family history that had been given to her, I was told that a great time was had by all.

* * *

Four arrests were made in connection with the recent thefts and break-ins in Morocco (mainly vehicles and garages). Two of the suspects were juveniles while the other two were ages 19 and 21.

* * *

The Thrift Shop is in need of volunteer workers. If you are interested, please stop by the Thrift Shop or contact Betty Carlson. The Thrift Shop is open Thursdays & Saturdays from 9 a.m. - noon and Fridays 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Editorial

What a busy month it has been! My daughter, Miranda, started Kindergarten this year and, while we've both been ready for her to start Kindergarten, it's still a bit difficult transitioning to a new schedule at a new school that is under construction. And with construction and a new school year comes confusion.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

On Miranda's second day of school, she was (somehow?) allowed to walk home by herself. Fortunately, another mom saw her and walked with her to the safety of our driveway. And since I was not expecting her home (she is to take the bus to her babysitter's house), I didn't get a good look at the mom who helped her walk home. So THANK YOU to the mother who not only saw my five year old daughter struggling to make it home on her own but for taking time out of your day to help her.

My good friend Bill Lindahl has been in the hospital for about a month now and was recently moved to the George Ade Health Center. I have been out to visit with him a number of times and I try to call him everyday. It seems that no matter how hard I try, I can't see or talk to Bill as often as I'd like. Bill, I want you to know that I'm thinking about you and praying for you. Don't think for a minute that I've forgotten about you!

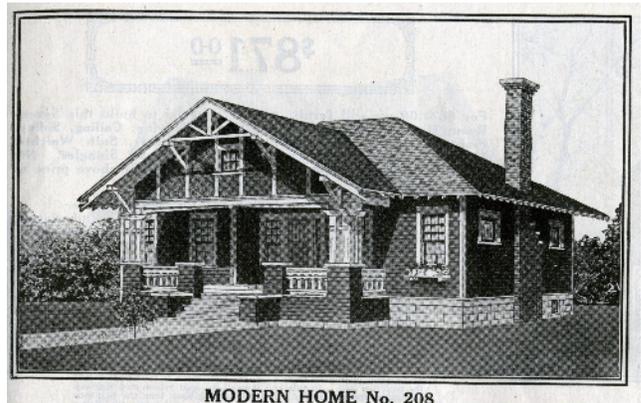
As you can see, I've only included one article on kit homes in Morocco although last month I said I would feature two. This was due to space. The paper is really full this month for which I am thankful but I've had to hold back some articles for next month, so be on the look out for them! Also, I changed the format in the middle of the paper (pages 8 &9) to accommodate Bradley S. Hartman's story “Jessie”. Your feedback is welcome and greatly appreciated.

~Yvonne

Features

Kit Homes- Order by mail, arrive by rail.

Sears Modern Home
“The Elsmore”



MODERN HOME No. 208

The Elsmore as seen in the 1916 Sears & Roebuck Book of Modern Homes.



“The Elsmore” located at Clay & Beaver Streets in Morocco with a mirrored (flipped) floorplan.

Pam Gossett moved into her charming home

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

located at the southwest corner of Clay & Beaver Streets in April of 1977. Pam fell in love with the home's large, airy rooms with lots of windows that bring in plenty of natural light, a rather large bathroom, and the beautiful honey colored wood built-in China cabinet in the dining room. The fact that her home sits on a corner lot and has a basement were added bonuses for Pam.

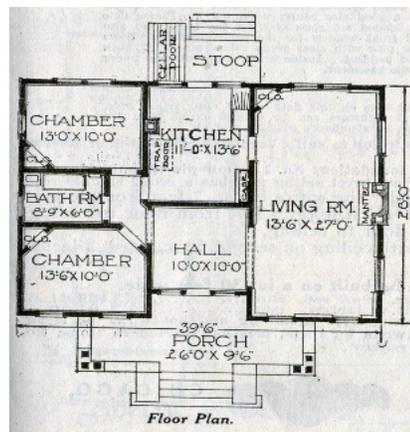
About three or four years after the Gossett's moved into their home, one of their neighbors was chatting with Pam while she was doing yard work and said something that caught her by surprise. Her neighbor told her that she lived in a Sears kit home. This was the first time she had ever heard of a Sears kit home.

Pam set off on a quest to learn more about the history of her home. When Pam bought her home, she was furnished with a copy of the “Abstract of Title” for her property which dates back to April 12, 1839. It is believed that James W. & Lucy Russell built the home in 1916 for the sum of \$1535.38. Property taxes for the 1916 payable 1917 year were \$23.50. According to the abstract, James (Jim) W. Russell purchased the land on February 16th, 1899 for \$425.00 from Solomon Russell (his father).

Armed with the build date of 1916, Pam began her search for which model Sears Modern Home she lived in. She quickly discovered she was living in a home called “The Elsmore.” Her home was built with a mirrored (or flipped) floor plan was a common kit home customization.

“The Elsmore” offered two floor plans to choose

from. Pam's home uses floor plan No. 2013 (the other option was No. 3192). Both floor plans offered two bedrooms and one bathroom with similar sized kitchens. Pam's floor plan combines the living and dining rooms to accommodate a formal reception room (entry room) while the other floor plan has a larger living room and a separate formal dining room but no reception room. Both floor plans offered a full attic. Access to Pam's attic was by way of pull down stairs and, a number of years ago, Pam found an old child's table and chair by the front window which is stepped down into a small



alcove.

Floor plan number 2013.

Pam's home is mostly original. The front door (which is very heavy and solid), windows, built-in China hutch in the dining room, kitchen cabinets, and most of the hardware (door hinges, knobs, etc.) are original. The fireplace is original to the home but has since been re-bricked and most of the original wood trim has been painted over. The master bedroom boasts its gorgeous,

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

original hardwood floor but the rest of the house has been carpeted over and when Pam replaced the carpets last year, she discovered that someone had painted over most of the hardwood floors. Her home still has its thick plaster walls and ceilings.



Built-in China Hutch.

A third (smaller) bedroom was achieved by adding a wall to the dining room. Surprisingly, the living/dining room is still very large and open despite this addition. In the mid 1990's, Pam had her roof replaced. She was shocked when the roofers pulled off at least three layers of shingles and revealed some of the original roof shakes. It's amazing to think of how much extra weight

all these layers of shingles must have added to the home. “It's a very solid and cozy home” Pam tells me as we sat at her kitchen table “It's comfortable, it's pretty well insulated and I enjoy it.” And I would agree. It is indeed a very beautiful and cozy home with lots of charm and character.

The following was taken from the abstract of Pam's home:

- May 29, 1919 , Robert O. & Anna B. Dutcher purchased the home for \$2,450 at 6% interest (they operated “Dutcher Blacksmith Shop.”)
- January 12, 1931, Floyd W. and Eva Cox purchased the home for \$4,000.
- August 1, 1936, Clinton R. Hayworth purchased the home for \$1,100 (this is according to the records, perhaps this was the garage that was converted to Audrey (Holley) Gibson's home that Gerald Born now resides in?)
- March 1, 1938, Floyd W. & Eva Cox purchase the home for \$1,000 (again this is according to the records)
- September 9, 1948, Eva Cox (widow) sold to Lawrence M & Ester M Vanderwall.
- March 26, 1969, Ester M Vanderwall (widow) sold to Roger & Harriet Hivley for \$6,500.
- February 28, 1973, Audrey Holley bought the home (garage?) for \$3,000 at 7.5% interest . Then on November 6, 1974 Audrey Holley takes out an \$8,500 mortgage at 9.5% interest and agrees to pay 120 monthly installments in the amount of \$109.99. In February of 1974 Audrey marries Harvey B. Gibson.
- March 26, 1977, The Gossetts buy the home for \$21,000 and agree to pay \$195.75 a month for 20

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

years.

Taxes noted in the abstract:

-1918 payable 1919, \$20.10

1937-1938, \$65.12

1947-1948, \$74.80

1968-1969, \$66.10

1970-1971, \$103.98

1972-1973, \$174.96

1976-1977, \$63.40

* * *

The history of the lot that the Gossett's home sits on is quite interesting so I found it appropriate to include the following article that Gerald Born wrote a number of years ago and is found in the Morocco Sesquicentennial Historical Collection Book. (Gerald lived in the Gossett home with his family for a short time when he was a young child. See picture on page 9)

Russell's Blacksmith Shop

On the southwest corner of Clay and Beaver Streets a blacksmith shop once stood. No trace of the buildings that occupied that corner of Morocco can now be found, but just before the turn of the century, it was a beehive of activity. The only horsepower that existed then was the four-legged variety and all travel, hauling, and farming depended upon horses, mules, and oxen to pull the vehicles and tools. The blacksmith shop of that day was a focal point of community life and the blacksmith held an honored and trusted position in the town.

In fact, there were three different buildings that

occupied the corner lot and it is not known what the other two were used for, but the first building north of the alleyway carried the sign J.W. Russell-Blacksmithing and Wood Repairs. Under the sign hung two axes and a wedge with the letters M.W.A. and four horseshoes, forming a four-leaf clover. The owner was James William Russell, son of Solomon and Elizabeth (Godman) Russell. The M.W.A. stood for The Modern Woodmen of America, a lodge with which “Jim” Russell was affiliated and which was a large part of his life. The Royal Neighbors of America Formed the feminine branch of the M.W.A.

Two of my favorite pictures discovered while writing this history are of The M.W.A. in full woodmen regalia replete with boots and axes at an outdoor gathering. The assembled group appears to be in high spirits, you know they were having a good time. The other is a picture of Jim Russell and my grandfather, John Nichols, who had brought his mule to the shop to be shod.

The mule was placed in a wooden contraption **(Continued on page 10)**

that held it's leg fastened in a lifted position where the blacksmith had access to it without fear of being kicked. “Charlie” Russell, “Jim's” brother is also in the picture.

The buildings presently occupying the space are the former garage, where Audrey Gibson lives and has her shop and the house on the corner where the Gossetts live. Both of these structures were built by Bob Dutcher. He later became sheriff of Newton County. I wrote of this house

MORCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

a couple of weeks ago and referred to it as the Cox house. I assume that it was purchased by the Coxes when Dutcher went to Kentland to assume his duties as sheriff. I remember as a child finding an old penny in the yard that had a flying eagle on its face and wondering how it got there. With all the activity and the many men who visited the shop, I think I know.

“Jim” Russell died in 1918 and his blacksmith shop was later occupied by William Powell, who maintained a stand at that location at least until the 1930's.

* * *

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Born,

Becky Dunfee Williamson contacted me and asked that I write a little about our class reunion that we had last Saturday night. (August 29, 2009).

The class of 1983 has not had a reunion since 2003 when it was our 20th year out of High School. The class voted to have a 25th reunion but no one was interested in putting it together. After the death of classmate Vicki Perkins Sisson in April, a group met after the service at Merchants for lunch. The group of ten put the wheels in motion to have a hog roast sometime in August or September.

It became a four-month adventure for myself. I

have always enjoyed doing genealogy and this was my new project. Instead of looking for family I was now looking for my classmate family. With the help of the Internet, cell phones, and Pat Anderson at North Newton we began our hunt. At the end of the journey we had found classmates in 19 different states and one in Ontario, Canada. We collected emails, addresses, marriage information and child/grandchildren information. Our favorite High School memory and our favorite High School teachers. A book has been put together with the hopes of taking all that information and selling it to our fellow classmates.

Our first origination meeting was held in Rensselaer at the City Office and Pub. Our plans were to have a hog roast and make a memory for those who attended. I think we have done that.

The people who helped make this all possible were...

Organizer- Margie Johnson Pferrer

Power Point Program – Cathy Potts Pruitt and her husband Michael

Memory Book / Scrapbook – Madeline Mislan Wilson, and Debbie Keisler Rush and Margie Johnson Pferrer

Decorations- Penny McLean West, Renee Page Bruce, Lisa Denton Bramer, and Valerie Cornet Lanthorn.

50/50 Raffle- Claire Berg Fabrizius

Food- Randy Bushman, Becky Dunfee

Williamson and Valerie Martin Juhl

Locating Lost Classmates -Becky Dunfee

Williamson, Ed Thomas, and everyone else we

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

talked to.

Entertainment was provided by Sucker Punch with a under classman of ours from NN 84' - Dan Holderby.

Class Photo- Portraits by Doren of Goodland We pulled it all together with 3 meetings, lots of hours of dedication, and with the help of Facebook.

We had 66 classmates attend out of 135 who graduated with us. We even invited classmates from Jr. High through our Junior year who had attended school with us.

Terri Morris Telebrico attended from Melbourne, Florida who traveled 1160 miles.

The class of 83 calls 19 states home and Brian Cox is now a Canadian resident in Ontario, Canada.

We've lost 7 classmates to date and have used their photos at each reunion to remember those who can no longer attend with us.

They are...

Lisa Bowman- Illness

Denzil Collins- Auto Accident

Mike Gregorash- Hit by a car on a motorcycle

Gaye Hamilton- Brain Aneurism

Lena Laffoon – Cancer

Paul Lindahl – Cancer

Vicky Perkin Sisson – Accidental Overdose

If any other classmates who have not been invited to this reunion would like to give us their information and be added to our list they can

contact me at:

Margie Johnson Pferrer
725 Chestnut Lane
Brownsburg, IN 46112.
317.858.3564 or 317.777.3659.

Thank you for your interest,

Margie Johnson Pferrer

* * *

Dear Yvonne Gibson,

I remember there was a wooden board with all the members of service in WW2- there were a lot of service men from Morocco on it.

We have lived in the Kansas City area since 1965- only come back to Morocco area for Alumni or to see relatives.

I didn't know Norbert until he was out of the service.

I graduated from 8th grade at Enos School in 1942- and 1946 from Morocco High School. My graduating class at Enos was Helen Styck (me), John Brunton, Phyllis Potts, Harley Gibson, Harold Wooton, Elizabeth _____. I cannot remember her last name plus more- maybe 1 or 2 that I cannot remember.

Mary Krueger and Bonnie Skinner are Norbert's sisters.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Helen Brown
Holt, MO

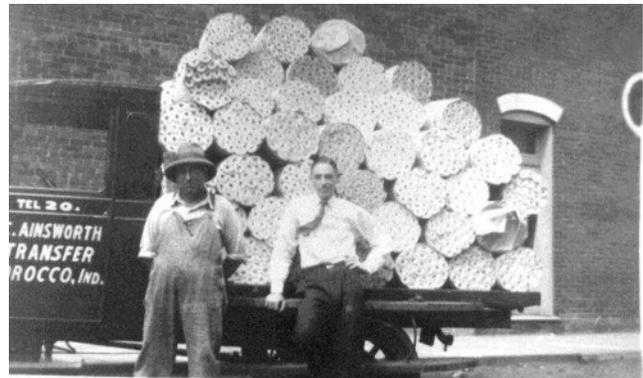
Backward Glance By Gerald Born Railroad Salvage Store

The Morocco Railroad Salvage Store was the brainchild of Kenneth Blankenbaker of Mt. Ayr. In 1932 he opened a hardware store in that town and later built a cement block building in Mt. Ayr's downtown and opened a snack bar, salvaged furniture, and grocery store. Morocco's own Donna (Schanlaub) LaCosse worked there while still in high school (she graduated in 1946). The Blankenbaker family originally settled around Parr, Indiana in Jasper County, sometime later locating at Mt. Ayr.

In the late 40's Blankenbaker constructed a cement block building on Polk Street in Morocco, which later became Mark Mahin's Triangle M. dealership. This building was large and capable of handling the furniture and other salvaged goods and was located fairly close to the New York Central railroad depot so that moving his stock was easier than carting it to Mt. Ayr.

At this time in history most goods were transported by rail. Although trucks were being used, it was before the day of the large semi, and still cheaper to move things by rail. Many people made a living by picking up goods at the depot and delivering it to the merchants and

townspeople. They were called drays-men and owned wagons pulled by horses or early trucks. Frank Ainsworth operated such a service in Morocco and operated a truck.



Drays-men Frank Ainsworth and Bill Williamson.

Often goods were damaged in transit and later sold in large lots after the insurance adjustments had been made. It was this damaged merchandise that Kenny relied on for his business. He would attend auctions and have the lots sent to Morocco to be displayed in his store and sold for a fraction of the original cost. One never knew what might appear for, not only were foodstuffs transported by rail, but also furniture, appliances, and an unending variety of everything under the sun.

I remember purchasing a solid maple hutch there made by the Hitchcock Company of Connecticut for under \$20, which originally had sold for \$600. It had a broken glass and a few rough spots on the bottom, but easily repaired. Betty Kessler tells of purchasing a table, which is still being used at the tea room for \$32. It seats 12 and is a

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

reminder of a previous era. One time Kenny purchased a box car load of fabric from the cotton mills in the Carolinas and sold it for 5 cents a pound. I bought 100 yards of fabric for under \$10, and used it to curtain a sun porch at my house in Hammond.

Needless to say with such bargains, Morocco became a destination for people from miles around. And since it was impossible to predict what would appear for sale, they kept coming back on a regular basis. Nobody then thought negatively of looking for a bargain. My aunt Mary Wright would come from Hammond to see what had arrived. Even Van and Vera Cox, who owned the Morocco State Bank, were regular customers.

With the success of the business and the coming of the Interstate bypass around Morocco the need for a larger building with better access to the new road became necessary. A large rambling cement structure was constructed further north of the old building on Old 41 and Kenny and Luella built a house just north of the new store. Steve Howell and his family now live there.

The Interstate brought changes that affected the business. Large trucking firms now were able to compete with the railroad and able to transport goods quicker and to places that did not have rail service. So not as much damaged merchandise was available. Still his business flourished for a number of years and many people have fond memories of shopping there.

(Please send your memories of the Railroad Salvage shop to us, our address can be found under the “This and That” section.)

Government In Action Morocco Town Board Meeting Highlights September 1st, 2009

- The grant/loan for the Hydrant & Main project was approved in the amount of a \$1,315,000 loan and a \$3,945,000 grant.
- Residents are asked to make sure their sump pumps are not flowing into the sewer system. Sump pumps illegally flowing into the sewer system will be fined \$2,500 per day.
- Surveying of the town is almost complete and aerial photos of Morocco have been taken. This is to locate mains, valves, lines, etc. for the Hydrant & Main project.
- The final design for the Hydrant & Main project should be complete in November. During the bidding on the project (in January), permits will be obtained to speed things along.
- \$236,224 has been disbursed from the BAN (Bond Anticipation Loan) out of a \$430,000 line of credit to “float” the Hydrant & Main Project until the grant/loan is awarded.
- The Elementary School has a four inch water meter installed which, when compared to using the recommended two inch meter, will nearly triple their monthly water bill.
- The town's pressure washer “blew a valve” and needs to be repaired or replaced.
- Several trees have been removed or capped and sidewalks and pavement around town have been “touched up”.

MOROC CO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

-There are two 10-14 foot sections of sidewalk (one on Clay, one on Main) that need to redone.
-Utility Clerk Melissa Pass announced her resignation. She accepted a position as a clerk at the Newton Co. Courthouse. We wish Melissa the best at her new job!
-Recher Park upkeep was discussed. Washing, painting, repairing, and maintaining equipment was on the “to do” list.
-Residents are asked to report non-working streetlights to the Town Hall. There are several out, about half of which have already been repaired by NIPSCO.
-Four tires were installed and maintenance was performed on the town's Bob Cat for \$1,251.
-The town's old mower was traded in for two new mowers. \$1,650 was requested for a leaf collection system for the mowers. The town will install it to save money on labor.
-The Town Marshal, Shaun Wynn, had 41 calls for service, made two arrests, issued two warnings, and one citation in August.
-A person was subpoenaed to court regarding vandalism at Betty Kessler park involving two juveniles.
-Five juveniles (at least two from Morocco) broke in to the concession stand at the ball park. Otherwise, break-ins are under control.
-An unsafe building code was adopted for the town using state procedures to deem buildings unsafe.
-Tabled for next month are a donation from the Masonic Lodge and the naming of “Orchard Dr.” at the trailer court near the water tower where mobile homes are being replaced with new homes.

-Ward 1 is in need of a representative, contact the Town Hall for more information.

Community Calendar

The Morocco Volunteer Fire Department invites you to the Annual Fireman's Breakfast on October 4th from 7 a.m. until 12 p.m. (noon) at the Beaver Township Community Center/Firehouse.

Their annual raffle will include the following prizes:

- \$150.00 meat package from Brook Locker.
- \$100.00 meat package from Hanford's Packing.
- \$100.00 Allen's Morocco IGA gift certificate.
Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Dave Clements tells me there will be various breakfast casseroles, scramble eggs, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, cinnamon rolls, and more. Please stop by and support your local Fire Fighters.

* * *

Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. at the United Church:

- Youth Group (6th-12th grades) begins Sept. 20th
- PreK/K group begins Sept. 20th.
- WOL begins (1st-6th grades) Sept. 13th

Bible Studies at the United Church:

- Wednesdays 1-2 p.m.
- Thursdays at 6:30-7:30 p.m.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

* * *

Bible Studies at Morocco First United Methodist:
- Lectionary Bible Study Tuesdays at 6 p.m. beginning September 22nd in dining room.
- Beth Moore Bible Study “Jesus the One and Only,” Mondays 3:30-5:30 p.m. beginning September 21st.

* * *

Orders for bricks for the Morocco Veteran's Memorial are due on or before October 1st, 2009 for placement in the Memorial for Veteran's Day. The cost is \$25. and any veteran can be added to the memorial.

Transitions

Wesley David Gilson

(April 30, 1962 - August 10, 2009)

Wesley D. Gilson, age 47 of Howell, passed away Monday, August 10, 2009. He was born April 30, 1962 in Hebron, Indiana, the son of Lewis and Joan (DeVelde) Gilson. Beloved husband of Carol Gilson whom he married December 18, 1999 in Texas. Dear father of Christian, Danny, Emily, Mary, Ethan and Anna Gilson, all of Howell. Also survived by his mother, Joan Pass of Florida and sister, Karen Knoblich of Mishawaka, Indiana, as well as his former wife, Lisa Clark. Wesley was a former member of the Texas Army National Guard and the 82nd Airborne Division. He served in the Michigan Army National Guard with tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Wesley attended Chilson Hills Baptist Church. Visitation for Wesley will be Friday 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. with funeral services

Saturday, August 15 at 11 a.m. at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic School

(This obituary was sent to me with the following note:

Some of my former classmates at M.H.S. Might be interested in the above obituary. This was a shock, a tragedy. Wes was injured in 2005 in Iraq.

Sincerely,
Joan (nee DeVelde) Pass

Thank you Joan for sharing this obituary with us. Our hearts go out to your family.)

Glenn Cobleigh

Glenn Cobleigh, 42, of Earl Park died Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 9:30 a. m. in Home Hospital, Lafayette. He was born December 1, 1966, in Brook, to Michael and Judith (Lowe) Cobleigh and they survive. He attended Goodland grade school and was a graduate of South Newton High School in Kentland. Mr. Cobleigh was employed by Tate & Lyle Grain Elevator during harvest season for the past five years for the past 20 years he was self-employed.

He is survived by his siblings, Brenda (husband Ken) Spiker of Earl Park, Jim (wife Marcella) Cobleigh of Remington and Michael W. Cobleigh of Earl Park, nieces and nephews, Terry, Jamie, Lacey, Katelin, Sarah and Joshua Connor, Kendra and Brandon Spiker, Heather

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Cobleigh, Michael and Amy Garrison and Joe Cobleigh.

Visitation was Friday, July 3, 2009 from 9-12 p.m. (CDT) at the McMullan-Sitz Funeral Home, Kentland. Funeral Service were the same day at 12:30 p.m. (CDT) at the Trinity United Methodist Church of Kentland with Rev. Ed. vanWijk officiating. Burial followed at the Fairlawn Cemetery, Kentland. Memorials may be made to the Cobleigh Family.

Bernard J. Hiestand

Bernard J. Hiestand, 70, of Thayer, Mo., formerly of Brook, died on April 9, 2009 at Ozarks Medical Center in West Plains, Mo. He was born on Feb. 17, 1939 in Brook. He graduated from Brook High School in 1957.

Bernard was in the U.S. Army and served from 1957-1979. He served in Korea, Vietnam, and Germany. He was a musician for 23 years. He belonged to the First Christian Church in Brook, Masonic Lodge, American Legion Post 375 in Lake Village, and Disabled Veterans of America.

He enjoyed music, reading, and playing cards with his mother.

He is survived by two sons, Jeffrey Hiestand, (wife, Christina) of Oregon; Paul Hiestand, (wife Robyn) of Alexandria, La.; two daughters Lelia Strickland, (husband Joey) of Baton Rouge, La., and Ramona Bombassi, (husband Tony) of Dallas, Texas.; his mother Hettie Abbott of Thayer, Mo.; one sister, Lois Johnson of Crown

Point; two brothers, Douglas Hiestand, Snohomish, Wa., and Charles Abbott of Earl Park; half-sister, Peggy Turner of Morocco, and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father Basil Hiestand.

Services were held at Riverside Cemetery in Brook on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 1 p.m. Internment followed at the Riverside Cemetery with Rev. Ken Marsh officiating.

This and That

Tim Storey is compiling stories and memories about Sellers' Station and the Pullman Cafe. These stories will also be featured in the *Morocco Times*. Please send your memories to the Morocco Times, P.O. Box 171, Morocco, IN 47963 or call Yvonne Gibson at 219-285-2398 to have her write them for you. Photos would be appreciated as well (we will return your photos to you). expiration date after you paid, please let me know. Thank you!

* * *

Please send Morocco related news to MoroccoTimes@yahoo.com or to our mailing address found on the back page.

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Jessie

By: Bradley S. Hartman

Chapter II

Shaken a little, Yvonne quickly undid her seat belt and climbed out of the car, her eyes never leaving the girl standing calm as a Sunday afternoon as if nothing ever happened.

“Are you okay?” Yvonne asked concerned, realizing just how the girl had never once flinched or even moved.

“Shouldn’t I be?” She replied admiring the short blond hair and bright blue eyes of the woman in front of her. Jessie was hoping the woman would talk again because she loved the way it exposed the child still alive in her.

“I almost hit you with my car!” Yvonne said finding herself confused by the girls reply.

“And that would be bad?” Jessie asked innocently, noticing how the lady showing so much concern had almost the same body as her except that her chest was a little bigger and breaking free from the top of her blouse.

“You’re kidding, right?” Yvonne asked wondering if she was having her leg pulled. Yet above the small splatter of freckles which ran across the bridge of her nose, the girl’s eyes were as innocent as a new born baby. Then as the brightest green eyes she’d ever seen landed fully on her, the sunbeam brighten enough so that Yvonne would swear later she could feel the temperature rise and all she could think about was helping the girl. “Were you headed into town?” When she didn’t get a reply, Yvonne pointed behind her. “Town?”

“Yes, I think so. What is the name of your town?” Jessie asked walking towards Yvonne’s car.

“Morocco.” She was finding it hard not to get caught up in the sheer purity of the young girl’s innocence and almost laughed when she saw her cautiously reach out and touch the still running vehicle. “Can I give you a ride?”

“In this?” It was more a child’s excited reply to a surprise than a question. When Jessie saw Yvonne nod her head yes, she came around to the driver’s side and waited.

“You didn’t have to wait for me, you could have gotten in.” Yvonne said as she opened the door to see Jessie climb in and then over the middle console. And just swallowed mentioning she should get in on the other side. “Okay, I guess that works.” She said unable to think of anything else to say.

Following after Jessie and slipping onto the driver’s seat, Yvonne fastened her seat belt and noticed out of the corner of her eye Jessie watching her before doing the same thing. What she didn’t see was the Jesus on her “Got Jesus?” bumper sticker fade away so the bumper sticker now just read “Got?”

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

Trying to get a handle on her passenger, she ran over a few questions she could possibly ask and finally decided on, “Where you from? I mean I’ve never seen you around here before.”

“Heaven.” Jessie answered without any hesitation.

“Cute!” Yvonne said as she raised her eyebrow. “Seriously though, where do you call home?”

“Heaven.” Jessie replied again. Then it came to Yvonne, there was probably a town called ‘Heaven’ somewhere in the country and felt a little stupid for not thinking of it sooner.

“As in Utah?” Yvonne said remembering hearing about a small town near Kings Peak in the Uinta Mountains called Heaven. When she didn’t get an answer from Jessie, she took her smile as confirmation. “Do you know anyone in town?”

“You.” She said simply.

“You aren’t going to make this easy are you?” Yvonne asked and then decided to go simple. “Do you have a name?”

“Of course, that would be weird not to have one.” She replied as if Yvonne was the one not making it easy now. “Jessie.” She said turning completely in her seat to face Yvonne and extended her hand to shake. “Nice to meet you Yvonne, I like your name tag. What’s a Morocco Times?”

“The town paper, I’m the Editor and owner.” She said with pride. “Best source of news in the county.”

“Will I be in it?” Jessie asked throwing Yvonne’s train of thought.

“I guess if you do something newsworthy. Have you?”

“Not yet, but it’s early in my time here.” Yvonne was about to ask what she meant then wrote it off as her coming from the very small remote town of Heaven, Utah. Being a seasoned paper woman, Yvonne knew even a town only forty miles away could have very distinct differences from her own living and way up there in Heaven had to be a world of its own. She would just have to learn Jessie’s quirks.

Entering the town proper, Yvonne headed towards State Street which ran through the heart of Morocco’s downtown and parked in front of a small arts and crafts store called ‘Just in Time’ and grabbing a bundle of papers. “Just got to drop these off, be right back.” She said before the door shut and going inside. Jessie sat for a minute looking around before getting out and walking towards a two story brick and mortar building on the corner which had a ‘*Apartment for Rent*’ sign in the window of a Law office.

Coming in October Chapter III
Of
Bradley S. Hartman’s
First Epic Serial Fantasy

\$2.00 per issue

MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 9

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

September 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

“JESSIE”

All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead is purely coincidental.

In Association with
Hartfelt Books
www.hartfeltbooks.com



The Born family on the porch of the current Gossett home. Foreground (L to R): Gerald Born, Gordon Born, Bud Born and grandfather Rosco C. Born. On Porch (L to R) Mary Minninger, Maud Nichols, Tuffy Born, Mike Born, Lydia Born.