



Sweet Lick Oil Fields in 1916. Gibson and Willard, Props. (from an early Estill County postcard)

**Wanderings
from the
Woods
& Water**
by Jay
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4 Misses and 1 Cross

It's opening day of 2019 turkey season and I got three young kids on the farm hunting. I have my son Josh with me. Mike Davis has my oldest son Jake with him. Bernie Kash has his grandson Justin with him. The morning started early with big anticipation of killing gobblers. The boys were fired up and ready to shoot a gobbler.

I had Josh with me. Just at day break, a Gobbler sounded off from the roost. I called lightly and he was down on the ground strutting. I made another call and the old Gobbler was coming fast. He was on a string! Josh was leaned up against me. The closer the turkey got the more I could feel his heart beating. The turkey was at 15 yards and Josh was breathing very heavy. I told Josh to shoot. He let loose and the turkey had a confused look as he trotted in the woods untouched.

The story I got from Jake later when I met up with him was as follows. A big gobbler flew down into the decoys. He got excited and missed. He said, "I'm not sure how I missed it." Miss number 2 on the books for opening day.

We all decide to go back out for an afternoon hunt. I have Josh with me. I see a coyote at 100 yards. I lip squeak at the coyote. He turns, starts sneaking in on decoys. He gets within 20 yards. Josh is getting excited. I tell him

to shoot! BAM! BAM! Coyote has same look on his face as the turkey as he trots into woods. Josh has big ole tears a' flowing after the miss. Miss #3 on the books for the day.

Not very long after the coyote miss, I hear Justin shoot. I get a text from Bernie, "Big Gobbler missed," and I have no idea how Justin missed. Justin was pretty bummed out from his miss. Miss number 4 on the books for opening day.

All three boys were a little down from the missed opportunities. **Us three adults would have willingly taken the misses and hurt if we could have. As a father I wish I could take the pain and hurt of life my kids might go through. Some things they just have to go through to teach life lessons.

The hurt the boys were feeling got me to thinking about the Cross.

John 3:16 New International Version

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

I couldn't imagine how bad it would be giving up a child. Jesus had to go through the pain to Save us. The Father had to watch the Son suffer on the Cross so we could be saved from our Sins.

Until next week get out and enjoy God's creation!

Library Happenings

Estill Public Library

by Shannon Horn

Hello readers! **OverDrive** **May 1st, 2019**

In last week's article I mentioned several of the library's resources other than our books, audiobooks, DVDs, etc. One of those resources is called OverDrive. This is a wonderful resource to use, especially if you like to read ebooks or if you listen to a lot of audiobooks. I will be posting a video on how to use OverDrive to our Facebook page to make it easier for you to learn how to use this program. It is super easy and there are a lot of books, ebooks, audiobooks and movies that you can choose from.

Storytime

Last week we were closed on Friday, so I didn't get to see my Baby&Me kiddos, but our Wednesday crew had a lot of fun! Last Monday was Earth Day and I made sure we had a mini celebration on Wednesday. We talked about recycling, pollution (even though I didn't use that term) and how we impact our earth for good or for bad. What a big topic for 3 to 5 year olds! But they got it! I brought several stuffed animals and we did some pretend play with them. Each animal had somehow been harmed by garbage and we had to help them get better! The kids really seemed to understand that if we didn't clean up our messes that we may do more harm than good, to our earth and our animal neighbors.

Pickin' in the Park

Spring has arrived and that means that the Pickin' in the Park concerts will be kicking off very soon! We already have shows booked until the end of summer. The folks coming to share their musical talents are all amazing and we would love for you to come hangout with us each Tuesday night starting May 7th with Michael Stallings. May 14th we will be

hosting Chris and Jenn Shouse. These concerts start at 6:30 and will be located at Rising Park, unless the weather is bad. If that is the case we will be in the meeting room of the library.

WhoDunIt Book Club

Our WhoDunIt Book Club will be meeting again on May 6th. Their new book is entitled House of Thieves by Charles Belfoure. Here is a brief synopsis of the book from Goodreads: In 1886 New York, a respectable architect shouldn't have any connection to the notorious gang of thieves and killers that rules the underbelly of the city. But when John Cross's son racks up an unfathomable gambling debt to Kent's Gents, Cross must pay it back himself. This sounds like a really wild read that history enthusiasts would enjoy.

Nutritionist Visit

On May 8th at 1:30 we will be hosting a nutritionist from the health department and the University of Kentucky extension office. We have a sign-up sheet here at the library to help us know about how many will be attending this program. It would be a great opportunity to get answers to some of your nutrition based questions. They will be discussing how to eat well, but also how diet impacts the body. Call the library at 606-723-3030 to sign up!

Facebook

If you are on Facebook make sure you like our page! We put updates about all of our programs throughout the week on our page so that our community is up to date on what is going on here at the library. There are tons of pictures that you can look through as well. If you have questions, you can even send us a Facebook message and someone will get back to you usually within a couple of hours. We even live stream some of our programs so that people who can't make it to the program can still have the opportunity to view it!

May is here and the library is prepping for Summer Reading. I'll be sharing more about our plans in the upcoming weeks, so be sure to keep an eye out! Until next time!

213 TALES

by the late

Michael Dale Proffitt

My cousin Kenny Wasson would also come down to play at Carl McIntosh's. There was a power house down below his house. The lease was the Mag Puckett lease. The shackle lines run everywhere across the fields and into the woods and beyond in some places. Some of the wells were in the middle of the fields. I thought it was fun watching the stock posts go back and forth. You could see part of the wells from there. Dud Fielder was the pumper. Lonnie Gray helped him in the summertime. He would keep the rod lines mowed under where he could. They had a weed hook to cut the rest. They used some kind of black grease to grease the slotted posts so the lines would slide better. I wish I had a picture of that old farm then. It was pretty down there. Mom wanted that farm when they bought ours but Dad didn't buy it. Uncle Floyd McIntosh had bought it from Doc Frymier.

Carl had an old car that the body had been cut off of it. The hood and fenders were still on it. The windshield was also still on. They cut the roof and trunk off and took the doors off. They called them a 'skeeter.' The front seat was still there but the back seat wasn't. We would all pile on it and go around Marbleyard or somewhere else. You tried to stay off the roads so the law wouldn't get you. Marbleyard Road was gravel and a lot of sand. Once, an old priest and two nuns got stuck in the sand on Marbleyard. We all piled

on the old skeeter and rode around there. They were driving an old '40-something Cadillac; it was black. We all pushed and got it out. They tried to pay us but we didn't take any money.

Carl McIntosh's parents-in-law, Ted and Nellie Shuler Tipton, cut off a car behind the front seat. He took all the body off back there. He built a wooden back with a small window in it. He built a wooden bed with racks on it to haul wood. It looked so funny. He worked in the oil fields at Furnace. He got sick and had to retire a little later.

Carl had a Chevrolet Covair car and it looked funny. The motor was in the back and didn't have a radiator. He drove it to work in Lexington all the time. He said it was cheap on gasoline. Later, Ted Tipton got a Corvair to drive. They would go good in snow. The road was gravel out there, then. It was blacktopped a mile out the road to Highway 52. Finally, they re-blacktopped all the way to Furnace.

I would sometimes walk to Furnace to visit my friend Donnie Rogers. He lived with his grandparents, Harry Rogers and his wife who ran the post office at Furnace. It was a small, block building. They used to have a large store there but it burned down. I went to the store when I was small.

We went up to the Kelly Bellamy house to buy firecrackers from him. He lived in a big, white house, the Lyle House, and worked at Leggett and Platt in Winchester. He sold Black Cat firecrackers and they were strong. I let one go off in my hand. It hurt so bad, I cried for a long time. My whole hand was numb from the blast. I never let that happen again. I hurt too bad.

We made a wagon out of a wire grocery basket or something. It would hold a lot of stuff. We would pull it to

the Furnace, picking up pop bottles. We would find a lot of bottles. We got to Mary Hall Rogers and Gaylord's house and Mary gave us as many bottles as we could carry. We had the basket full with a bag on top of it, full. We also carried a bag full, too. We had hit the jackpot.

Gaylord had two mules he worked with. He was over there plowing or something. He didn't have a shirt and was all sweaty. He was a big man and I thought, I wouldn't want to do that. He worked drilling oil wells at night and would work on the farm in the day.

Mom didn't have a store now. She would go to Kroger in Irvine every two weeks and would take our pop bottles. Dad didn't get paid but every two weeks. I would go with her sometimes. She would buy a whole buggy full of groceries. They would take the full price of groceries and then would take off the price of the pop bottles off her bill. They gave out Top Value Stamps then; one stamp for every dollar you spent. A&P gave out Family Stamps. You would order stuff from their catalogs. It was something like the Sears catalog but you paid with stamps instead of money.

Carl McIntosh loved hunting arrowheads. There was a lot of flint on the Puckett place where he lived. They said there used to be an Indian camp in one field where all the flint was. We would find a few arrowheads there.

Carl would go to shelters under sandstone cliffs and dig for arrowheads. We would go with him sometimes. You dug the dirt out and put it in a sifter made of wood and a screen wire on the bottom. You sifted the dirt out and hoped you had a good piece.

I got to going with Dud Fielder a lot. I would help him cut grass and other things. He had four (oil field) powers

he run. He would run the Chaney power first in the morning about an hour. It had the Chaney lease, the James Tipton lease and part of the George Pitts lease on it. Next, he would go to the Mag Puckett power and pump it awhile. Then, he would go to the Mary McKinney power. It had the Russell, Jim S. Puckett and Mary McKinney leases on it. In the evening, he would run the Chaney power again about an hour. Then, he went about a half mile out the road and run the #3 Thomas Tipton power about an hour. We would cut grass while he pumped the wells off. We would go down in the hollow sometimes to the shop. They had Lawrence Griggs, Clyde Case, Samuel Griggs, Dan Crowe, Cecil Meek and Lonnie Watson working there. Straud Griggs was the pumper for the George Pitts and Thomas Tipton. He also took care of the vacuum plant. He lived down on the George Pitts lease in a company house. They used to have company houses for all the pumpers to live in.

Dud Fielder would have to start the old engines each time he went to a power. The Mary McKinney lease had a small engine on it. It was a 208 engine that you had to take a steel crank to start it with. It had a belt run around the Bessemer engine's flywheel to pull it. Then the big belt ran to the power.

I got to going home with Dud later and staying all night. He had a big, brick house on River Road at Millers Creek. I would mow the grass for him. His children were grown and married and moved away. His wife, Ethel would cook supper for us. I slept upstairs in a big bed. He later sold his house and moved to Tipton Ridge in a company house. Ross Howell had retired and moved to Ravenna. Johnny Griggs owns the house now.