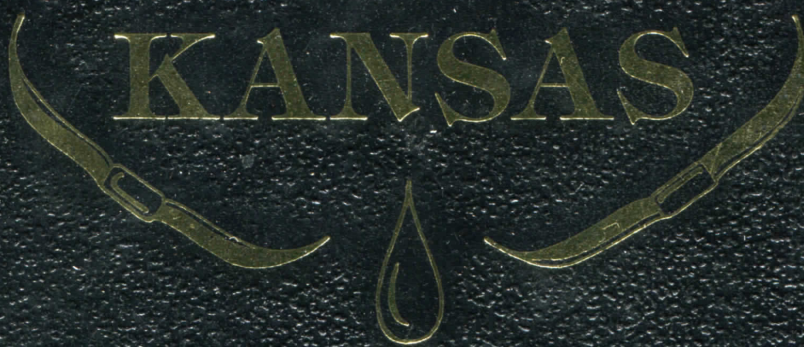


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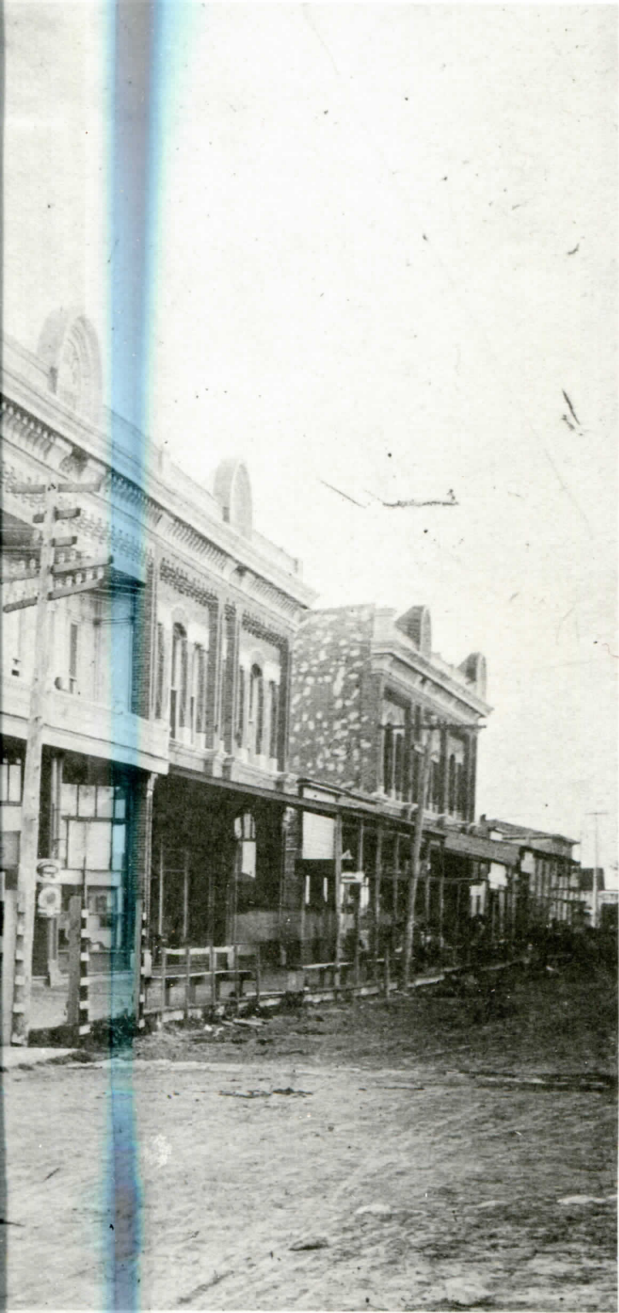


KANSAS



THE STORY OF ITS FIRST 100 YEARS





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KANSAS

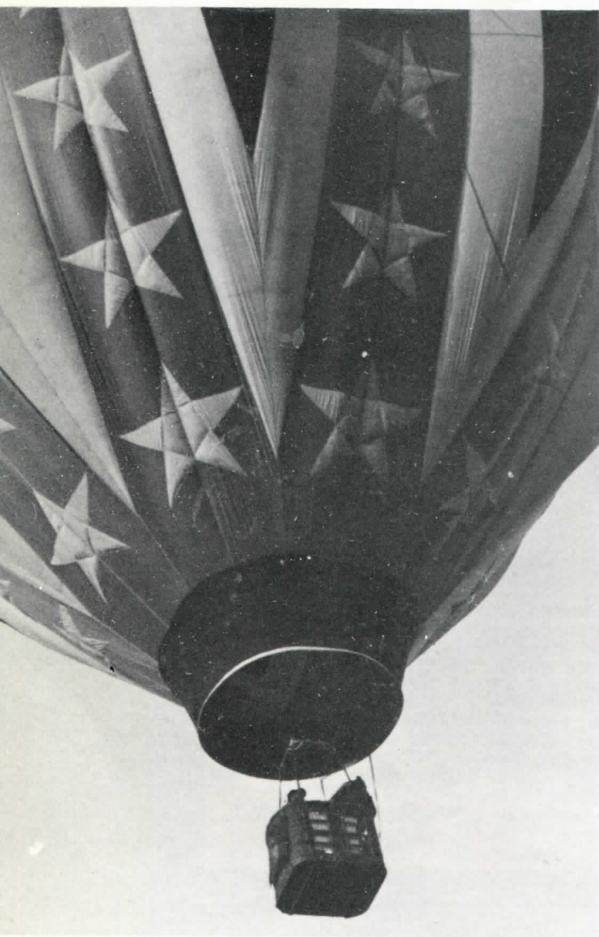
THE STORY OF ITS FIRST 100 YEARS



Governor John Carlin of Kansas



The Arnold Ranch - family here since 1884. David and Connie Arnold and Lesley Humphreys (6th generation).



The Ashland High School float

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The Grade School Band





CENT ASHI

TOWN MEETING

On September 8, 1983, Mayor Frank Reed called a public meeting for the purpose of organizing the 1984 Ashland Centennial. Nine people volunteered to serve as co-ordinators. As the Ashland Town Company had been incorporated in November, 1883, the Ashland, Kansas Centennial, Inc. was incorporated in November, 1983. The committee decided to celebrate each decade of the community's history, beginning with the 1980's in January and working back toward a 1884 celebration in October, the date Ashland was founded 100 years earlier. Soliciting ideas from Ashland citizens, the committee distributed boxes throughout town, and the ideas poured in.

The following pictures and articles show some of the community activities that occurred during the ten months of celebration. They cannot adequately convey the wonderful co-operation received from all age groups of the community. Contributions have ranged from Tom Hensley's culinary efforts for the Great Race barbecue to the thousands of balloons blown up by Charley McPherson and Cletis Mages for each celebration. Richard Degnan seemed always present with his horses and wagons to lend local color. It would be impossible to name all those who have helped

in countless ways. The Centennial celebration brought people together with vigor and renewed interest in the history of the town and its people which no one dreamed possible. The Centennial Committee's hours of weekly meetings for planning, promotion and presentation of programs was rewarded by overwhelming enthusiasm from Ashland's citizens.

The "logo" for the Centennial was revealed the night of the Chamber of Commerce window unveiling in early December, 1983. The drawing for the buffalo meat (a gift of R.V. "Tex" Shrewder) was won by the David Arnolds and Amanda McNickle.

Officers of the Centennial Committee: Sarah D. Shattuck, President; Mary Salyer Callison, Secretary; Frank York, Treasurer. Committees were: Activities: John Humphreys, Chairman, Denise Cleveland, Clarence Holeman; Fund Raising: Frank York, Chairman, Robert McNickle and Gerold Schweitzer; Publicity: Carol Redger, Chairwoman, Denise Cleveland and Mary Callison.

The Committee congratulates Ashland on its first 100 years and extends its best wishes for an exciting future.

The Ashland, Kansas Centennial, Inc.



Back row: John Humphreys, Frank York, Gerold Schweitzer, Robert McNickle. Front row: Sarah Shattuck, Denise Cleveland, Carol Redger, Mary Callison.



Back row: Sarah Shattuck, Denise Cleveland, Carol Redger, Mary Callison. Front row: Frank York, Gerold Schweitzer, John Humphreys, Robert McNickle.

CENTENNIAL

LAND, KS.

MADE IN U.S.A.

Celebrate Ashland!

Word and music
by Phyllis Shattuck

musical score for the left page of the song. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "In a valley wide lies a spraw-ling town. Hinge'd by hills and plains, cat-tle and wheat a-bound. Oh, the soil is rich, and the air is clear, And pools of black gold are scat-t-red far and near. The wind sweeps o-ver the

musical score for the right page of the song. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the left page. The lyrics are: "wheat-fields, And the cat-tle low in the breeze. It's the place for liv-in' the good life, It's a place that is sure to please. So let's all cel-e-brate Ash-land, a town of hope and good cheer; A gas on the prair-ie In its one hund-dredth year."

THE CENTENNIAL SONG

The Ashland Centennial Song, "Celebrate Ashland," was composed by Phyllis Shattuck and was given its debut performance on Saturday evening, June 9, 1984 when Shane Messer sang it during the intermission of the "Womanless Wedding."

LOGO UNVEILING



John Humphreys



Logo Unveiling. Jan Shaw, Sally McNickle, Joan Seacat, Jessica McNickle

CENTENNIAL TREASURE HUNT

Centennial treasure hunts were conducted each month governed by the following rules.

1. There was a \$25 prize, per month, to the finder of the hidden treasure.
2. Treasures were hidden on public property in plain view. There was no need to dig or destroy the property to find the treasure.
3. There were four clues per month, published weekly in the *Clark County Clipper*.
4. The clues identified where the treasure was and what it was.
5. There was one treasure hunt per month, January through August.
6. The finder of each treasure was announced in the first paper of the following month.

The Committee consisted of Mary York, Marva Ellis and Jill Holeman.



January - Jill Holman, Mrs. Ralph Swift, winner and Mary York

'KICK-OFF' COMMUNITY COVERED DISH DINNER AND SLAVE AUCTION

The Ashland Centennial was officially kicked off January 14, 1984. The entertaining evening in the Ashland High School cafeteria began with a scrumptious covered dish dinner and was followed by the main event: The Centennial Slave Auction. Some 42 Ashland men, composed of both volunteers and draftees, offered four hours of their labor to the highest bidder. Auctioneer Karl Mosshart, assisted by his father, Sam, spent a considerable amount of time with the audience debating the actual value of each individual's labor. Through their guidance, by the end of the evening over \$3800 had been raised. The gracious support of the successful bidders exceeded all expectations and clearly exhibited the community's support for the rest of the celebration in 1984.

Slaves auctioned and the successful buyers were: Ron Morrison - Dave Osborn; Clarence Holeman and Bryan Crick - Ollie Shupe; Steve Sanders, Noel Park and Danny Petz - Stockgrowers State Bank; Frank Reed - Home Lumber General Offices; Larry Park and Mike Smyth - Richard Degnan; Terry Arnold and Dave



"Kick-off" Community covered dish dinner and slave auction

Osborn - Daily Cattle and Feed; Richard Messer and Ollie Shupe - Tom Salyer; Jeff Podzemny, Hal McNickle and Ron Salyer - Richard Degnan; Dave Heath, Gary Fisher and Chan Berryman - Tom Salyer; Mark Krier, Russ Hensley and Aaron Bates - Ashland Co-op Exchange; Don White and Steve Osborn - Reed Welding; Bill Shaw and Robert McNickle - Jim Shaw; Gerold Schweitzer, Jerry Baker and Rick Preisner - Ashland Rendering; Tom Fellers



Slave Auction. Karl Mosshart, Frank York, Heath Callison and John Humphreys.

and Larry Rich - Seacat Feed Yard; Cletus Mages, Les Moore and Kirby Pike - B&B Cattle Co.; Losson Pike and Jack Goings - Stockgrowers State Bank; Frank York - Diane Shupe; Tom Gilmore - Keith Allen; Butch Callison and John Humphreys - Diane Humphreys; Joe Fast - Russell Brown; and Karl Mosshart - Home Lumber and Supply Company.

The Centennial Committee was responsible for arrangements.



Slave Auction. Karl Mosshart, auctioneer, Chan Berryman, unknown, David Heath.



Homemakers Extension Unit members dressed for Centennial theme - 1984. Back row: Bessie Bare, Dorothy Simmons Swearingen and Lorraine Dickey. Front row: Leona Simmons, Mary Stephens, Clyde Duvall and Vanetta McCreight.

CENTENNIAL FORMAL

On February 11, 1984, there was a '60's Era Sweetheart Dance. Formal attire was requested but not required. The "New West" supplied the music of the era and also played current hits.

There was a punch table with refreshments enjoyed by all. The ceiling was decorated in pink and burgundy streamers and a mirrored ball turned in the center. The dance was held at the Veterans' Building.

Candy Parks was in charge of arrangements.



Display for Sweetheart Dance.



Dana Mosshart, and Dean Love with Peggy and Frank Reed



Sweetheart Dance sponsored by Ashland Chamber of Commerce.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

The Luck o' the Irish held for the March event, blessed by shirtsleeve weather, a clear sky and temperatures in the mid-60's. The celebration, sponsored by St. Joseph's Church, included a Wearin' o' the Green Parade, led by Grand Marshals Paul and Kathryn Hensley. Some 300 persons were served a dinner following, with a menu of Irish stew, cabbage rolls, roast

beef and gravy, Blarney Stones and Watergate Cake. It was held at the Veterans' Building, followed by a dance that evening, the day's events enjoyed by all!

The coordinating committee from the Catholic Church was chaired by Ann Bowman. The dance following was the joint effort of Kay Young, the VFW Auxiliary and Colleen Brown.



Centennial St. Patrick's Day Parade, Girl Scouts



Centennial Committee Float, Richard Degnan's Team



Centennial St. Patrick's Parade, Sally Shattuck

KIWANIS SHOE SHINE

An old shoe shine stand and chair, of the type that was once common in barbershops, was retrieved from the basement of the bank building at Mullinville and it was brought to Ashland where it was refurbished by Art Ganson. Kiwanis Club members used the stand at Centennial events and sidewalk sales, shining shoes as a fun and money-making project.

Noel Park, Tom Fellers, Art Ganson and Cleon Abbott all helped with the project.



Frank York and "Shoeshine Boy" Tom Fellers

GEORGE RUSSELL CONCERT

George Russell, a talented instrumentalist, presented a concert of music and entertaining stories, Tuesday, February 21, 1984, at the Ashland High School Cafetorium. The program, sponsored by the Ashland Centennial Committee, was entitled: "Songs, Tales and Elocutions of the Old West."



George Russell

Russell entertained a fine crowd with refreshing originals, vintage country, and novel ditties, weaving his audience through a tapestry of his own design. He was incredibly enjoyable and had extremely high energy, but, most of all, everyone left feeling good!

The Centennial Committee coordinated the concert under the leadership of Frank York.

Page Sponsored by Curtis and Sally Slaton

AMATEUR NIGHT

Sharing the honors as winners of the Centennial Amateur Night competition were Dan Heath (magic act), Pixie Goodnight (vocalist), Keith Allen (vocalist), and Judy and Bill Norman (hammer dulcimer and guitar duet). Each of the winning acts appeared again during the Ashland Centennial Week in October. Each received a check for \$100 as a prize.

Talented entries included barbershop singing, vocalists, skits, folk singers, pianists, pantomimes, combos, band, guitar music, vocal solos, duets, trios, gymnastic dance and magic.

The Committee in charge consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Pike and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Harper.



Barbershop choir. Front row: Kirb Pike, Steve Sanders, Losson Pike, Noel Park, Kevin Allen, Dr. Seacat, George Seacat, Curtis Slaton, Les Barricklow, Zearl Walker and Rev. Paul Wagner. Back: Bob Rohrer, Dean

Matthews, Paul Hardin II, Dr. Richard Stein, Gerold Schweitzer, Tom Fellers, Jack Whitfield, Robert McNickle, Don Spotts, Gary Allison, Frank York, Cletus Mages and Rev. Don Rock. Director: Keith Allen.



The Judges: Renae Closson, Anita Rooney, Katherine Birney and Curtis Slaton.



Talent Show, MC Dan Closson



Cheerleaders - Mary Callison, Carol Redger, Robert McNickle (hidden), John Humphreys, Denise Cleveland, Frank York, Sarah Shattuck and Gerold Schweitzer.



"The Winners", April Talent Show - Dan Heath, Pixie Goodnight, Keith Allen and Judy and Bill Norman.

THE GREAT RACE



Occupying center stage in Ashland on Saturday, May 19, was "The Great Race," almost certain to vie in interest with the Kentucky Derby, the Boston Marathon and the Los Angeles Olympics. Indeed, it included elements of all these national events: water sports, runners, horse racing competition and more.

The Great Race, an idea of Frank York, Ollie Shupe and Robert McNickle, was "a 21-mile contest the likes of which south-west Kansas has probably never seen." A giant relay marathon, it began at high noon on May 19, with a canoe race at Clark State Fishing Lake and concluded with a tricycle race on Ashland Main Street. Each team was composed of either 11 or 12 members, all over 18 years of age, with at least one participant 40 years or older. All teams were required to have at least two female participants. The cost for entering was \$100 per team, but 20 teams entered to contend for first place prize of \$500. (All 20 teams completed the race) Winning time: 1 hour, 23 minutes, 55 seconds.

The route originated at the lake where canoes (with a 2-member crew) paddled .5 mile. Next a runner raced up the steep hill (.7 mile), a bicycle rider peddled (2.9 miles), a horseback rider (1.5 miles), bicyclist (3.5 miles downhill), another horseback rider (1.4 miles-uphill), a runner (1.6 miles), horseback rider (2 miles), runner (5 kilometers or 3.1 miles), finishing with a tricyclist (2 blocks). The race finished at the corner of Main and 8th Avenue, the "Bank Corner." Each team was responsible for providing its own canoe, horses, bikes and tricycle.

Spectators viewed the race from the east bluff overlooking the north end of the lake, or from the parking area. Former world famous runner for KU, Wes Santee, was the official race starter.

Official winners for this first annual Ashland Great Race were: 1st: No. 469 - Medicine Lodge, \$500. 2nd: No. 459 - DeKalb Swine Breeders (Plains) \$300 and 3rd: No. 463 - Allan Randles (Ashland) \$100. The race was broadcast over radio by KGNO-AM, Dodge City and K-101-FM, Woodward.

Following the Great Race, a free beef barbeque was served to some 1000 people from teams and community. A sidewalk sale, with special music, was in progress during the race, with food and refreshments featured, and a carnival atmosphere prevailed. The evening concluded with a public dance at the Veterans' Building.

Miss Southern Kansas, Yvonne Brin, presented the captains of the three winning teams their Centennial medals and Mayor Frank Reed gave the checks.

The committee coordinators were Frank York, Robert McNickle and Ollie Shupe.



The canoe race



The tricycle race



Announcing the winning awards.



Free barbeque

THE WOMANLESS WEDDINGS

In the search through old *Clippers*, it has been discovered that there is a long history of "Womanless Weddings" in this community. The first was performed, under the direction of Lynda Burmworth from Independence, on August 1, 1907. The second performance occurred October 9, 1913, when the *Clipper* editor had some terse remarks to make regarding its propriety: "The Tom Thumb wedding was pulled off at the opera house to a good house, but was not as good a stunt as the same show under different management some time ago. The costumes were inferior, and it seems that some of the women would blush to see those little girls come out on the stage with the backs of their gowns gaping open. Such carelessness is indefensible, the whole affair is subject to criticism."

Notwithstanding, the "wedding" was again performed for the enjoyment of the public in 1927, in 1949, and in June of 1984.



Womanless Wedding about 1927. Top row: Tiny Witmer, Earl Haelsig, Glenn Jones, Glenn Bell, Frank Mead, Rusty (F.N.) Cossman, Lyle Mayfield, Walter A. Lonker, Tom Davis. Second row: John Dakin, D.C. Rhodes, Bill Melson, Red (Hugh) McIntyre, Guy Sanborn, Bill Willard "The Bride", Mr. Sydenstricker, Dr. Bays, Dr. H.O. Closson, Dr. I.R. Burket, John Stephens. Kneeling: V.E. Baker



Womanless wedding in 1984. Front: Mike Myatt, Vernon Howell, Steve Sanders, Kirb Pike, the dog, Dr. Mark Dion, Jim Harper and David McQuade. Kneeling: Dr. Richard Stein, Doug Roberts, John Paul Randall. Row 3: Phil Arnold, Bill Broadie, Robert McNickle, Frank York, Oliver Shupe, Steve Osborn, Gary Aldridge, Mike Freelove and Gerold Schweitzer. Row 4: Don Howell, Jack Stephens, Tom Gilmore, Charlie Heugatter, John Humphreys, Keith Allen and Paul Hardin II. Row 5: Tom Fellers, Landon Haydock, Frank Reed, Garth Gardiner, Bill Wilson, Bill Shaw, Steve Stephens, Joe Fast and Harold McCreight. Not pictured: Ron Morrison and Shane Messer.

It has been suggested that once every 20 years is adequate. Following the wedding, a reception consisting of cake and ice cream was provided by The Ashland Community Youth Group.

The committee was chaired by Eldora McMinimy and Linda Wilson.



Pictured above is the cast of the "Mock Wedding" that was held in 1949. The Ashland Centennial Committee planned a Mock Wedding for Saturday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m., at the grade school auditorium which featured some members of this original cast, as well as some sons and grandsons of this group, along with several other men in the community.

Shown in the 1949 photo. Back row: Lewis Rhodes, Mr. Flickinger, Ralph Baker, Jack Fellers, Ed Leitzen, Earl Allison and Bill Jackson. Fourth row: J.E. Humphreys, Don Reed, Ferris Brockman, Gay Hughs, Jr., George Berryman, Jim Riley, Merle Closson, and Art Johnson. Third row: T.W. Floyd, Mrs. Flickinger (high school music instructor), Harland Jones, Glenn Redfield, Dean Matthews, Chet Stevenson, Chester Zimmerman, Bob Grimes, and Roy Bare. Second row: Dr. Jerry McNickle, Jack Stephens, Dr. Cletus Stein, Harry Brandon, Leslie Daily (the bride), Leo File (the groom), Glen Rice, Dick Roberts and Bill Martin. First row: Clair Franks, Eugene Foncannon, L.G. Pike, P.J. Meyers, Hubert Crane, Vic Urban, Paul Salyer and Willis A. Shattuck. Down in front at left, Bobby Don Baker.



The bride, Oliver Shupe

Barbara Solorio, Betty Arns-piger, Mary Jo Schweitzer, EMT's, assist Gerold "Miss Budju Sed Uluvedme, Jilted Sweetheart" Schweitzer during the 1984 Mock Wedding.



4th OF JULY CELEBRATION

The 1984 4th of July Celebration followed the yearly tradition of beginning the day with the "Turtle Derby", followed by the "Mountain of Money", sponsored by the Ashland Fire Department. The annual "neighborhood parade", directed by Jan Shaw and Sally McNickle, was bigger than ever and featured several "Centennial" themes by children and adults. The annual

Chamber of Commerce BBQ was well attended by area residents who later viewed the fireworks displays, presented by the Ashland Volunteer Firemen. The firemen gave further service to the community by building a new barbecue pit. A local citizen commented on the day, "It was a great time to see all our friends."



FAIR PARADE

An annual event each year during the county fair has been the fair parade which highlights the opening day activities. Just a few of the people who have been honored in the parade are Francis Moore, Gertie Hughs, Roy Shupe, Roy Duvall, Paul Salyer and Mary Stephens. Centennial parade marshal for 1984 was Mrs. Inez Kumberg. Floats and horses have also been a big feature in the parade along with bicycles, tricycles and the Shrine clowns from Minneola, Dodge City and Ashland. The Fair Board was chaired by Frances Baker.



Parade entry at the fair.

COMMUNITY BAND: JULY 25 and OCT. 9 and 13

A group of alumni and community people formed a community band which played for the Fair in July and for the Centennial in October. Former High School Band Director, Craig Harms, selected the music and mailed it to those who formed the band. He directed the band in July. In October, Brad Meredith, current Ashland High School Band Director, assisted. Both those who participated and those who attended the concerts enjoyed the music.



Centennial band



Under the direction of Phyllis Shattuck, the Keynoters performed during the Fair.



Kiwanis Kazoos

THE CENTENNIAL SPLASH

The Centennial Splash was held at the new municipal pool on August 26. It featured races for all ages, and relays such as Granny Gown, Ping-Pong-Ball-in-a-spoon, Greased Watermelon, and a Money Dive for the children. A covered dish dinner was held after the swim activities with "Bed-spring Chicken" as the entree. Kevin Brown contributed and prepared the chicken, and was responsible for all arrangements.



HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL

The Ashland High School Senior class sponsored a Harvest Moon Festival on September 8, 1984. There were hayrack rides furnished by Richard Degnan and Doug Roberts, games such as horseshoe pitching and apple bob for young and old. The meal was a hot dog roast with marshmallows following. This "1890's Decade" was planned so those attending could have a good-old-fashioned good time without modern conveniences.

Marvena and Doug Roberts, drovers



THE PIONEER MIXER

The first Pioneer Mixer given by the Clark County Historical Society was held in the Ashland Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, November 15, 1939 with 230 attending. The earliest male settler present was Herbert Floyd who came to Clark County in 1878. Mrs. Anna Hensley Yunker and Mrs. Cora McMinimy Wilson, who came in 1884, were honored for being the earliest pioneer women in attendance. Around 100 pioneers present had come to Clark County before the 1900's.



The first Pioneer Mixer of the Clark County Historical Society. First Presbyterian Church, Ashland, Kansas, 1939. 232 people attended.

In 1940, the Pioneer Mixer was held on the Court House lawn under the tall beautiful elm trees which were planted back in the 1890's by George A. Blair. The programs consisted of the Pioneers reminiscing of the early days, with stories of the Indian Raids of 1878, the terrible blizzard of 1886, and the prairie fires of the '80's. The first Fair and 4th of July celebrations, the first irrigation plant and the first wheat crop all appeared in the afternoon talks.

The Pioneer Mixer is still held every year in October, but with different kinds of programs and at a different place. As Ashland is celebrating its centennial this year, the Centennial Committee and the Clark County Historical Society are co-sponsoring the Pioneer Mixer.

Submitted by Inez Kumberg

On October 7, 1984, the Pioneer Mixer was held in the City Park, under the co-sponsorship of the Clark County Historical Society and the Centennial Committee. The meal was a basket-covered dish dinner, with fried bread prepared by Jack Chappee and served by Leta Broadie and Addie Ganson as an added pioneer dish specialty. There were 267 people served. Those who helped were the Paul Hardens, Harland Hughes, John Yorks, Bob Hardens, Homer Thomases, Doris Knapp, Ruth Marshall, Ray Crosby, Bonnie Swayze, Leila Borth, Clay Thomas and Luther McGees. Entertainment consisted of Al and Leo Jacobs, Bill and Trudy Norman on the dulcimer and guitar. George Russell was present with folk singing.



Marjorie York, Frances Randall, Madge Randall, Martha Shupe, Catherine and Dwight Klinger. With backs to camera: Kate and Carrie Humphreys.



Sarah Shattuck in foreground

HOT AIR BALLOON EXHIBITION



Ashland was treated to a display of color and pageantry the weekend of October 6, when the Wichita Balloon Club brought seven hot air balloons to the community. When inflated, the balloons stand seven stories high, looking like huge and beautiful Japanese lanterns. Many local people assisted the crews by acting as "chasers". A former local citizen, Dan Closson and his wife, Renae, were the contacts for the Wichita club. The event, which included weekend care and entertainment for the balloonists, was chaired by John Humphreys and Kirby Pike.

TEAM ROPING



Team roping

ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

The Centennial Arts and Crafts Fair was held on October 6, with booths filling both the Grade School auditorium and the Veterans' Memorial Building. The Fair was sponsored by the Ashland Art Association, with Teresa Arnold serving as general chairperson. There were over 50 exhibitors, many of whom came from surrounding areas to show and sell their creations. The displays were so fascinating that everyone seems to have forgotten to take any pictures!

FASHION SHOW AND BEARD CONTEST

On Monday, October 8, the evening program consisted of performances by each of the Spring Talent Show winners, plus a Fashion Show, prepared by the Extension Council, which depicted costumes used during the 100 year history of Ashland. There was a final determination of winners for the beard contest which had been growing throughout the year. Winners were judged in a variety of categories, and winners were given Centennial mementoes as prizes.



Gerold Schweitzer, MC for Beard Contest



Standing: John Moore, Kirby Pike, Bill Butler, Keith Allen, Ollie Shupe, Cletus Mages, Roger Rankin, Curtis Slaton, Ken Swanson, Harold Swanson,

Eric Braman. Kneeling: Clarence Mullendore, Vernon Howell, John Cleveland, Losson Pike, Don Watts.

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

Mary Callison was in charge of an evening of music which was in event of Tuesday, October 9. Helping her were Garth Gardiner as Master of Ceremonies, Sally McQuade with the lights, sound and lighting, and Rosemary Goings and Carol Redger, who chaired the reception at intermission. An enthusiastic full house enjoyed dancing (featuring Doug McMinimy, grandson of Ray Crosby), the Barbershop Choir, directed by Keith Allen; the Ashland Centennial Band, under the direction of Brad Meredith, and Phyllis Shattuck's Keynoters. Mary Callison and Beverly Gilmore presented duo-piano numbers, and Jim McNickle entertained the audience with Show-biz tunes. Who needs Community Concerts? It was all here in Ashland!



Jim McNickle



The Barbershop Choir. Back row: Dean Matthews, Frank York, Larry Rich, Cletus Mages, Don Spotts, Jack Whitfield. Center: Tom Fellers, Losson Pike, John York, Paul Wagner, Zearl Walker, George A. Acosta. Front: Keith Allen (director), Ed Rohrer, Les Barricklow, Don Rock.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

On Wednesday evening, October 10, the Ministerial Alliance of Ashland presented a service of unity and thanksgiving for God's blessings over the past 100 years in this community. There were four churches also celebrating their centennials, who gave special historical presentations: the Christian Church, by Ruth McMillion; St. Joseph's Catholic Church, by Father Herman; the Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. Mark Jennings; and the United Methodist Church, by the Rev. Alan Stambaugh and Anna Jean Wilson. Special music and congregational singing led by Phyllis Shattuck and Keith Allen added to the program. The Rev. Jim Ledford of the Assembly of God Church, the Rev. Paul Wagner of the Church of God, the Rev. Don Rock of the Christian Church and Ashland Youth Minister Jean Taylor all participated in the program. The evening message was given by the Rev. G.E. Robey of the Baptist Church. The evening's service closed with the congregation singing, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."



St. Joseph's Choir: Bev Gilmore, Stephen Stein (hidden), Janie Brack, Dean McPhail (hidden), Barbara Berry, Agnes Beckerdite, Leo Jacobs, Cletus Mages, Mary Urban hidden behind director Judy Brown, Kathryn Hensley, Virgil Mull, Katie Wasinger, Bernard Kneer, Les Berry.

MUSEUM DAY

The Pioneer Museum came alive Friday, October 5, as elementary school students learned about everyday living in a pioneer household. Aided by members of the Clark County Historical Society, every young person participated in many activities.

The day was planned by Jane Shreve, social studies instructor, with the aid of Rosa Lee McGee and Donna Faye Harden. Many Ashland residents shared their skills with the young people: churning butter, shredding cabbage, cooking corncakes on a wood stove, grinding coffee and peeling apples, using grist mills and corn shellers, making sour dough pancakes, carding wool and spinning it into yarn, playing Victrolas, loading and firing a black-powder gun, making soap and using washboard, wringer and old-fashioned irons, and using a treadle sewing machine.

They used a grindstone; the 6th graders manned the chuck wagon, heated branding irons and cooked chili over an open fire; and the 4th graders took charge of the general store and



Donna Faye Harden helps Brandon Bates put something thru the wringer. made price comparisons with today's goods and produce.

The day provided a happy learning experience for everyone. A comment made by the young people was that the pioneers had to do "a lot of turning back then!"

CLASS REUNIONS



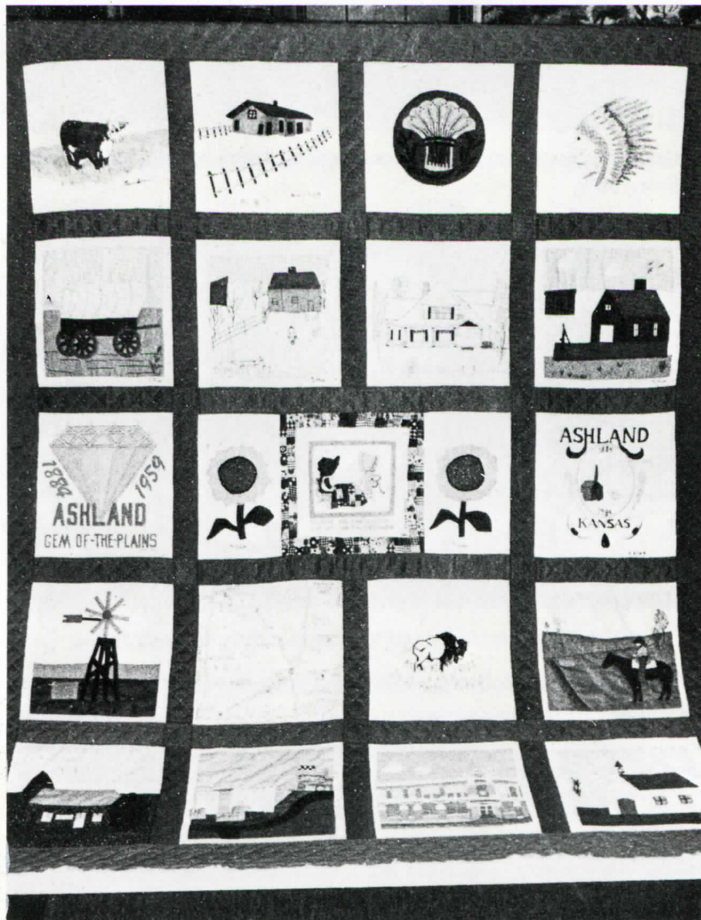
Many different classes and groups of classes met together at various times during the final Centennial weekend. Alumni whose classes were not having reunions met at the Masonic Lodge Hall to visit and register. The Alumni Committee, chaired by Kathy Allen, served refreshments all weekend for the over 500 alumni who registered. Of those who registered, the earliest graduate was from the Class of 1918.

The Homecoming Ceremony at the high school football game was held at half-time, with the crowning of Tammy McPherson as queen and recognition of Mike Rich as football captain. The Senior Class sponsored a soup and chili supper preceding the game for all visiting alums and Ashland school patrons. The game, played against Lacrosse, was won handily by the Ashland Blue Jays, 37-0.

The 1984 Home-coming Court: Back row: Terry Stegman, Mike Rich and Todd Preisner. Center: Debbie Isenbart, Tammy McPherson and Nancy Harper. Front: Erin Fast, Kate Humphreys, Seth Harrington and Jill McNickle.

THE CENTENNIAL QUILT SHOW

The Centennial Quilt show was held on October 12 and 13, in the Ashland Library. There were 170 quilts on display, exhibiting various types of quilting and styles. Over 800 people came in to view and enjoy the display. The show was sponsored by the Ashland Centennial Committee and the Ashland Quilt Guild with Teresa Arnold and Louise Davis acting as co-chairwomen.



The dart toss

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL

An old-fashioned Children's Carnival, which revolved around an 1884 theme, was held on the playground of the grade school on Saturday afternoon, October 13. All ages enjoyed the variety of games, shows, and rides sponsored by local clubs, organizations and individuals. Carnival go-ers participated in game booths featuring wild steer roping, basketball throwing, dart throwing, cup cake walks, fortune telling, fishing ponds, a lollipop tree, and a ring toss. Two groups of stalwart individuals delighted youngsters (and oldsters) with pony cart rides and horse-back rides. A people powered Merry-Go-Round and Ferris Wheel, constructed by the Boy Scouts, were favorite attractions. Puppeteers from Independence, Kansas, and a local magician-ventriloquist were crowd pleasers. At a price of 10 cents each, a total of 5422 tickets were sold to an enthusiastic crowd. The committee in charge was Denise Cleveland, Norma Woodruff, Sherry Pike, Esther White and Ethel Mercer.



The Boy Scout Ferris Wheel



The basketball throw



DEDICATION OF CENTENNIAL PARK

The newly completed mini-park in downtown Ashland was dedicated by Mayor Frank Reed on Saturday, October 13, just prior to the Centennial Parade. A three-year project of PRIDE, the park was dedicated to the people of Ashland and named, "Centennial Park." During the ceremony, Mrs. Leta Broadie, who was responsible for the final planning and planting, was presented a plaque from PRIDE for her enduring years of labor in behalf of PRIDE and, in particular, for the making of the park a reality. The Keynoters sang "Celebrate Ashland" to conclude the program.



CENTENNIAL PARADE

With over 150 entries, the Centennial Parade on Saturday morning delighted a large crowd of viewers for the hour it took to pass any given point. Announcers were Phil Arnold and Jean Lasater of KTVG, Ensign. The parade committee consisted of

Mary York, Marla Williamson, Debbie Trahern, Janet Fast and Sherelyn Roberson. The pictures only begin to tell the story of a well-managed and organized parade. General chairwomen were Sally Shattuck and Becky Mishler.



The Parade Committee in front of the Centennial Park: Standing: Sally Shattuck, Mary York, Debbie Trahern, Kay Bates, Sherelyn Roberson, Janet Fast. Seated: Becky Mishler, Sherre Harrington, Rogene Heugatter, Debbie Seacat, Marla Williamson Jones.



Grand Marshals Paul and Florence Harden, driven by Mike Crowe, from Buttermilk.



The Ashland City Council on the antique fire engine.

Katie Lowey, Vernon Howell, Gail Lowey with Elizabeth, Jennie, Josie, and Kirby Pike



Ashland Grade School from school bells to computers.

The Ashland Masonic Lodge, with Ray Crosby, Steve Stephens and Landon Haydock





Seated: Joan Redfield Knowles, Lavoy Good Sheel, Gladys Stegman Christiansen, Helen Howell Anderson, Bona Jean Anderson Stockton, Betty Stephens Landreth, Anna Jean Pike Wilson, Gertrude Roundtree Russell. Standing: Shawn Callison, Kelly Maris, Jacque Fellers Stearns, Peggy Reed Riner, Becky Sawyer Cramer, Dawn Rohlf Carter, Sue Hink Sutherland.



Seated: Jamie Bisel, Sara Seacat O'Connell, Vicki Milligan Haydock, Janet Floyd Thompson, Mary Jo Krier Watson, Virginia McPhail Betschart, Diane Klinger Shupe, Donna Daily, Melba Larrick Hagman, Karen Bowling Maris, Pat Dorsey Urban, Diana Rankin Gilbert. Standing: Sue Hink Sutherland, Dawn Rohlf Carter, Becky Sawyer Cramer, Jacque Fellers Stearns, Peggy Reed Riner, Kelly Maris, Shawn Callison.



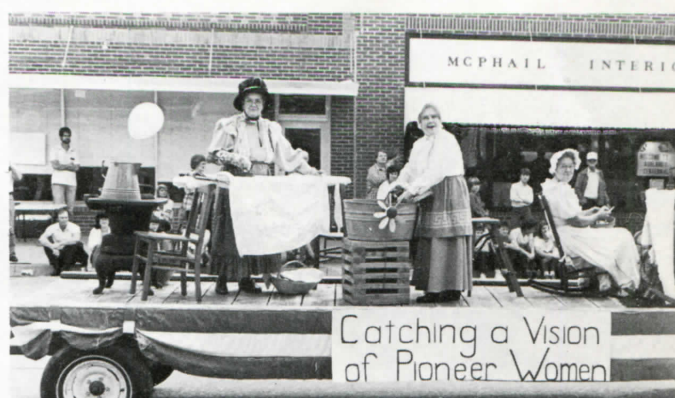
Prize winning float from the Court House Gang: "Bar Closed"



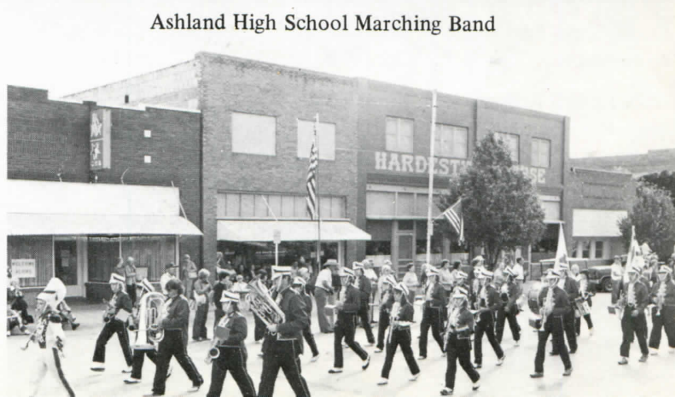
Ashland Art Association 1st place winners in Novelty Class—Lou Berryman, Leona Simmons and Pearl Heath.



Bob Bare, Edna Bare (92 years young) and John Bare
"Modern" Homemakers, Maridel Braman, Norma Woodruff, and Jo Fox

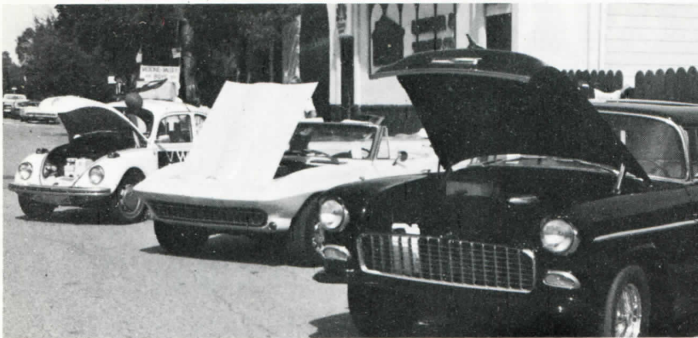


Bear Creek EHU: Clyde Duvall, Helen Theander, Frances Rankin (off camera: Vedra Stuck and Margaret Osborn) "The Good Old Days"



Ashland High School Marching Band

ANTIQUE AUTO SHOW



BREAK DANCERS

Town and County EHU, with the cooperation of the Centennial Committee, made arrangements for the DeKanga Crew, a group of "break dancers" to be a part of the Centennial parade. Following the parade, they conducted a clinic for 15 local youngsters, and had a large crowd observing their demonstration. Arrangements to bring the dancers to Ashland were made by Virginia Betschart.



Matt Wilson and Jeff Berryman

HOME LUMBER COMPANY — R.V. SHREWDER BARBECUE

On Saturday evening, beginning at 5:30 p.m., some 1800 residents and visitors were fed barbecued beef sandwiches, potato salad, cole slaw, and cookies provided by The Home Lumber and Supply Co., and by R.V. "Tex" Shrewder. The preparation of the food was managed by Buddy Probst and the crew at the Old Weigh Station of Sitka. The meal had been planned as a convenience for the people who had participated in the festi-

ties of the weekend.

It had been 50 years ago (1934) that Mr. Shrewder had provided and cooked the food for the barbecue which celebrated the rebuilding of Main Street following the disastrous fire the preceding year. He remembered that he fed 2000 people that day. Mr. Shrewder died on October 5, 1984, but it may be assumed that his spirit was present for this final barbecue.



Kathryn and Paul Hensley, Edna, Bessie and Ida Bare. Standing: Katherine Harper.

Helen Howell Anderson, ?, Virgil Howell, Doris Howell Patterson, Candy Parks, Mary and Jim Harden. Back to camera: Steven Stripling, Louise Berryman and Karen Klinger Stripling



Ethel, Wes and Peggy Santee, Vera Fox Heiland

The food line for the barbecue before the Pageant



CENTENNIAL PAGEANT

The Ashland Centennial Pageant, simply titled, "Ashland--100 Years", was presented at J.E. Humphreys Memorial Field on Saturday evening, October 13, to a capacity audience. A cast of more than 200 Ashland residents performed in the 90 minute presentation.

The pageant presented a look at the history of Ashland, decade by decade, over the past century. Through narration, music, and skits, the pageant both told the history of Ashland and entertained the audience. The performance did not attempt to cover each decade in detail, but gave the audience a brief glimpse of the events and attitudes of each era. The cast, in vintage costumes, presented songs and skits indigenous to each era, concentrating on local occurrences and traditions that affected the daily lives of Ashland residents over the past century.

centrating on local occurrences and traditions that affected the daily lives of Ashland residents over the past century.

Climaxing in a fireworks display while the cast and audience sang "God Bless America," the pageant gave Ashland residents, and those who traveled here for the celebration, a performance to remember.

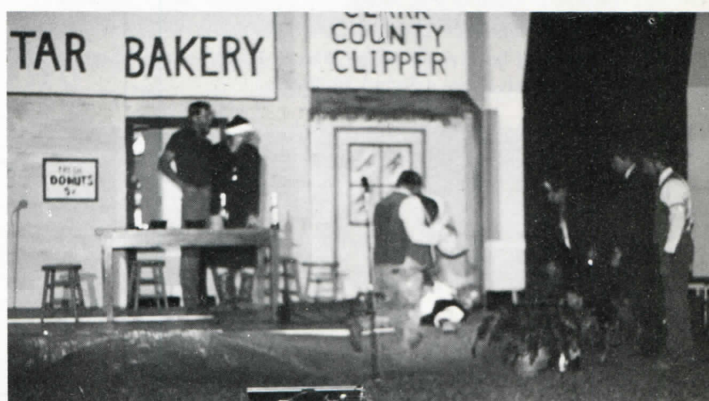
The script was written by Dee Brunholtz, and the pageant was directed by Linda Wilson with Eldora McMinimy assisting. Music was provided by the Keynoters, the Barbershop Chorus . . . which only begins to tell the contributions made by scores of Ashland people who helped to make the entertainment a resounding success.



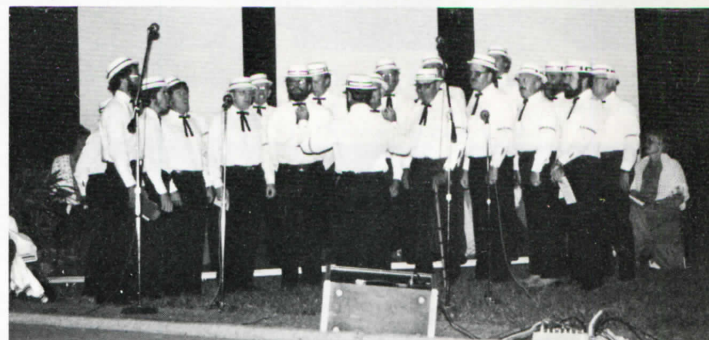
The grandstand was full an hour before the performance started.



Centennial Keynoter Chorus: Front: Carol Bouziden, Jan Fast, Betty Arnsperger, Sally Shattuck, Mary Callison, Nan Gardiner, Madge Randall, Norma Woodruff, Barbara Gillaspie. Back: Harold McCreight, Don Spotts, Tony Jacques, Jim McNickle, John Bare. Director: Phyllis Shattuck.



The shooting of Charles Roby (Les Moore), first citizen of Ashland. From left: Oliver Shupe, Kirby Pike, Bill Broadie, Gary Aldridge, Bill Shaw, Bill Wilson.



Barbershop Chorus: Back: Dale Coverdale, Dean Matthews (hidden), Don Spotts, Larry Rich, Ed Rohrer, Don Rock, Frank York, Cletus Mages, Jack Whitfield. Front: Richard Stein, Paul Harden, Tom Fellers, Gerold Schweitzer, Les Barricklow, John York, Paul Wagner, Zearl Walker, Alan Stambaugh. Director: Keith Allen.



Football State Champions and the "Blue Jay Fight Song"



Sunflower Children for the Kansas Centennial



The Pike family dust bowl days (Kirby, David, Josie, Jennie, Sherry) with Jim (Brother Can You Spare a Dime) McNickle.



Narrators Henry Gardiner and Mary Stephens. Seated: Linda Wilson and Joe Fast.



Ball player Aaron Bates and Sheriff Sughrue (Vernon Howell)



Part of the cast of 200 at the finale



The new doctor,
Dr. Mark Dion



Laurel & Hardy:
Garth Gardiner and Kevin Allen

STREET DANCE

The final event of the year long program for the celebration of the Ashland Centennial was an old-fashioned Street Dance. The Ridge Riders, came from Garden City, and played for the enjoyment of many past and present residents. One group of dancers consisted of the "older" generation, and on the other end of the block could be found the "younger" generation, each enjoying their own style of dancing. It was a fitting conclusion to the year long, highly successful centennial birthday party for Ashland. Candy Parks was in charge of the arrangements for the dance.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographers whose pictures have been used: Bryan Steele, Eldora McMinimy, Ron Morrison, Jack Goings, Mary C. Callison, Dr. Robert Stripling.

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

To Doug Roberts, Richard Degnan and Gary Aldridge for their generous provision of horses, mules and carts, wagons on so many occasions. On Saturday, October 13, they conducted tours of Ashland for more than 160 persons, so that visitors could see the changes which have occurred over the years. Directors for the tours were Vera Frances Reynolds, Madge Randall and Leona Simmons.

Roots of Ashland

RANCHES IN CLARK COUNTY BEFORE SETTLEMENT

The site of Ashland, known as Soldiers' Graves lay on the Fort Dodge-Fort Supply Trail and telegraph line. This route coincided in Clark County with the Western or Texas trail branch of the original Chisholm Trail to Dodge City.

The trail through Clark County was six miles wide. On the east side was the wire fence which was the west line of the D-Cross ranch owned by J.M. "Dee" Day. The range covered all of the east side of the county reaching from the foothills north of Ashland to the Buffalo Creek in Indian Territory. The fence held the trail cattle back and also kept the native cattle off the trail.

At the three mile limit on the west side Beverly Brothers had a ranch. Along their east line they had line riders to keep the

cattle back on their own range and off the trail. The Beverly ranch extended on west to the Beeson and Johnson ranches in the west part of the county; their south line being the state line where there was a good fence. Their northern line was between them and the Fares ranch.

In earlier years, Hunter and Evans occupied the range later used by the Beverlys.

In the northeast part of the county in the late 1870's were the Weeks Brothers ranch and the Hy Collar or "76" ranch in the Bluff Creek area.

Submitted by Dan L. Shattuck, from information by John R. Walden and Lon Ford in *Vol. I, of Notes on Early Clark County, 1939-1940.*



I.J. Klinger on dark horse.
Geo. Hart worked on Walden Ranch.

CHARLES ROBY

"When those men were searching for a location for a town came upon the Camp Supply-Fort Dodge Trail with a telegraph line running between the two forts, they decided that it would be an ideal location. They made a deal with Charles Roby for the NE¼, section 12-33-23, he having just made final proof on the land."

Charles Roby's tombstone, located as the first grave in what is now Highland Cemetery, bears the following inscription:

CHARLES H. ROBY

Died January 20, 1886

First Settler on Present Site of Ashland

First to Occupy this Silent Abode

The *Clipper* explains the circumstances of his untimely death: A fatal shooting scrape occurred at the Star Bakery on January 20, 1886, which resulted in the death of Charles H. Roby, one of Ashland's oldest settlers. Mr. Roby had been hired to take travelers to Dodge City. Before leaving, the three, accompanied by two others went to the Star Bakery about 12 o'clock to have an oyster stew. The two men who were sleeping in the store,

refused to get up, so the people went to J.L. Wade's residence to have him come down and fix their oysters. After eating, and drinking (the editor was sorry to have to add) "considerable whiskey," Roberts stepped out on the walk and began firing his revolver, and Foster stood in the doorway and did likewise, with a .45 calibre and in throwing it up to cock it, the revolver went off over his shoulder and shot Roby through the bowels. He dropped down on a pallet and said he was shot, and lived only about twenty-five minutes. Drs. Workman and Taylor were summoned immediately, but could do nothing. The coroner summoned a jury (T.E. Berry, G.E. Gage, A. Hughes, N.J. Walden, John Cooper and E.A. Fearing, who returned a verdict of manslaughter and Foster was placed under arrest.

"It is a repetition of the old, old story of whiskey and the reckless use of firearms. We hope to soon see our town incorporated, the firing of pistols on our streets forever stopped, and the lives and property of our citizens protected."

Submitted by Jane Shreve

ASHLAND TOWN COMPANY

The history of Ashland begins with the nation's movement into the "Last Frontier." The U.S. Army established frontier forts, used for pursuit of the plains Indians. The Fort Dodge-Camp Supply Trail connected two of those frontier outposts. Trail wagons were constantly under threat of Indian attack. Because of this threat a temporary mail station at Bear Creek, Kansas, a point about half-way between the two forts, was established on February 3, 1870. The sod house located on the east side of Bear Creek was the site of Ashland's first habitation (near the "old City Park.")

The name "Soldiers Graves" was applied to this place because of events of May 30, 1870. A wagon train was headed toward Camp Supply. As it neared the Cimarron River, troops from Camp Supply arrived to escort it to the fort. Kiowa braves had been watching the trail for about three hours and the arrival of troops angered them. The disappointed braves, forty or fifty in number, headed north to the Bear Creek Mail Station. On this day the station held five men, Sgt. James Murry and four privates of the 3rd Infantry, Camp Supply. The Indians were offered food and all except seven drifted away. Two of the privates were watching the stock in the stable, two were in the house. The Indians killed the two men in the house, shooting one through the head, the other through the heart. Sgt. Murry, armed only with an axe, was attacked. Six arrows pierced his arms and one injured his forehead. The Indians started toward the stables to attack the remaining two unarmed soldiers (except for pitchforks) when a troop of soldiers arrived. Sgt. Murry recovered from his wounds. The two dead soldiers were buried on the site giving it the name "Soldiers Graves." Later the bodies were taken to the military cemetery at Ft. Leavenworth.

The small, adobe, round shack which housed the soldiers was abandoned after two redoubts were built along the trail in 1871. "Soldiers Graves" then became a stop on the Dodge-Supply Trail, a "road ranch" where cowboys got mail, horses on the stage line were changed, a meal eaten and freighters stopped for the night. In 1875 it was called "Jack's Ranch" because of owner John Glenn. The Widow Brown and her two daughters ran the ranch until it was purchased by Charles Roby. (NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 12-33-23).

"J.H. Bullien, W.H. McDonald, A. Hughes, J.A. Howard, Theodore Nolf and Francis Hall of Winfield are in the valley. They have laid off a town, two miles south of here which they call Ashland. They are making great strides in the way of improvement. Mr. McDonald is President of the Company and is a very courteous gentleman. Mr. Bullien is their lumberman." Clark City residents could have read this article from the *Clark County Clipper* of October 23, 1884. Little did they realize that the arrival of these "courteous gentlemen" spelled doom for their young community begun only the previous June.

The Ashland Town Company had been organized in Winfield, Kansas, on October 6, 1884. The seven directors of the town company included W.R. McDonald, President; Ed. Taylor, Treasurer; J.A. Cooper, Vice-President; A.J. Lyon, C.W. Averill, J.B. Nipp, Francis Hall, Secretary and Thomas E. Berry, Corresponding Secretary. Several others were members of the company and included J.H. Bullen, I.K. Berry, Charles Roby and A.J. Kinnear. Captain J.B. Nipp, father-in-law of I.K. Berry, named Ashland for his hometown of Ashland, Kentucky. Already the town com-

pany had agreed to purchase land from Charles Roby for \$320. The location in Bear Creek valley at the crossing of the Dodge-Supply and the Sun City-Meade Trails was an ideal one. It was the same site as that originally called "Soldiers Graves."

To avoid a fight over the location of the county seat and secure the Post Office and the newspaper, the residents of Clark City were approached with a deal. All whose lands adjoined Clark City would be moved to Ashland and given three to six residence lots. After a town meeting it was decided to accept the offer. Solomon Bowermaster was given the contract to move the buildings. The only building which was not moved was Martin's Saloon. On October 14, 1884, the Town Company had discussed the question of saloons being opened in the new town and it was decided as an "inducement for peaceable law-abiding persons to locate--a condition be made in the deed or deeds of the company for town lots." It was a prohibition clause ordered erased at the December 26th meeting, 2 months later.

By the spring of 1885 the population of Ashland was set at 2,042 of which 877 were homeowners. The *Clipper* listed thirty-one places of business. The Town Company encouraged the growth of the community by requiring each director to construct a building of not less than 16 feet by 24 feet by the first of February, 1885. All buildings were to have two coats of paint. The City Council passed an ordinance on June 3, 1886, which placed requirements for the building of sidewalks. They were to be not less than 10 feet wide, constructed of lumber 2 inches thick and nailed to 2 by 6's. The height of the sidewalk was to be 8 inches off the street. This provided for a uniform level and width. However, the walks could be made of good flag stone and the city constructed street crossings of the same materials.

"The Busiest City in the State for Her Population," was the sub-headline under the topic "THE BUILDINGS" in the November 3, 1887 *Clipper*. Brick buildings were being constructed. "The walls of Kinnear's three-story brick business are almost completed, and the roof will be put on next week. This building is situated on the corner of Main St. and Central Ave. (now 8th Street) and is one succession of arched windows on the south and east, beautifully decorated with colored brick and cornice work.

"Next comes the four buildings being erected by J.C. Smith and C.P. Woodbury, on which the bricklayers are at work on the second story. The front of all these buildings will be trimmed with handsomely carved stone work."

"A little farther north are the three blocks being built by King Berry and O.P. Cooper, the brick work on which is nearing completion. All of these buildings are similar in appearance and size, being 25 x 100 feet and two stories high."

On July 17, 1885, the Ashland Town Company sent three of its members to give to the county a block set aside for the location of a courthouse and a jail. On the occasion of the dedication of the new courthouse in 1951 this information appeared in the October 25 copy of the *Clipper*.

"The courthouse was designed by W.K. Parsons and Sons of Topeka. J.M. Anderson of Emporia was the building contractor and it was built on his bid of \$24,375.00 including jail equipment of \$2,000.00. There must have been some cost of equipping, perhaps furniture and cabinets, not mentioned in the original

THE NEW TOWN OF ASHLAND.

The Prospective
COUNTY SEAT
—OF—
CLARK COUNTY

And Future Metropolis of the
NEW SOUTHWEST.

LOCATION SUPERIOR IN EVERY
RESPECT.

In one of the most beautiful and
fertile valleys of the State, at the cross-
ing of the

TWO GREAT TRAILS

—Of—

South Western Kansas.

GOOD WELLS,
RUNNING WATER,
DAILY STAGE,
NO SALOONS
Are Among Its Advantages.

CHOICE BUSINESS

—AND—

RESIDENCE LOTS

FOR SALE CHEAP.

W. R. McDONALD, President.
FRANK HALL, Secretary.



Railroad bridge "washout" east of depot



1 - Mike Sughrue, 2 - Zane, 3 - Kerns, 4 - J. Brown, 5 - Geo. Curtis, 6 - Cope Nunemacher, 7 - D.K. Miller, 8 - J.E. Mayse, 9 - Stonebacher

Stevenson's Furniture Store prior to 1900



journal entry . . . This total of \$30,000.00 left no doubt about the total cost of the building and furnishings in 1889. For their donation of the \$10,000.00 the City of Ashland was to have free use of the northwest room first floor and the city did use it as a library room for many years.

The red sandstone used in the building is a Clark County product . . . In an interview with Mrs. Lot Ravenscraft . . . we learned . . . that Mr. Ravenscraft quarried all the red sandstone used in the door and window sills and trimming, and the steps at the four entrances including the red sandstone trim. He quarried them at his quarry about three miles north of the "Ravenscraft Stone House" ten miles northwest of Ashland . . . Mr. Ravenscraft got the stone out and dressed them at the quarry and then with his team and wagon hauled them to Ashland, and then he fitted them into their place at the doors, windows and steps. Mrs. Ravenscraft says she has never known just how Mr. Ravenscraft managed to load those heavy stones onto the wagon, since he did all the quarrying, loading and hauling without any help. Mrs. Ravenscraft says that Lot did not make this ten mile walk every night and morning, as has been said, but that he would walk home on Saturday night, if it so happened that she did not have to drive the team to town that Saturday . . . Then on Monday likewise he would walk back to his work if the team was not being driven into town.

A.M. VanLaningham, President, lower right on steps. Second floor: Offices - Ben Page, Lawyer, Dr. W.A. Potter. Basement: Journal Printing Company, M.G. Stevenson, C.C. Moore - owners. c. 1895

. . . George Blair, an early-day druggist in Ashland, planned and managed the landscaping of the courtyard. A mulberry hedge was planted clear around the block. Trees were planted in the yard so arranged that from each of the four corners of the courtyard to each of the four corners of the courthouse they made diagonal lanes for the walkways to the courthouse. Many of these trees were still living when the new building was started.

The Town Company also reserved the school house block, No. 26. At the same meeting, in the afternoon, it was recommended that Lots 1-4, Block 45 be given to the Methodist Church and either Lots 9-12, Block 43 or Lots 13-16, Block 27 be given to the Presbyterians provided each church erected a building. (The Presbyterian Church, 1984, is still located on Lots 13-16, Block 27.)

The meetings of the Town Company were held in Winfield until December 13, 1884, at which time the locale was changed to the new town of Ashland. Minutes of the company are in existence, being preserved by the Clark County Title Company. The last recorded meeting was in November, 1889, at which time the Ashland Town Company was disbanded.

Submitted by Jane Shreve

cCc

If I were a sheriff I would much rather be called in to arrest a bandit than to be called in to settle a family quarrel.

cCc



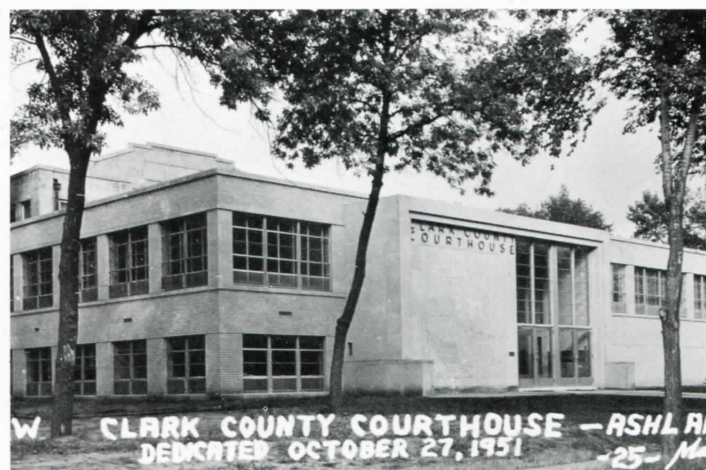
Governmental



Original Clark Co. Courthouse, 1889



Courthouse after the clock tower was taken off in the early 1930's.



Clark County Courthouse, 1951

AN UNCOMMON SHERIFF

"Mike Sughrue was a Civil War veteran and well known as a plainsman and Indian scout. He was the first sheriff elected in Clark County and had the unusual distinction of having been elected to that office five times. His duties were frequently the kind that 'tried men's souls,' but he was a man of iron nerve and equal to any occasion. He had quick perception, courage and resourcefulness, and as an officer of the law, never shrank from his duties no matter how hazardous."

Michael and Patrick Sughrue were born in Ireland on February 11, 1844. Immigrating to the United States with their parents in 1854, they came to Kansas at the right age and time to join in the fighting of the Civil War. Both brothers served with distinction in separate units during that conflict after which they eventually came to the frontier town of Dodge City.

When Pat was elected Ford County Sheriff in 1883, one of his first acts was to appoint his twin brother, Mike, a deputy. "So efficient were the brothers that their Dodge City law enforcement careers were almost prosaic. Records still on file show that innumerable arrests were made by the Sughrues but without braggadocio, fanfare or gun-play. Outlaws were skillfully tracked down and brought in to stand trial."

In November, 1884, a chain of events commenced resulting in Mike's permanent location in Clark County. Cowboys led by a businessman from Clark City started to shoot up the town of Ashland. There were six plus the leader and they would ride up and down the street shooting anything they saw, even riding into stores. The leader's horse fell early, causing a broken leg which put him out of commission. Charles Roby's grocery store was located on the corner of 10th and Cedar Street with a long sign which extended over the street. When the cowboys returned from the saloon near Clark City where they had gone for more booze, they would get on the south side of the sign and shoot toward town menacing the carpenters who were working on new buildings.

By November 26, the gang had been reduced to two: Nels Matthews and Joe Mitchell (the rest having returned to the ranches on which they worked.) About suppertime, Matthews and Mitchell had gone to the Lowery restaurant, located about a block east of the Roby store on the bank of Bear Creek. Commodore Boggs and Daniel Adams had come to town to help guard it, and their guns infuriated Matthews and Mitchell, who shot them down in cold blood and also shot Miss Fannie Hankins, a waitress. Matthews and Mitchell then went to the saloon near Clark City and when they got there they ran into Mike Sughrue, deputy Sheriff from Dodge City, who had just arrived. They began shooting but no one was hit. Mitchell was captured but Matthews escaped. Mitchell was hanged during the night by the mob, which action infuriated Sughrue, and he agreed to continue serving as law officer only if those responsible agreed that nothing similar would ever happen again. Thus ended the episode which brought Mike Sughrue to Ashland.

On December 26, 1884, the Ashland Town Company hired Mike as marshall for a four month period for which he was to be paid \$112.50 a month. This marked the beginning of Mike's establishment as a fixture in this frontier community.

Mike had married Anna Walters on June 3, 1874. They were already the parents of five children (and would become the parents of four more) when a daughter was born in December, 1884. The December 18, 1884 *Clark County Clipper* reported: "It will be seen by the Dodge papers that Mike Sughrue is a happy father, he having received an addition to his family in the shape of a bouncing girl. Mike became acquainted with Ashland through the leading part he played in our recent troubles and seems to have taken an unusual liking to it, as the following circumstances will show:

"Mike took a trip to Dodge to see his precious acquisition and determined to call her Ashland, after this place. Several of our citizens including members of the Town Company, being at Dodge about this time were invited to his place for the christening. Mike and his brother, Pat, entertained their guests royally; the baby was christened and Mr. Bullen, on the part of the Town Company, in a neat speech, presented the child a deed to a lot in Ashland. County Attorney Whitelow, acting as Godfather, accepted the gift with a few remarks. After an evening of enjoyment the party broke up with best wishes to Mike and Ashland Sughrue." Her name is recorded as Agnes.

Mike played an important role in the events of early Ashland. He was an early member of the Catholic Church and the Grand Army of the Republic Post. In 1885, Mike served as Under-sheriff of the territory now comprising Clark County when it was a part of Ford County. When Clark County was organized in May, 1885, he was elected its first sheriff and the following November was re-elected for a full two year term. According to Kansas constitutional limitation, Mike could hold the office of sheriff for only two consecutive full terms. He was out of office from January, 1888 to January, 1890 and again beginning in 1892.

Mike was elected and was serving his fifth term when he died on January 2, 1901. He was still marshal of Ashland. His body lay in state in the Clark County Courthouse. All day long, Saturday, January 5, people passed by silently, offering a silent goodbye. A guard of Grand Army of the Republic comrades remained on duty throughout the day. It was said that the procession that followed his coffin to the cemetery was "The greatest that ever attended a funeral in the county."

Submitted by Jane Shreve

THE MAIN STREET WELLS FOR WATER

By November, 1884, a month after its founding, Ashland had thirty houses with foundations being laid for more. A water supply for the growing community was a consideration to the Town Company meeting of October 9, 1884, when it was voted to locate a public well at the center of Main and Eighth Street. By December, the well was dug and an Eclipse windmill with a tower 34 feet high and a wheel 12 feet in diameter was in place (see picture in August, before the tower was built). It was reported that "it will add greatly to public convenience and will be far ahead of rope and buckets or an ordinary 'one armed jake'."

The windmill remained until the City Council on June 3, 1886, determined to have the tower taken down and the well

cleaned and to install a deep well wooden pump. By June 21, it was decided that the well was too deep for such pump and a Buckeye Iron pump was ordered installed.

Edna Bare recalled in the June 7, 1984 *Clipper*: "I clearly remember the old iron pump with a small wooden water tank where the farmers and ranchers watered their teams. Hanging on the pump was a tin cup from which anyone being thirsty could drink."

The pictures show the progressive history of the well located at 8th and Main. There were also wells located at 7th and 9th on Main in early times.

Submitted by Jane Shreve



Main Street looking north, Ashland Kansas, Aug. 28, 1886



c. 1890, Well in foreground is 7th and Main.



c. 1900 with Band Stand



c. 1945, Note sign replacing well.

ASHLAND'S FIRE COMPANY

"A fire company was organized January 28, 1888, with Ed. Gage, Chief, C.C. Moore, Assistant and firemen L.R. Hobson, Geo. Blair, Chas. Evans, John Franing, Dan Lentz, M.G. Stevenson, Nelson Molyneux and John Stephens.

The manager and superintendent of the Lundgren Smith Fire Extinguisher Co., came the following week to make a test of their chemical engine. Fifteen business men of Ashland, previously appointed by the council and accepted by the company, met to decide what kind of test should be made, but on account of some misunderstanding no test was made. The gentlemen had some hand machines and tested one of them which proved very satisfactory to all who witnessed it. At a called meeting of the council Saturday evening, that body accepted a proposition from the manager to keep the engine here four months on trial, and if the council at that time wanted to buy it, all right, and if not the only expense would be in paying the freight to Kingman, which was about \$7."

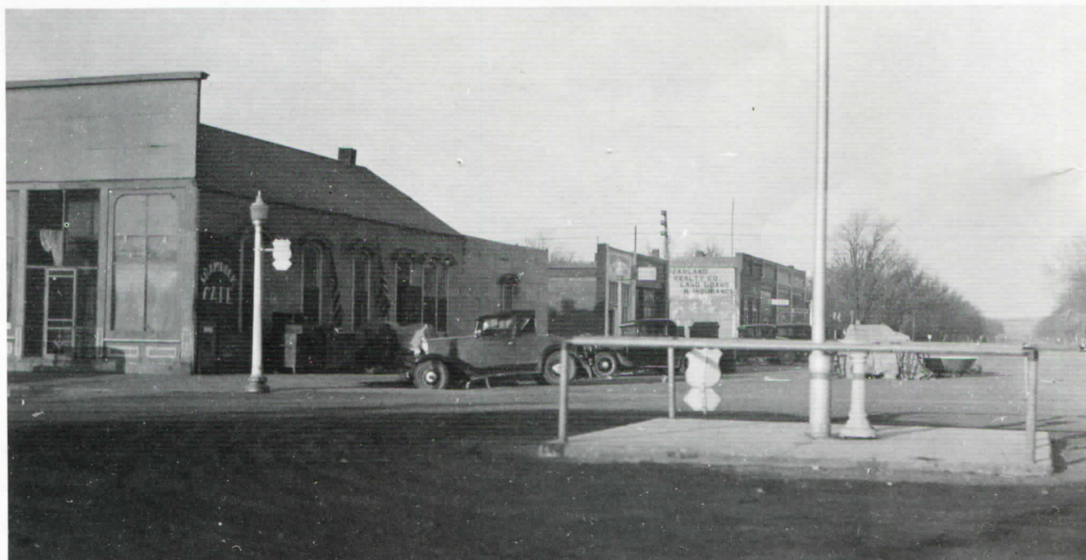
A bell was hung over Taylor and Graning's office indicating location of the fire by 2 taps for Ashland House, State Bank 3, *Clipper Office* 4, Bullen and Deeds Lumber 5, Chicago Lumber Yard 6, Presbyterian Church 7, Rock Island Lumber Yard 8, Methodist Church 9, Clifton House 10, and the Queen City House

11. The company caused quite a sensation one day that year while practicing with their new Lundgren engine. Four taps of the bell brought them to the *Clipper* office, which they sprinkled pretty heavily. They had made the run from their various places of business to the engine house (old *Journal* office) on North Main so were badly wind broken when they pulled up.

Later the organization became The Ashland Fire Dept. and Clark County Fire District No. 1. Equipment was up-dated and additional water trucks were purchased to cover rural areas. New city engines have replaced the old to keep pace with more efficient models and local, regional and state fire schools are held regularly to instruct firemen on the current technology. The budget has increased from \$140 in 1937 to \$27,500 for 1984. Dances were held in the early days to make money but now are for entertainment for volunteers and the community. The biggest day of the year is the July 4th celebration which began in 1948 with a large fireworks display and has expanded to include many activities for children, of which one is the World's Largest Turtle Race.

Presently serving as Fire Chief is Don White with Kenny Dome as Assistant. There are approximately 20 firemen.

Submitted by Don White, Fire Chief



March, 1933. In center of background are bath facilities for post fire workers.

POSTMASTERS

This is the history of the Ashland Post Office, as recalled by living postmasters, clerks, and friends.

The first post office in the county was at Deep Hole, a store 10 miles south of Ashland.

The first postmaster to serve the Ashland community was W.D. "One-arm" Baker, who served first at Klaine (1883), moved to Clark City in 1884, and to Ashland in 1885. Postmaster was a political appointment, and the postmaster changed with changing national administrations. Succeeding Mr. Baker was Frank Cummins (1885-1887), C.W. Carson (1887-1890), C.B. Nune-macher (1890-1894), C.W. Carson (1894-1897).

W.H. McIntyre, who served from 1897-1910, lived in a house located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Highland and Twelfth. George McNickle served from 1910-1914, at which

time he opened the Ford Agency.

H.C. Mayse was the next postmaster until 1924. Virgil Severe remembers working four hours a day for three dollars per week. He put up the mail about 5 a.m., sacked it out and put it on a dray, to be delivered to the train that ran from Englewood to Wichita. A train came from Wichita in the afternoon and delivered mail.

Ella W. Mendenhall was Postmaster from 1924 to 1934. Her husband and girls worked the mail, is about all we can find.

Geo. Broadie was Postmaster from 1934 to 1941. Tillman Floyd went to work at the same time and was clerk. Carrie Roberts and Sabina Dome helped for awhile. Sabina came in later on a steady basis. Geo. Broadie resigned to work at the Citizen's State Bank and B.T. Broadie then ran the Post Office, acting as

Postmaster from 1941 to 1942. Roberta Baker came in as sub-clerk in October of 1941. The Post Office became second class in 1941 and B.T. resigned in 1942 for health reasons.

T.W. Floyd was Postmaster from 1942 to 1951. While Tillman was in the Second World War, Sabina Dome was acting Postmaster from 1944 to 1945. Roberta Baker was clerk from 1942 to 1971 and worked for four Postmasters: Broadie, Floyd, Hardesty and Simmons, retiring in October of 1971. Velma Douglas started to work in 1949 and retired while Simmons was Postmaster. Other workers were Betty McIntyre, S.G. Idhe, Jack Hardesty and Art Anderson helped dump sacks.

Jack Hardesty was Postmaster from 1951 to 1959. Roberta Baker was clerk and Velma Douglas was working at this time. Landon Haydock went to work two hours per day in 1958 and became Postmaster in 1973.

Ray Simmons was Postmaster from 1959 to 1973. Roberta Baker was still clerk and went to part time when Leola Swanson came to work in 1961. Velma Douglas retired in 1961 and Leola Swanson was clerk until she transferred to Wichita in 1972.

Landon Haydock was Postmaster from 1973 to 1982 and worked from 1958 to 1973. Mail handlers in this period were Kenneth Rankin, who retired because of health problems, Sabina Dome and Marian Abbott, who are still working. Marian was



Ashland Post Office

officer-in-charge from May to August of 1982.

Norma Woodruff became Postmaster in August, 1982. Current clerks are Sabina Dome and Marian Abbott. The three rural routes were combined in July, 1982, with Elsie Brunholtz taking the combined routes, covering 147 miles circling Ashland.

Submitted by Ray Simmons

Professional

EARLY ASHLAND MEDICAL SERVICES

Nov. 20, 1884-June 1889

A chronicle of arrival and departure of Ashland's early physician and dental services reveals much activity. The first was a Dr. Davis, who became a resident of Ashland by November 20, 1884. "He is Ashland's first physician. May success attend him . . . The Dr. is a very genial gentleman, and will sell you anything in his line, reasonably." He was not mentioned again, nor was Dr. Wilson, who arrived from the "late Clark City" in February, 1885. Their advertisements disappear from the *Clipper* by mid-April, 1885.

Dr. Layfield, a dentist, opened a dental office "where he will be prepared to fill teeth and yank out old snags in the latest style" on May 7. (Tobe Taylor was convicted of his murder in 1886.)

Next came Dr. W.J. Workman, M.D., Physician & Surgeon, in June, 1885, who remained a part of the community for many years. In January, 1888, he received "a fresh supply of vaccine virus, and any one wishing to be vaccinated should call on him." In January, 1888, the Hon. F.C. Price circulated a petition which was presented to General Pension Agent Black, appointing "Drs. Workman, Simms and Taylor a medical examining board for this county, before whom Union soldiers applying for a pension," could go for examination, saving an expensive journey. The board elected Dr. Simms, president, Dr. Taylor, secretary, and Dr. Workman, treasurer. (Note: Dr. Workman presided at the birth of Ivan R. Burket, 1888, who served this community as physician and surgeon from 1916-1977). Dr. Workman left Ashland for Denver after 1893, returning again in 1918.

At about the same time, Dr. Workman came to the community, Dr. S.H. Parks was appointed a member of the State Board of Health by the county commissioners. He shipped his goods from here to Boston, Colorado in July, 1887. "The Doctor will, we understand, embark in the drug business in his new field where we wish him his full measure of success." He was back in November, buying the Wilson Drug Store and resuming his old place among Ashland merchants. He took possession of "a portion of his old stock, which has been owned by three different persons since he sold it. The doctor informs us that it is his intention to secure one of the new brick business rooms if possible. Besides doing a general drug and prescription business, the doctor will resume his practice." A year later it was reported that he had fitted up a cozy office over his drug store in the Cooper block.

Dr. M.L. Doom, a Physician, came in January of 1886. He advertised that he slept in his office. By February, 1887, he was reported to be out taking a look at the Rockies, and in March, he announced that all notes and accounts due him were payable on March 15th, as he was leaving for Colorado, having transferred his office and practice to Drs. Simms and Metcalf.

Dr. Simms, of Jacksonville, Illinois, "has located in our city. He is a most social and pleasant gentleman and comes well recommended." A note in January, 1889, informs the public that Dr. Simms was located "profitably and comfortably, at Union Grove, Wisconsin. He is enjoying life hugely . . ." Dr. Metcalf came to Ashland from Lexington; Dr. Varden and Dr. J.J. Littlefield came from Englewood.

Dr. F.H. Ulshoffer, a dentist, "permanently located in Ashland." (February, 1886). His work was guaranteed; his office at the Ashland House. In April he announced that those wanting work in the dentistry line should call at once, as he was leaving the city the middle of the following week. "He is departing for new pastures." He returned for a few weeks in October to do any kind of dental work desired. Dr. Turner, a dentist of note, rented rooms in November, 1887. A year later he investigated the establishment of a branch dental office in Coldwater.

Dr. Caughell, a practicing "physician--private diseases of wo-

men--" came in September, 1887. In May of 1888, he disposed of his effects and returned to his former home in Missouri.

In notes on *Early Clark County Kansas, Vol. V*, it is stated that Dr. Whiteman Forman Taylor came to Ashland in the summer or fall of 1884, although his advertisements do not appear in the early *Clark County Clippers*. He was 27 when he arrived, and spent the rest of his years, until his death on February 10, 1928, serving the people of this area.

Submitted by Carrie Humphreys

DR. WHITEMAN FORMAN TAYLOR, M.D.

Dr. W.F. Taylor was born in Kentucky in 1857. He graduated in 1880 from the Kentucky School of Medicine in Louisville and began practicing in Vanceburg where he met and married Tabitha Ella Pugh, a teacher. 1884 they came to Ashland and located in a small house just south of where the V.F.W. building now stands. Their furniture was limited--nail-kegs served as chairs and wooden boxes as tables. Trips were made on horseback anywhere in the county to visit the sick. Later a lively team and a buggy provided transportation whenever he was called. Regardless of the weather, he arrived with his little black bag containing medical supplies. Frequently George Elder, called "Shorty," drove for him while he slept traveling.

His office was in the home. If an anesthetic was necessary, Mrs. Taylor was the administrator. At times she accompanied him and helped when a child was born. In 1892, the U.S. Government appointed him as physician for the Hospital at Fort Camp Supply. He returned to Ashland in 1893 when appointed by County Commissioners to fill vacancy as Health Officer when Dr. Workman resigned. For remuneration, much was produce from the farm. His books show that many never paid. He loved mankind and fulfilled the Hippocratic Oath as long as physically able. February 2, 1928, he died resting in his chair at home.



Dr. Taylor

About 1903, he built a commodious house on Eighth Street where they enjoyed their retiring years.

Their children were: George, Jennie, Ann and Daisy.

Submitted by Edna Marie Bare

WORKMAN CONCRETE

Clark County Clipper, September 30, 1886

"Workman and Knittle: manufacturers of Workman's Concrete building material and commercial Plaster of Paris."

This was the advertisement for the product being offered for sale by Dr. William J. Workman, a Missourian who became an Ashland physician in February of 1885. Discovery of the product occurred when Dr. Workman was on a hunting trip near Indian Territory. He was attracted by a shiny material in the bluffs near the Cimarron River. He took pieces of the rock and crushed it into a frying pan. When heated the material simmered and boiled until it turned to powder. When he added water to the powder, it acted like cement forming a hard, stable substance.

Returning to Ashland, Dr. Workman continued to experiment with the new substance using three iron kettles for the cooking. "Andy Buckner worked the kettles; the neighbors hauled the rock, gypsum rock from M.C. Campbell's; we ground it in a sweep mill and cooked it in kettles, about three hours--and it was plaster of paris!"

In November, 1886, he demonstrated the usefulness and the durability of the plaster by using it to build an addition to his own house. Afterward, Dr. Workman built a house for Perry

Scrogin of the material. The contract was for \$675, though the actual cost was more. This house located in the eastern part of Ashland was the first "poured" cement house in the world. Cement was poured into forms which had been previously filled with rubble stone. Dr. Workman said, "the plaster was mixed up like buttermilk and poured in. It set almost immediately. Almost before the forms could be taken off it was hard and strong."

Seeing the commercial value in the new material, Dr. Workman organized the Ashland Concrete and Plaster Manufacturing Company on March 21, 1887, with a capital stock of \$5,000. The factory was located on the east side of Ashland on Bear Creek, west of the "Old Castle."

As "things began to get metropolitan in Ashland" a Board of Trade was organized with Dr. Workman as its first president. The first concern was to obtain a railroad. With this accomplished, it secured a set schedule for the trains so the gypsum could be shipped to the east.

Seeking ways to improve his product, Dr. Workman visited concrete establishments in the eastern United States observing methods of manufacture. On the way home he stopped at a Fort

Scott foundry for a machine which would improve his plaster processing. The 10,000 pound crushing machine which turned the gypsum into powder arrived about a month later. The capacity of Ashland's factory was enlarged and he declared it would soon operate at full strength.

In 1887, Dr. Workman spent a week in Washington looking after some of his patent applications. He found that a patent would be of little value because of the simplicity of the manufacture of the product and the widespread availability of gypsum.

For about three years the plant prospered, employing as many as eighteen men. Then an order from Wichita for five car loads of plaster was cancelled. Because of the financial slump of 1890, construction projects slowed and Dr. Workman was forced to close his factory.

After the plant's closure, Dr. Workman began construction of the "big house" or the "Old Castle." To prove the durability of the material, he constructed it with a "floating type" foundation which was sandstone rock placed directly onto the buffalo grass. The poured walls of the structure were six inches thick, providing summer coolness and winter warmth. The five bedrooms were upstairs with two living rooms, dining room and kitchen downstairs. Originally there was an observatory on the top of the house. The castle-like appearance was caused by the round cement tower on the north side of the house which contained one of the bedrooms. The house was built to include running water and had a bath tub. The durable fireplaces were made of cement imported from England.

Dr. Workman always believed in his product and considered his plaster formula to be one of his greatest accomplishments. He constructed buildings on his farm and it was reported that the material was used extensively at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. There was no reported use of the material after that time, however, and Dr. Workman was forced to give up his dream of providing a badly needed, cheap building material.

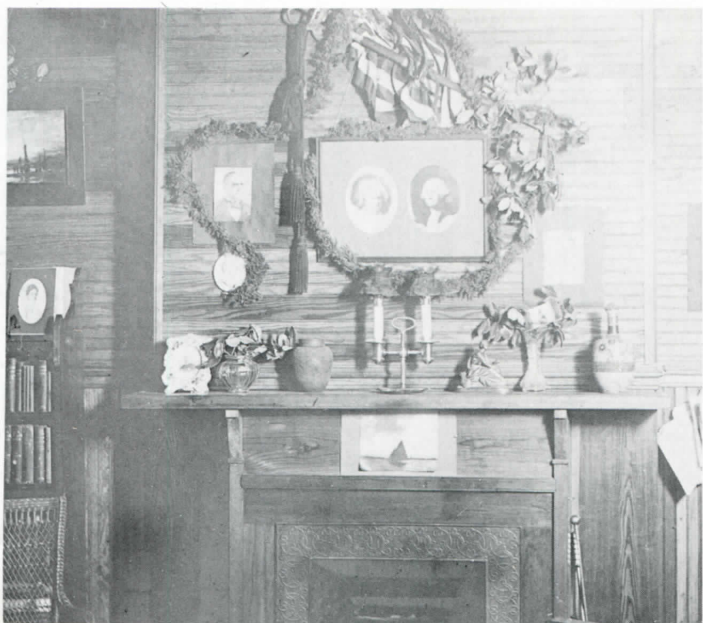
Submitted by Jane Shreve



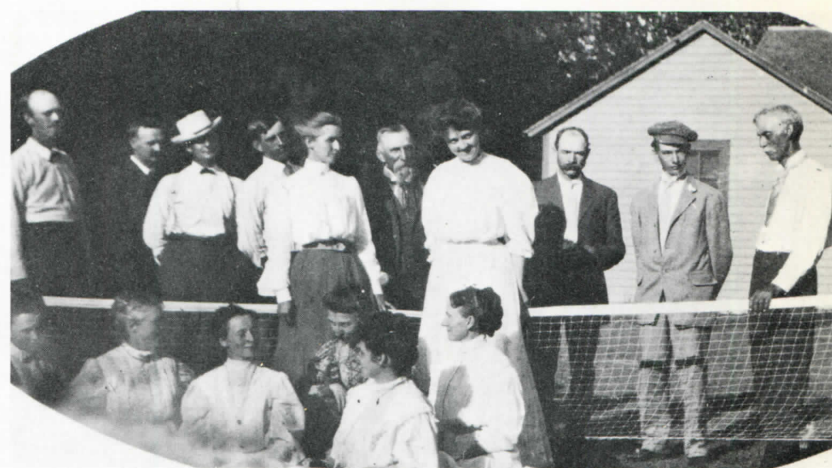
The Old Castle



Pearl, Zoe, Fay, Ruth Clark. Back view of the "Old Castle" - side is prepared for stucco.



Sitting room at Claremont Ranch, Englewood.



Unknown, unknown, Mrs. C.W. Smith, Mrs. F.C. Price, Mrs. C.W. Carson, Helen Perry, Mrs. E.A. Shattuck. Back: Louie Perry, Judge Price, J.W. Berryman, E.A. Shattuck, C.W. Carson, Willis Shattuck, Col. Perry.

Entertainment

(April 16, 1885, Clark County Clipper)

"The ball and banquet last night, given by the citizens of Ashland, was the grandest and most pleasant event of the season. It is unnecessary to say the elite were there, as Ashland has none other than elite, and all enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent. About one hundred persons were present and participated in "shaking the light fantastic toe until the wee small hours" this morning. Several of the boys were present from the surrounding ranches, including the LC, 76, D cross, I bar, Beverly's, and many others, which we have not space to mention. At twelve o'clock supper was announced and all repaired to another building where "the table groaned under their heavy weight of sumptuous repast," prepared under the immediate supervision of Mrs. Sughrue, Berry, Nolf and Kinnear assisted by others. It was a toast that would have done honor to a table d'hote. After all had satisfied their appetites, and cracked nuts, candies and jokes to their heart's content, the merry throng returned to the hall, and continued to enjoy themselves until late, or rather an early hour, when they winded their way homeward feeling that for one night, at least, Comus* had ruled over the queen city of the valley. The music was furnished by Roby's orchestra, assisted on the organ by Mrs. F.R. Spencer. To say that it was very good would be putting it in too mild a tone. It was excellent."

*Comus: the play by John Milton which first dramatized his great theme, the contrast of good and evil, Comus being a song of innocence (1634).



Back row: Jennie Michael, Perry Keith, John Walden, Charley Wallingford, Don Stubblefield and Eugene Pugh. Front: Galen Mayse, Fannie Keith, Lula Cassity, Mary Wright and Mary Dromand.

(April 14, 1889, Clark County Clipper)

Tuesday was racing day on the course at the fair grounds north of the city. The racing began at four o'clock, and at that hour an immense crowd of people could be seen heading toward the fair grounds. In fact, the turn-out was larger than that of a funeral procession. Three fleet footed horses were entered in the

principal race, the contest for supremacy and the purse being close. Pete Haverty's roan horse won the contest, however, and came out on the best time. The races were exciting and considerable money changed hands.

Submitted by Carrie Humphreys



PIONEER DAYS IN WESTERN KANSAS SYNOPSIS

By Chester Shupe

SCENE I - Prowling Cheyennes, wandering from their reservation, have discovered the sod shanty and claim of Tom Hardy and plan the destruction of his home.

SCENE II - The old pioneer, assisted by his little son, unsuspecting the savage red men, and assisted by his true friends, the dumb animals, continues his daily work. "Slim" Hunt, faithful friend of Tom Hardy, sweetheart of Rhoda Hardy.

SCENE III - Rhoda Hardy bids farewell to father, brother and sweetheart and returns east for school in the stage.

SCENE IV - The cowboys after their trail behind the sookeys arrive at their stopping post.

SCENE V - Arrival of Dude Reginald Carver, who is making a luxurious tour of the West with his Negro driver. Receives a full initiation by the cowboys.

SCENE VI - Wagon caravan makes camp on their way to make new homes and conquer the West. The murderous Indians attack, endeavoring to hold back the forward march of the white man. The ever watchful "Slim" Hunt comes to their rescue too late to save Tom Hardy.

SCENE VII - Hunt and Billie, heartbroken over the loss of father and friend, leave for the plains. Animals faithful to master even in death.

SCENE VIII - Cowboys in need of new mounts proceed to rope and ride.

SCENE IX - Rhoda Hardy returns from school in the stage coach and her thrilling rescue by her lover, "Slim" Hunt.

SCENE X - Happy reunion of the sweethearts and her brother Billie but touched with the sadness of bereavement.

CAST

TOM HARDY - Veteran of the Civil War - hardy pioneer who comes West with his motherless daughter and son, to find a home. A lover of animals with a genius for training animals to do his will. Affectionate with his children and a like bond binds his pets to him, staking a claim in the foothills. Chester Shupe
RHODA HARDY - the daughter, coming West with her father but returning to school in the east to return in the spring.

. Grace Bigelow
BILLIE HARDY - young son and constant companion of his father Freddie Mayfield

"SLIM" HUNT - cowboy, lone ranger of the plains, hard riding, reckless, fast shooting, fearless. He meets and loves Rhoda Hardy. A dauntless trailer of the plains, watches with tender devotion his sweetheart and her family, riding his mount "Buck."

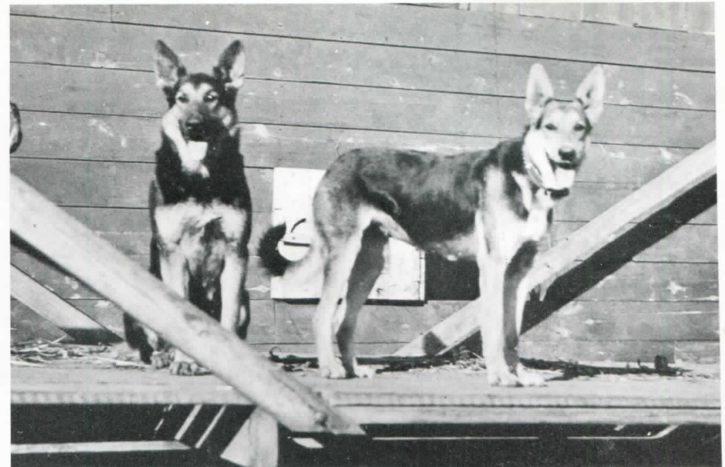
. Roy Shupe

REGINALD FAIRWEATHER CARVER - Dude - scion of wealthy Bostonian family, exiled to the West for his escapades. Arriving at his railroad destination, he disdains the stage with its rough interior, its wild looking driver and guard and hires Rastus Bones, only cabman, recently likewise from the east in the pioneer railroad town to drive him over the prairies for a sight seeing trip.
Ralph Drennen

A cattlemen's race, north end of Main Street, Fourth of July Celebration
early 1900 or late 1890's. Roy Bone, Frank Daily in immediate foreground.



RASTUS BONES - Negro cab driver Eugene Shupe
 WEARY WILSON - Stage driver Jack Paulin
 INDIANS - Cheyennes from Seiling, Oklahoma
 COWBOYS - from ranches in Clark and Comanche counties,
 Kansas and Harper County, Oklahoma.
 BLACK BEAUTY - Mare trained and owned by Chester Shupe.
 MIDNIGHT AND STARLIGHT - Police dogs trained and owned
 by Chester Shupe.
 TOM and JERRY - Oxen trained and owned by Roy, Chester,
 and Eugene Shupe.
 STAGE COACH - the original coach that operated between
 Dodge City and Ft. Supply, Oklahoma. Seven bullet markings
 can be seen in the structure. King George of England, late ruler,
 who toured this country when he was the Prince of Wales, rode
 from Dodge City to Fort Supply in this coach.
 BROUGHAM CAB - used at Dodge City, in the days before taxis
 and automobiles.



Starlight and Midnight, trained Police dogs used in the Pageant, Pioneer Days in Western Kansas.

ASHLAND 4th OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

"The G.A.R. erected a splendid dance platform and refreshment stand on the old Bullen & Deed's lumber yard lots for the 4th of July Celebration, at 9th and South Main. A pyrotechnical display on the evening of the fourth will be the grandest ever witnessed in the southwest." This quotation comes from June 16, 1887 *Clark County Clipper*.

The first recorded Ashland 4th of July celebration was in 1885. During the next few years, the celebration followed a pattern which, with some variations, included the "firing of anvils at daybreak" (mentioned 3 separate times!), a reunion of G.A.R.'s followed by a procession of G.A.R.'s, Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Sunday schools from Lexington and Sitka, citizens in carriages and headed by the band.

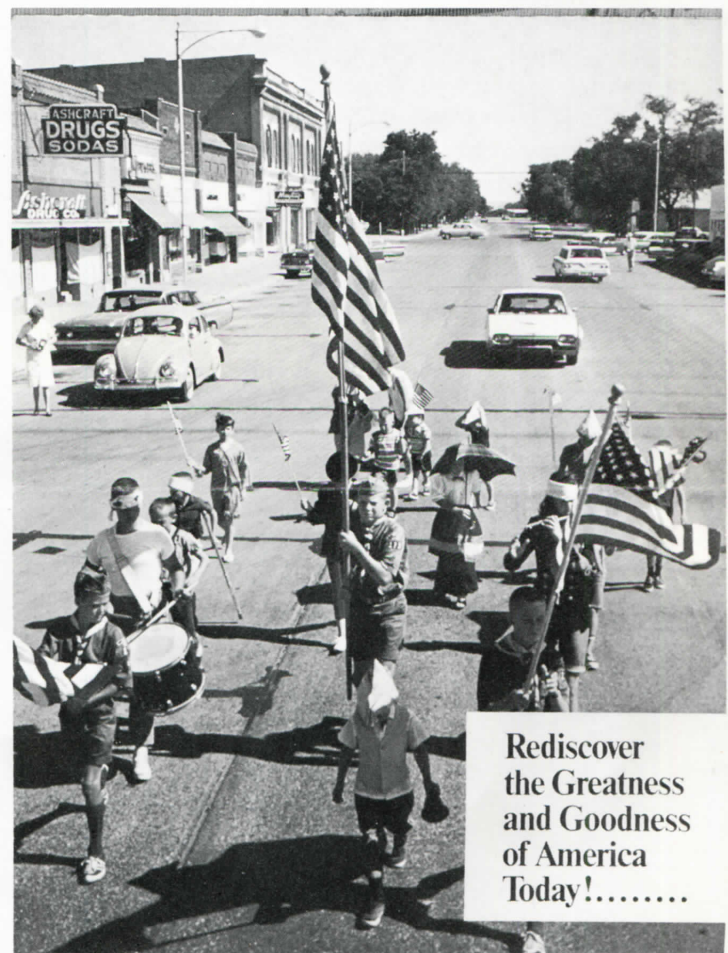
A basket dinner at noon was followed by a Reading of the Declaration of Independence, an opening address and six or more responses. Then came horse races, foot races, sack races, climbing of greased poles with prizes of money for all these contests. In the evening there was dancing until a late hour and "pyrotechnical displays."

As many as 2000 people were in attendance some years. Other years smaller celebrations were held at the K Ranch, Leuthstrom's Ranch and Howard Grove, both on Bluff Creek.

Since 1949, the Volunteer Firemen have taken responsibility for the fireworks each year. They are spectacular! The day sometimes includes rodeos, shoots at the Ashland Gun Club, a free motion picture and baseball games. Fountain View Villa has hosted a barbeque for the community in the evenings. Since the late '50's, the firemen have sponsored morning activities which include a turtle race (the largest in the southwest), snow cones and a mountain of money for the young children.

In 1964, Susan McQuade and Hal McNickle, with the help of Susan's grandmother, Mrs. Pauline Mathews, organized a neighborhood children's parade. It has grown from just a few to include all the children of the community. The parade has always featured a drummer, a piccolo player, Boy Scouts carrying flags, decorated bicycles, a fire truck and children in all sorts of patriotic costumes carrying flags and bells. The parade has continued to be an important part of the 4th of July in Ashland.

Submitted by Anna Marie McNickle



Front to back, left to right: John Humphreys, Tom Humphreys, Jim McNickle, Scott Shattuck, Sandy Haydock, Karen Humphreys, Wes Ruzik, Mary Lee Haydock, Susan McQuade, Hal McNickle, Sondra Rankin, Sally Shattuck and Matt McQuade.

cCc

They tell us that women's slacks don't come in odd sizes. They just look that way.

cCc

Newspaper

CLARK COUNTY CLIPPER

The *Clark County Clipper* is the oldest continuous business in Ashland. The paper was founded in 1884 in Clark City. The first edition was on September 25 and is preserved on film. By November, the paper had been moved to Ashland.

Editors of the *Clipper* are listed below. Mr. "Hank" Mayse was editor for 22 years, from 1895 until 1917. The Rays, father

and son, owned and edited the paper nearly 50 years. There were many columns written during this 100 year period. Some were entertaining, some political, and many were eagerly anticipated by readers. A sampling is reproduced here.

Submitted by Carrie Humphreys

EDITORS

September 25, 1884 to November 13, 1884, Marquis and Church; November 20, 1884 to March 26, 1885, James E. Church; April 2, 1885 to September 10, 1885, John I. Lee (Bush & Lee Bros.); January 28, 1886 to May 23, 1889, John I. Lee (Lee Brothers); May 30, 1889 to August 28, 1890, John I. Lee; November 19, 1891 to March 23, 1894, W.L. Cowden; April 20, 1894 to March 22, 1895, John R. Walden; June 7, 1895 to March 1, 1917, H.C. Mayse (22 years); ? , 1917 to June 14, 1917, R.E. Busenbark; ? , 1917 to September 1, 1921, Carl O. Hedrick; September 5, 1921 to December 31, 1949, Walter C. Ray (39 years); January 1, 1940 to December 31, 1959, Walter C. Ray (Ray & Ray); January 1, 1960 to July 4, 1971, Harold Ray; July 5, 1971 to present, Ron Morrison.

Where dates are non-consecutive, the issues of the *Clipper* are missing. This list of early editors was prepared by Walter C. Ray.



Walter Ray



H.C. Mayse

'IN FORMER DAYS' by 'STEVEY'

(M.G. Stevenson, known as "Stevie," was born in 1862, and came to Ashland in 1885 as editor of the *Clark County Journal*. He died here July 28, 1962. In 1928, he wrote commentaries on items found in early *Clippers* from his later perspective. The following material is quoted.)

(from Oct. 1886) The Republican county convention was held Oct. 2nd. Dr. Workman was chairman. There were 52 delegates present. (Nominated for State Representative was F.C. Price.) At that time only half our present county ticket was nominated. The other half being elected the next year, giving us an election every year. Editor Lee was a pronounced partisan and the only favorable mention he made of the proceedings was to compliment Dr. Workman's ability as a presiding officer. John I. (Lee) closed his report with the two following paragraphs printed in parallel columns. "Old version. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me and none other shalt thou serve." "New version. Thou shalt have no other Price before me and none other shalt thou serve." Evidently Lee didn't like Frank Price's political activity and great popularity and took that means of expressing his sentiment. It was worse than useless for the Democrats to put up a candidate for the legislature "them days."

(Oct. 28, 1886) Clark County's first fair opened October 27. There were many entries of stock and a large display of farm products.

Expenditures of the state was a subject of debate in those hectic days. The *Clipper* clinched an argument for its candidate for



M.G. Stevenson "Stevie",
95 years old

governor by comparing one year's expense under the first Democratic governor \$23,682.27 with \$1,351,994.48 under Governor Martin (Republican). Compare these figures with those of today (1928) and note our progress in the gentle art of spending to "keep up the Lizzie." Locally, Editor Lee lambasted "Price, the captain of the Republican Host," using Bible simile, sometimes amusing and often strained.

(November 5, 1886) The fair was fully reported. Bad weather interfered the first of the week but was good from Wednesday on. Secretary Marquis said: "It is worthy of notice that Clark County is the only new county in Southwestern Kansas that had

the courage to get up a fair at all, and further, that ours will compare very favorably with fairs in counties north and east of us that have been organized for ten years. Finally, friends, let us develop every foot of her soil, let us take courage, resting in the assurance that Clark County leads the west, as she soon will the state; develop every inch of her resources, every phase of her grand possibilities and make one long, strong, hard pull to place her where she belongs--on the top round of the famous ladder of Kansas successes."

The *Clipper* published the election returns, the table showing the highest vote for Representative Frank Price, 838; his opponent, receiving the lowest vote of any on the ticket . . . The *Clipper* editor, in his comment editorially said; "The Republican ticket elected last Tuesday is composed of good upright citizens; all fully competent to give us a safe, able and economical administration of public affairs." This is in marked contrast to ante-election statements which were exactly the opposite or worse. There was too much of that sort of politics those days, we wonder why men will be such consummate fools over politics. The motives of good men who were working honestly and conscientiously to put down lawlessness, were impugned and themselves held up to contumely and ignominy. A notable victim of this was Lot Ravenscraft while sheriff. He threw a bomb shell into the ranks of cattle thieves that they hardly recovered from and risked his own life in a Winchester duel, but he got his man after wounding him. The capture and conviction of this man, one of the inside and high-ups in the thieving organization, and his sentence to the pen, made cattle raising safer for many years.

One F.W. Jones was here getting out a special edition of the *Clipper*. It promised the most complete write-up of this section ever penned. The present force of the *Clipper* can only imagine the magnitude of the task as they take a proof on the old Washington hand press. This totaled 6,000 copies, all printed on the old "armstrong" press.

(from Nov. 11, 1886) One of the social events was a "grand ball and oyster supper at the Week's ranch." (Now the Shattuck ranch in Lexington township.) This bit of festivity probably served to drown the troubles of the ranch owners who were ruined by the blizzard of Jan. 7th. It has been stated to us that one could walk across the north part of the county on the dead carcasses of Week's cattle.

Spence Miner was inviting patronage to his new store and featuring "Dr. Warner's 50 and 60 cent corsets and ladies underwear," articles that couldn't be given away now, for the dear sisters simply don't wear 'em. The "straight front" now so much in vogue wasn't possible in a Warner that contributed to the female form the "wasp waist", which made you feel that you were cuddling a saw log when you slipped your arm around your steel and whalebone encased best girl.

A petition was published praying the commissioners to create a new township to be known as Sitka. As finally organized and as it exists today (1928), this township conforms to the lines stated except that one mile was taken off the south side and given to Cimarron. How many know that there are 80 square miles in Sitka township?

(from Nov. 18, 1886) A wagon load of untanned buffalo hides excited interest in Cash City. The animals were killed on the Beaver River near the New Mexico line. These were undoubtedly about the last wild buffalo in this section of the country.

We have mentioned the big dance and oyster supper at the Week's ranch. The *Lexington Leader* reported that toward evening, wagons, buggies and horsemen began arriving and by eight o'clock the large hall, 40 x 100 feet, was crowded with old and young. Dancing and feasting occupied most of the night and social enjoyment of such affairs did more to counteract the discouragement and hardships of those days than anything else. Those were the old time dances, not the sex appeal kind that are indulged in today. Like every sort of sport or amusement that man indulges in, dancing has been abused and is oft times condemned. It is clean and enjoyable if you wish it so and who shall say that it does not lighten the load of care that oppresses our people.

(from November 25, 1886) In the District Court the case against Mike Sughrue for murder was dismissed by Judge Ellis. Mike was sheriff and had, in the discharge of his duty, killed Clint Rickey for attempting to escape from custody. It was then, as now, fashionable to indict an officer for killing a law violator who resisted arrest or tried to kill the sheriff. It isn't a pleasure for an officer to have to kill in making an arrest or in holding a prisoner and Mike often voiced his regret that he ever had to do it.

(from November 25, 1886) Clippings from the *Englewood Chief* mentioned the arrival of three barrels of "rattle snake medicine" in the town. Under the early prohibitory law, drug stores were allowed to keep and sell whiskey and beer for "medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes." Examination of the monthly reports filed by the druggists revealed an astonishing amount of sickness and an inordinate number of scientists and mechanics in Kansas.

(from Dec. 16, 1886) Elder A.J. White, state evangelist of the Christian Church was holding a series of meetings in the Methodist Church. Thus the fourth denomination came to Ashland, which could not decently support one church.

The "Jolly Pleasure Seekers" was organized at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bird Cummins. The object of this society was to give frequent entertainments in the homes of the city to counteract the "dance mania." Thus the fight between those who dance and those who do not dance was carried on.



M.G. Stevenson in Knights of Pythias Band Uniform

Mrs. Mary Lou Zimmerman wrote for the *Clipper* for many years, reflecting the views of an "old-timer." Her "Rambler's Ramblings" were never signed. The items included here were from a time in the mid-1930's.

RAMBLER'S RAMBLINGS

Our new school house is very much in evidence now. We are glad some one has faith in Ashland and they are doing a good work making decent houses for people to live in. A good renter is a good investment, one who cares for another's property is sure to be a success in life.

Many changes, yes, Mr. Broyles has moved into the Foncannon house. Bro. Coppoc and wife in Baptist Parsonage. Glenn Rogers will soon move to his new home. Jake Smith is thinking of going west. He has sons and daughters who are doing well. Good luck, Jake.

We will cut this short for readers, some of them are anxious to know what happened 40 years ago, yes even longer than that. Many hearty laughs then, and a few now, very few are living the life of freedom they enjoyed in those dear old days. Read the *Clipper* and don't expect too much of the Rambler.

A letter from Stormville, New York, tells of snow two feet deep. My! My! Ain't we glad we are in Kansas.

Some, a few, queer acting people are in and out of our town. Watch your girls a little closer is our advice. Would it not be fierce if some one should be kidnapped.

Boost for your home paper. If you know anything to tell, tell it through the paper.

We notice many people from Protection in town this week. So many come here. Why? We have the best ever in the way of doctors.

We are very busy at present working our brains over time--"Guts" is a new name for brains. Now I want every reader of *Clipper*, *Capper* and *The Eagle* to tip their hats to us. We are in the game to stay. A New Year--old friends are best of friends; new friends, we greet. Let us all be good, good as we know how to be, is all that is necessary to make 1929 the best year in history! Selah.

'ROUND A BOUT'

Ruth McMillion began writing her column "Round A Bout" for the *Clipper* in 1956. It includes local and other news, weather and her entertaining family stories. Ruth has published a collection of her writings, "Knight of the Range," illustrated by Ace Reid, the famous cartoonist who created "The Cowpoke."

A breathless sight Sunday noon as we mudded home from church in the pickup: Three deer on the wheat field in front of the house. They slipped into the tree row and went east up the lane. The buttercups are blooming on the roadsides and the lilacs have the center of the stage.

And what's new at the farm? Well, I'm into modeling. Yes, I am. It wasn't easy getting myself into shape, but I'm giving it my best. Each year the young women of the Dodge City Christian Church entertain their mothers with a style show and tea. This year, it's a mother and daughter show. Since Monica is modeling, they had to ask me. I haven't modeled since my youth, but that was 50 years ago, more or less. High style clothing is supplied by Dodge City shops. There was an elegant two-piece green sheath with box pleats. Lovely! But the neckline wasn't for me. I have a neck like a wrestler.

Another sheer green outfit had dolman sleeves, and I resembled an eagle ready to take wing. Finally I squeezed into a lovely tan and black suitdress. If I could only hold my breath in and my stomach in, I'd make it. I only hoped the safety pins at the waistline didn't tear the fabric of the fetching \$200 number. It was too tight to button.

Then there was the choice of \$65 black patent pumps. Should I take the size that squeezed my toes, like a Chinese princess with bound feet, or the bigger size which enabled me to balance without breaking a heel?

Then there's the black patent bag--one that is large and expensive and overpowering, or, perhaps the one in better taste, which they might not see. I haven't modeled yet, but if anything drastic happens, it will never be mentioned again.

I had a jolly time babysitting with my darling grandchildren last weekend while their parents attended a Franklin Insurance courtesy at Crown Center in Kansas City, and the Royals game.

I knew where I'd been when I looked in my purse on Monday and found graham crackers in a plastic wrap. It was the first time I had known what I was doing for days! I floated around in a daze up there. I answered the Wilkinson phone with: "McMillions!" The lady on the other end gasped, "Sorry, wrong number." I usually answer my own phone at home with the words "*Clipper* office."

And what's new at the farm? Well, last night, Rg and I weeded my asparagus bed. I have a dozen plants. I've picked six spears, tucked them away in the refrigerator, and am awaiting more precious vegetables. Cheat grass had taken it. But we pulled the consuming weeds and found a dozen more healthy spears. Now I have about \$5.00 worth. Asparagus on toast! Moles and gophers have made the bed their runway. Cheat is the hottest thing going this spring, taking pastures, fence rows, and gardens. It's really downy brome, and a nuisance.

RUTH McMILLION'S STORIES

This is the 350th birthday of the state of Maryland, and we are so proud of our local centennial.

Everyone here is trying to remember things for our centennial yearbook--dates, people, pictures, and interesting data. Margaret Ray and I agree that we are trying to take the places of Stevey, and Chet Zimmerman. They were gold mines of historical events. But I can't even remember the last check I wrote. It's very frustrating not to have the old timers here to recall events for us.

This centennial year we have a bit of days-of-yore from two of our retired country school teachers. Muriel Small Gardiner taught her first year at the Coyote School up at Lexington vicinity in 1927.

Muriel had recently graduated from Hays State College. She stayed that winter with the Nathan Pikes, a lovely family. Muriel was the only teacher at the one-room schoolhouse, but she was "Miss Tidy-House" there. After walking through snow, and oft-times muddy roads, to the schoolhouse, she would then have to be the janitor and build the fire in the big, black heating stove.

Some of her pupils there were Harold Pike, Opal Shropshire, John Shropshire, and Raymond Schwartz. Muriel's second school was north of Englewood. She drove her mother's Ford car the 10 miles to school. That year Muriel stayed with the Lee Moores. Her third school was Fairview. There she taught with Harry Cunningham and lived with the George McCarty family. Muriel's last school was the Klinger School, east of Acres. Children who came to town from the country schools were really proficient in their three "R's".

Margaret Grimes Ray is also a retired teacher. Back in the 1920's, Margaret played the piano for the silent movies at the old Opera House. Mr. George Pike paid her \$2.00 for each evening. While in high school, Margaret played the organ at the Presbyterian Church. Vernon Baker, the church treasurer, paid her \$2.00 each Sunday. Margaret won two gold medals in piano competition at Dodge City. In those days, only one gold medal was given in each event. Margaret graduated from AHS in 1924, and from Bethany College, Lindsborg, in 1928, with a BA in Piano.

Margaret taught music in Ashland grade school in 1953, 1954 and 1955. She presented the operetta show, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," in 1954, using every child in the grade school! Margaret continued to teach piano until 1961 when she and her husband, Harold Ray, bought *The Clark County Clipper*.

During the Diamond Jubilee, practically every woman in Clark County had days-of-yore attire--long sweeping dresses, sun-bonnets, aprons and fancy stoles. Many were found in old trunks stored in old attics.

Walter Hines of Topeka stopped by to visit on Monday. His father was Ashland's first dentist, the late Dr. F.W. Hines.

Dr. Hines came to Ashland in 1904, just having completed Northwestern Dental School at Chicago, Ill. He was a bachelor and lived upstairs on Ashland Main. His office was near Dr. Jones and Dr. Burket in later years.

In 1908, Dr. Hines married Hilda Nelson in Wichita. The late W.H. Shattuck was his best man.

In the early days, Dr. Hines rode the circuit, taking his dental

equipment with him. He had a portable grinder and peddled it with his foot. He traveled via buggy to the Campbell Ranch, the Arnold Ranch, into Oklahoma, to Willard and other area places. Dr. and Mrs. Hines had five children. They had been married only 20 years when he was killed in a bus accident near Mayfield, Kansas.



Following is a centennial story, brought in by Pearl Degnan Arnold, telling of her teaching career:

I graduated in 1923 from Ashland High School. At that time, if one took a teacher's examination and passed the test, a teaching certificate could be issued. I was a lucky one, and was contracted to teach at Coyote School.

I was a beginning teacher with four beginning pupils. My pupils were Harold Watson, Harold Pike, Opal Shropshire (Dielman), and John Shropshire. John was only five years old, but he came anyway. He learned as fast and as well as any of them.

All of the children had whooping cough. Poor John seemed to have it worse than the rest. Many times I taught the class while holding John on my lap after he had had a severe spell of coughing and would cry himself to sleep while I held him. He was a sweet baby, and smart.

I lived with my parents that year as it was my home school. There wasn't much excitement, so I joined a teachers' agency and secured a position at St. Ignacius, Montana. In 1924, St. Ignacius was an Indian reservation in the Mission range of the Rocky Mountains. I had four white pupils and about 14 Indians of the Flathead tribe. This was my first sight of mountains, and my first ride on a train as an adult.

My teaching was interspersed with college. After renewing my teaching certificate by attending college, I taught at several other country schools. Two years at North Star School, which is still in Clark County, but near Bucklin. I liked it very much there as I wasn't far from the Degnan Ranch. A very kind, loving man lived there. He would come on weekends, riding a horse and with a lead horse for me and "a hunting we would go."

I lived with the John Fulton family. They were very dear to me. I later married the Degnan man, Fred, but continued to teach.

My last two years of regular teaching were at the Daddy Mull school west of Ashland. I stayed part time with Jim and Pearl Riley.

In my later years, I taught a housebound girl near Protection for two years. My love of teaching extended to remedial reading

'DEE'S DAYBOOK'

Dee Wilbright Brunholtz, another Ashland native, began writing her column "Dee's Daybook" for the *Clipper* in the fall of 1979, with the football article which follows. Her articles reflect her humorous look at events of daily living.

The Clark County Clipper Thursday, September 13, 1979--

It is football season once again. The official opening of the season ushers in autumn in our community. No matter that one could fry an egg on the sidewalk in the afternoon, football means it is autumn in our minds.

The team's potential-or lack of it-is the main topic at the drugstore coffee bar. Each team member has been carefully sized up; we've identified each player's family (five Smith boys may be on the squad, but we like to know which Smith brother is the father of which Smith boy).

Having finally established our boys' potential and sorted out whose kid is playing what position, the community is ready to take on its first varsity squad challenge.

Actually, the varsity team game seems to be only part of the event--and not the main event at that--depending on one's age and social status.

For the young teen set, the preparation for "the game" begins several hours prior to kick-off. Promptly after school our teen hurtles through the door and immediately sequesters herself in her closet with a blow dryer, electric rollers, curling iron, and hot comb. (I finally ascertain her whereabouts by tracing the extension cords winding through the upstairs hall.) This is followed by two hours of frantic "what shall I wear?" (Heavens, if you've seen one pair of blue jeans you've seen 'em all, if you ask me!)

Of course, no final decision can be reached--on anything, it seems--without telephoning at least five other girls. (If we ever have an emergency on game night I'll have to hotfoot it to the neighbors to phone for help!)

The plan, as nearly as I can tell, seems to be to look natural, enthusiastic, and athletic--evidently no mean feat, considering it takes about four hours.

The young teen group has little time for the varsity game. They spend the time sauntering around the field in giggling gagles of indeterminate numbers, tossing their "natural" hair, and looking bubbly. Too young to date, they settle for being noticed by the opposite sex, and cheering enthusiastically for their older teen idols--the varsity cheerleaders.

The conspiracy! The intrigue! I have no idea how many "best friends" are won and lost during the course of the game; "betrayal" seems to be rather commonplace in this age group.

The grade school boys (yes, we have one of those, too) have little interest in the varsity game--they're fighting it out in a blood and guts duel to the death behind the grandstand.

This age group always brings its own footballs, divides into two teams--big boys vs. smaller boys--and engages in a violent football contest of their own. These future Blue Jays sweat it out without benefit of pads, helmets, referees, or coaches. Disputes are settled fairly--they bludgeon their way to a decision. I gather from observation that it is considered a personal foul to kill another player. Otherwise, anything goes in this group's game.

To further complicate the evening, there are the pre-schoolers--who have only one objective: Drive mom and dad com-

pletely insane. Parents catch snatches of gridiron play between trips to the concession stand, followed by trips to the restroom and rescuing small progeny hanging by their toes from the top row of the grandstand. (We also have one in this band of blith brigands.) The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat resounding from the grandstand are punctuated by loud cries of "Get your head in this car," "Come back here," and "Why didn't you go at halftime?"

The Blue Jays of former years are replaying the games of former seasons; mothers are offering up silent prayers that their Blue Jay won't break his glasses, his braces, or his fragile pride; and freshmen Blue Jays are hoping for a chance to play--and dreading they'll get one.

Following the post-game analysis at the drugstore on Monday we will regroup for another varsity battle on Friday. There is no question that we will all be at the game; but we won't all be there for just the one played under the lights.

It is comforting to note that things haven't changed that much in the 30-odd years since I was a child. I received my first black eye--and later my first kiss--at an AHS football game (somebody paid the boy 10 cents). I also worried I'd trip at the halftime band show and ram my clarinet down my throat; and danced at sock hops at the I.O.O.F. hall after the games (where each chair had a perfectly symmetrical grease spot on the wall behind it, and the last dance record was "Love Me Tender").

I have an idea that the names on the players roster may change, but the games are still pretty much the same. The AHS school song succinctly sums it up: "Go Ashland down the field! Fight on f-o-r-e-v-e-r. . ."

—Dee

cCc

We wonder if census reports will ever show how many unemployed there are on the payrolls.

cCc

Money can't buy friendship but then neither can poverty.

cCc

The Clark County Clipper, Thursday, July 3, 1980

Our Main Street business district is about two blocks long. It is flanked on the north end by city hall on one side, and Fisher's I.G.A. Grocery on the other; and on the south end by Schweitzer's Barbershop on the west side, and the former Bud Smee car dealership building on the east side. Most of us refer to the two block area as "downtown," just as we have always referred to the main intersection dividing the two blocks as "the bank corner" because Citizens State Bank stands on the east side of the street and Stockgrowers State Bank is on the west side.

Stockgrowers State Bank has had a clock over its door for as long as I can remember. As a teenager I can remember checking the time on the bank clock on Saturday nights to make certain I would be home in time for my parents' curfew, or, if not, to give me time to think up a believable excuse for being late.



The clock on the bank corner was then an ordinary, round-faced clock. It told the time. It was a scapegoat for teenagers ("Well, the bank clock said midnight! How was I to know it's 2:00 a.m.?"") It was known locally, of course, simply as "the bank clock."

The old, round-faced clock is gone. It was replaced last year by a new, lighted digital affair that alternately flashes the time and the temperature (in both Fahrenheit and Celsius). The change was recognized as an interesting renovation on Main Street in our small community, but few of us realized that the new clock would become one of the major attractions of our summer.

This past week brought blistering 102 to 110 degree temperatures to our town. We are dead certain of it because the bank clock said so.

We greet each other at the post office and the drugstore coffee bar with "It's gonna be a scorcher! The bank clock says it's 97 and it's only 10 o'clock!"

As the day wears on, shopkeepers step outside and verify that "the bank clock says 102 degrees--and it's in the shade!"

By mid-afternoon the sun burns white-hot. Scorching gusts of wind send dirt and sand ricocheting down Main Street. Children with sun-tanned legs and bare feet jump across the searing sidewalks like crickets playing hopscotch.

The canvas store awnings gasp heavily with each breath of hot wind. A large dog sprawls in the shade of a doorway, tongue lolling. Shopkeepers draw blinds to shade their plate-glass windows from the torrid sun. The flag in front of the post office bravely salutes in the relentless wind.

It's 107 degrees on Main Street; the bank clock says so. Those of us who have seen the 107 degree reading on the clock carry the news to friends and neighbors who haven't actually witnessed it.

We compare the temperatures of yesterday to those of today; we discuss at what hour the clock read 92 degrees yesterday and when it read 92 degrees today. We try to out-guess the high temperature readings for today, tomorrow--or the week.

Our conversations cover the prognosis for this summer's wheat crop, the condition of our gardens and lawns, various sports scores, and when the next baby is due to be born. Included in nearly every conversation is the temperature on the bank clock.

We are a very little town on a vast prairie. Our lives depend on the weather and the seasons. Our faces are shaped by the sun and the wind. Our summer is not marked by acts of violence. We do not have a murder to discuss over our coffee--but we have the

temperatures on the bank clock. Somehow, I find that a simple and reassuring note of sanity in a world gone mad.

—Dee

cCc

CLIPPERGRAMS

Clippergrams were the product of Walter Ray's pen. He was widely quoted by weeklies across the state and in far-flung places. There were 12-15 appearing each week in his papers.

cCc

The Clark County Clipper, Thursday, July 2, 1981

The traditional celebrations of our small community mark our seasons: the county fair, football Homecoming, Halloween trick-or-treating, the Christmas window unveiling, the Methodist Men's Ground Hog Supper, high school graduation, and the Fourth of July.

This Saturday our community plans to celebrate Independence Day in much the same time-honored fashion as it has for more than three decades.

The Fourth of July is a day of simple pleasures and family gatherings here. It's a day of homecoming for many of our people who no longer live in Ashland. For me, it is a day when my yesterdays spin into today as I watch our children delight in the same events I enjoyed more than 25 years ago. The ghost of the little girl I was blends with the woman I have become, creating a sense of *deja vu*.

I remember that the Fourth of July is always hot. I'm sure we've had years when it was cool, or rainy, but in my mind the holiday is forever associated with white heat that sears like a branding iron.

I remember that Papa loved fireworks. The rest of us feared them. Papa was an awesome sight striding across the backyard to ignite his Roman candles while my sisters and I peered out from behind the four o'clocks.

His displays always held an element of suspense because something inevitably went wrong. One of his more thrilling pyrotechnic displays included a 10-ball Roman candle that went berserk and catapulted across the yard. Papa took off at a dead run with the Roman candle bearing down on him like Halley's comet. It landed mere inches from his heels.

Our "World's Largest Turtle Race" is now well into its second generation. It is a point of family honor that we have always had at least one turtle in the race each year. I might add that we've never had a winner yet. Of course, much of the real drama is not in the race, but in the search for a turtle!

I remember a turtle race nearly 25 years ago when the search took place after the race. I had developed an attachment to my turtle and tracked it down following its resounding defeat in the race. I put it in the back seat of the family car, unbeknownst to my parents. Later, when I tried to find the turtle, it had vanished.

Several days later, Papa complained of a peculiar odor in the car. The odor grew steadily worse as time passed. Two weeks later the stench was unbearable. Papa began dismantling the car. He found my turtle. It had crawled under the front seat, bur-

rowed beneath the carpeting and died. That was one Fourth of July when the most spectacular fireworks display took place two weeks after the holiday in our front yard.

The Fire Department's community fireworks display is a wonderful tradition. When I was a girl, many of them came to a triumphant climax--a cloudburst.

There wouldn't be a cloud in the sky until 9:00 p.m., then ominous thunderheads would mass on the horizon. As the bombs burst in air, the clouds rolled in, growling thunder and hurling war lances of lightning. As the firemen lit the American flag finale, torrents of rain pelted down like bullets.

It used to be said that the reverberations of the fireworks brought on the deluge. I don't know if there's any truth to that, but I remember it was often breathtaking to watch the firemen

duel it out with Mother Nature.

Our community has added the "Children's Parade," and this year a barbecue is also planned. The Children's Parade was begun a little after my time, but it's in its 17th year and is now a community tradition. Perhaps the barbecue will also become an annual affair.

Thomas Wolfe wrote, "You can't go home again." But Ashland has proved him wrong. Our Community celebrations have changed only a little in the past 30 years. For those of us who have spent our lives here, or those who return home to visit, it creates a kind of timelessness. I find that reassuring in a world that worships frenetic change.

—Dee

HIGHLAND CEMETERY/ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY

On Saturday, January 23, 1886, a number of businessmen selected a vacant tract of land a short distance northeast of the city of Ashland for the purpose of establishing a cemetery. On Sunday, January 24, (the next day), the remains of Charles Roby were interred. He was the person from whom the original town site of a quarter section of land had been purchased, and was killed by a stray bullet in a gun fight on Main Street. In the next few weeks, many graves would be moved from the Clark City Cemetery as well as from claims scattered around the countryside.

By May 5, 1886, the Ashland Council began to investigate the ownership of the land. The first of three Warranty Deeds had been conveyed to the city by Mary McGrew on December 7, 1887. The cost to the city was \$100.00. On August 10, 1888, a land purchase of 164' x 1326' for \$50 was made by Joseph Hensley, for the land immediately east of the Highland Cemetery. In 1922, this land was conveyed for the establishment of St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Because two prairie fires swept the area, a new survey was made by Dick Mackey, who submitted it to the Council on October 4, 1911. (Amended plat dated Aug. 4, 1911.) The fires had burned the wooden pegs which marked the grave lot sites, and early plats reflect that there was confusion about the proper location of graves.

On September 26, 1922, 320 acres of land were given to the city by Porter Seacat, as a memorial to his son, Fred, who had died at Brest, France, during World War I. Fred, along with his parents, Porter and Kisiah, are buried in Highland Cemetery. The income from the land is used for maintenance.

The Theis Memorial Chapel, costing \$8331.00, was a gift to the city in 1935, by George Theis, Jr. Also, this year, purchase of an additional five acres of land was made from W.R. and Maggie L. Nunemacher. In 1938, a Soldiers Memorial was erected. This memorial, a huge boulder-like granite shaft, came from the playground of Mr. J.W. Berryman in Iron County, Missouri. On it is a bronze tablet commemorating the men buried in this cemetery who took part in the Civil War, some on the Union side and some on the Confederate side. In addition, a dedication is made to the fathers of the two donors, Jerome Woods and Nancy Annette McNickle Berryman, who fought on opposing sides. There are names of 36 Union veterans, 5 Confederate veterans and one (Geo. W. Curtis) who served in both the Mexican and Civil War.

In 1979, the city exchanged some land with the Bakers for additional acreage to the south of the original cemetery land.



Highland Cemetery in early days



Highland Cemetery today

Ruth McMillion reported June 7, 1984, that in the 1920's, "Kate Hensley, Edna Foncannon and Effie Wilkins joined together as the Ashland Cemetery Association. Each year they collected a 25-cent donation for those decorating graves at Highland Cemetery. With this, the women purchased trees for the cemetery proper. Later, because they were short of funds, Mr. C.B. Vandever donated trees from his little nursery for the lane leading up from the highway to the cemeteries. Upon the death of Kate Hensley, Paul Hensley's sister, the committee functioned no more. The funds that were left were used to buy a memorial for Kate, the white cross at the north end of St. Joseph's Cemetery. From that time on, our city crew has taken care of the cemeteries, and they do a magnificent job."

Submitted by Carrie Humphreys

Transportation

CARS IN ASHLAND

"CARS IN ASHLAND! The Iron Horse is Greeted by the Citizens of Ashland En-mass. A Memorable and Happy Day for Ashland.

"This morning Mayor Updike ordered all business houses closed between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock, to celebrate the arrival of the track layers and construction train on the C.K. & W. on to South Main St. It will be generally responded to, by the firing of anvils, speechmaking and a general free treat of the entire construction force to cigars, lemonade, etc., by the city. This day--September 15, 1887--marks an important epoch in the history of Ashland, and will long be remembered by our citizens, large and small."

This brought to fulfillment the dreams of many citizens who knew the importance of the railroad to pioneer communities. More than twenty-five railroad lines named Clark County as one of the counties through which they wished to build. Two railroads were built and only one passed through the county.

There was little rivalry between any of the Clark County boom towns except for Lexington and Ashland located twenty miles apart. Both were thriving communities and each town was determined to induce a railway to build to their town site. Much money and other inducements were offered to various roads. The railroads took advantage of the keen rivalry between the two towns and played one against the other. Their favored one was the one with the greater inducement. Englewood threw its support to Ashland and this was probably the reason that the Chicago, Kansas and Western Railway Company (C.K. & W.) extended

its line into Ashland and Englewood.

The C.K. & W. was a subsidiary of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe which saw the profits which could be made by the building of small feeder lines. In 1886 the C.K. & W. built more than 600 miles of track. Ashland was located on the Mulvane branch. Ashland would be the important junction of the main branch which would go on west to Cash City and Meade and the Englewood and panhandle branch to the south. The June 16, 1887, *Clipper* finds that "W.A. McCartney deeds the company a strip 300 feet wide across his addition on the south of town to be used for a depot and switch purposes, in consideration of a written obligation from the company to positively make the junction here at Ashland. Every day Ashland's chances to gain the end of a division grows brighter. This means round house and machine shops, with all their attendant advantages to our town."

Ashland never became the railroad center, the line was not built to the west, the branch to Englewood never reached the panhandle, the round house and machine shops were only dreams. Ashland did have a railroad which soon reported a booming freight business amounting to over \$12,000 in two month's time. The depot was occupied on November 4, 1887 and was a "model of neatness and convenience." The engine house was completed and the tank was in use a week later. Ashland's railroad was ready to serve the community which had so eagerly sought it.

Submitted by Jane Shreve



The Englewood train, commonly referred to as "The Doodlebug," after an accident, 1900.



Digging out R.R. 2 miles east of Ashland, KS, January 12, 1912.



Milton Curtis



The Park Garage, Lloyd Park, Prop., located in rear of J.C. Edsall Building.
May 2, 1932. Wilber Harmon and Lloyd Parks are pictured.

Before 1900



Soddy with lean-to



Livery stable



In front of the Stevenson house



Jury that acquitted P. Michell in April, 1898. Front: J.W. Wrigley, Charles E. Harden, Sam P. Folsom, Henry Jeff, A.H. Guarin, Wm. Michael. Second row: J.B. Smith, J.N. Aldridge, Anderson Dorsey, A.A. Shuler, Benjamin Zane, Jacob Owen Bare.



Knights of Pythias Band, most unidentified. Top row-2-M.G. Stevenson, 3-B.F. Donnell. Front row: 4-James Rice and 6-Chester Rice.



Mrs. Geo. Jenkins and daughters,
Ethel Brown and Myrtle Brown



Milton Curtis, brother of Mrs. M.G. Stevenson, with
mandolin. Guitar player unidentified.



Lula Jenkins



Jim and George Jenkins



Top row: Frank Donnell, unknown, James Rice, next two unknown,
M.G. Stevenson, "Pooch" Hoover, unknown. Front row: First two

unknown, Howard McKown, next two unknown, Chas. Dugan, unknown,
Drummer Frank Baker.