

MUSEUM MESSENGER

*Published by the William Clark Market House Museum...
founded in 1968 for the dual purpose of education and preservation,
and still serving the community with pride today.*



**Amish made aprons in the
Museum gift shop in
assorted colors \$29.95**

Museum Facts:

- The Museum has had just three Directors in its existence, allowing its internal history to be more easily charted than many other small museums
- The Museum's school program is one to be proud of, offering educational and interactive packets to teachers upon request each school year
- The Market House Museum will celebrate its 49th year of service to the community this coming June.

Inside this issue:

Rudy's Department Store... all that and a whole lot more	1
USS Arizona artifact arrives at Museum	2
J.A. Bauer Pottery of Paducah	2
Bake a delicious treat... Apples and Cheddar O'Gratin	3
Paducah's laundries: A squeaky clean business	3
New exhibits for 2017	4
Message from the Executive Director	4

Rudy's Department Store...all that and a whole lot more

Rudy's Department Store, established in 1883, was known as the 'Macy's of Paducah' to many early residents, and for good reason!

It started out with modest beginnings. James A. Rudy started his first enterprise on the west side of South Second Street. It grew into a huge, state-of-the-art store at 319-321 Broadway. The store boasted two front entrances facing Broadway, as well as three others, by 1919. That was also the year James died, leaving J. Henry Rudy and William H. Rudy as the store's mainstays.

J. Henry Rudy soon fell a victim to influenza while on a business trip to New York City, dying there in 1922. This left William (and the two widows) as

owners of the family enterprise.

Rudy's had show windows on Fourth Street, which were designed and dramatically unveiled by artists from New York every three months. The win-



**Men's straw boater hats on display in Rudy's
front window, summer of 1919.**

dow arrangements even had elaborate props and themes.

The store carried all kinds of merchandise, and had many departments. Found at Rudy's were men's and women's cloth-

ing of high quality, trims, laces, and yard goods, stylish shoes, exclusive perfumes and toiletries, tasteful household furnishings and art goods, millinery, even French corsets...so much that customers were awed. Also a soda fountain and a beauty shop were offered. They ran a fine delivery service, too! Rudy's packages were delivered on time, every time.

Service was what salesmanship was all about... sparkling ice water for thirsty shoppers, a spotless nursery (complete with an English nanny) for fretful babies, and of course, use of two tele- phones to notify the cook to get that dinner started!

Sadly, having survived the Depression, Rudy's closed after suffering losses in the 1937 flood. The Paducah icon that would forever remain an elegant memory is still to be admired in many photo- graphs housed at the museum.

Good books make for a pleasurable pastime

Oxymoronica: Paradoxical Wit and Wisdom from History's Greatest Wordsmiths by Dr Mardy Grothe is a sparkling little tome that underlines Mark Twain's comment, "It takes a heap of sense to write good nonsense." Quotes like "You'd be surprised how much it costs to look this cheap," by Dolly Parton; "A verbal contract isn't worth the paper it's printed on,"

as shared by Samuel Goldwyn, or, "A man's best fortune, or his worst, is his wife." This small book will have you laughing on the cloudiest of days, and pondering the true meaning of life as most of us have experienced it.

How to Be an Up Person in a Down World: How to Stop Worrying and Start Living, by Honor

Books of Tulsa, Oklahoma is full of inspiring ideas to make us realize that life is truly what we make of it. Two gems include, *Yesterday is a cancelled check, tomorrow is a promissory note, and today is the only cash you have, so spend it wisely,* and, "Learn to laugh at your troubles, and you will never run out of things to laugh at."

This one's a great little book!

USS Arizona relic arrives at the Market House Museum

Imagine walking three blocks to work, carrying an unwieldy three foot long Priority Mail Package under your arm, knowing that within in, was a rusted relic of the USS Arizona!

Folks I passed wondered what was in the box. I told them it was a piece of the Arizona, destined for the Market House Museum. Some guffawed, whereupon I showed them the return address: "US Naval Yard, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii." Needless to say, the laughter stopped. "Are you serious? Really? A piece of the real Arizona?" they enquired.

When I arrived at the Museum, the box was safely stowed in my office. At first opportunity, I called the family of Allard Vessels, the Paducah Pearl Harbor survivor who had been aboard the Arizona at the time of the 1941 attack, to let them know the artifact had arrived. Several of the family had been instrumental in alerting the Museum to the USS Arizona Artifacts Program, from whence the rusted piece had come. Then I called the Paducah Sun, and contacted Angie Kinsey, Feature Writer for the Sun, who has proven more than once, that

she is indeed, our 'benevolent voice' for the Museum's mission of education and preservation.

Next day, she and the photographer came to the museum, and we all got to see the artifact for the first time. Angie interviewed the family, and the next morning, (Quilt Week Saturday!) a lovely article honoring our efforts, announcing the arrival of the artifact, was found on the front page of the Paducah Sun.

Thanks to the Vessels family, and Angie, for all your help! That's what the museum is all about. —reprinted from an earlier date



The Pearl Harbor exhibit continues to tug at many people's hearts... it has become a viewer's favorite.

Museum guests rave over educational exhibits

It always makes us happy to hear positive comments from our guests. Here are just a few we were to hear during Paducah's recent 'quilt week.'

"What a wonderful museum! The storyboards make the exhibits much more personal, sharing not only information about the artifacts within the cases, but the life stories of the persons connected with

The subject at hand," said Polly Henderson of Ontario, Canada. "This was a great treat. It's funny how you can stumble on such a rewarding hour in walking through your downtown."

"Thank you so much for sharing some of Paducah's humorous history with all of us," said an guest at Duck Creek RV Park's 'history night.'

"The story of Speedie was unbelievable...and the story of Little Orphan Annie so heartrending. We will leave Paducah with wonderful memories of a warm hearted town."

A great way to connect with visitors from all over, sharing the history of our town can be an edifying experience for many of us.

J.A. Bauer Pottery of Paducah

Did you know that a Paducah pottery, later to become famous worldwide, began its rise to fame with production of utilitarian pieces, such as vinegar pitchers, whiskey jugs, and flower pots? The J.A. Bauer Company of Paducah later evolved into a production manufacturer on the west coast, whose colorful pottery rivaled the popularity of Fiesta Ware!

John and Andy Bauer started off as partners in a pottery in Louisville, Kentucky. After 17 years, Andy moved to Paducah and opened his own pottery at

and opened a pottery at Seventh and Trimble Streets. Almost all of the everyday pottery needed by distilleries and vinegar works in the Paducah area were produced by Bauer. Even flower pots were made and sold in bulk to Paducah's Schmaus Brothers, and other florists and growers.

After about twenty years of making 'rough' pottery, Bauer opened endeavors in Los Angeles, and developed tableware and art ware which is extremely collectible today.

J. A. (Andy) Bauer was a native Hoosier, being born in Jeffersonville, Indiana in 1856.

Collector Books has published a book which includes Bauer Pottery, which is carried in the museum gift shop at the special price of \$14.95.

The -Paducah business was featured in a photographic souvenir book, a copy of which is now in the museum's archives.

Paducah's pottery...just another part of Paducah's wonderful history!



J.A. Bauer pottery is highly sought by today's collectors.

Food for thought...

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

—Fred Allen

Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss it, you will land among the stars.

—Les Brown

Use what talents you have. The woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.

—Henry Van Dyke

Bake a delicious treat...Apples and Cheddar O'gratin

This delicious recipe, which was one of Curtis Grace's favorites, is quick and easy! The ingredients are usually on hand in the kitchen of most cooks. It takes about 45 minutes from start to finish to prepare and bake this wonderful dish, which is guaranteed to be a winner with your family and friends.

Ingredients: 2 pounds Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, and cut into 1/4 inch slices

1/2 cup golden or dark raisins	1/2 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon	1/8 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice	1/2 teaspoon cold unsalted butter, cubed
3/4 cup brown sugar, firmly packed	1 cup finely grated sharp cheddar cheese

Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a well buttered one quart baking dish, arrange apple slices and sprinkle with raisins, cinnamon and lemon juice. In a small bowl combine sugar, flour, and salt. Blend in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal, then add cheese and toss. Sprinkle this mixture over the apples and bake in the upper third of your oven, for thirty minutes, or until the apples are tender. This recipe will serve four to six appreciative people.



Do you like to cook? Why not check out the cookbooks in the museum gift shop?

Paducah's laundries: a squeaky clean business

Laundry has always been the bane of housewives everywhere. Likewise, dandy bachelors always had the responsibility of getting soiled clothing attended to. In the early 1900's Paducah had many laundry establishments to answer the demand for freshly laundered clothes.

The perfect amount of starch

could be had in your husband's collars if you frequented Paducah's own Chinese laundry... run by none other than Hop Sing himself. It was located in the 100 block of Broadway in 1905, in one of the recently renovated Clark buildings.

The Star Laundry, housed at 120 North Fourth Street, had Mr. Young and Mr. Griffith as its

Proprietors, and provided three horse and buggy delivery routes!

The New Age Steam Laundry, located at 121 Broadway, could steam those stubborn wrinkles out of anyone's pants.

Later, Classic Cleaners, Dalton's Cleaners, and Owen's arrived to keep Paducah's citizens looking spiffy and neat!

How true that is!

To carry a grudge is like being stung to death by just one bee.

—William H. Walton

By concentrated perseverance did the snail finally reach the Ark.

—Charles Spurgeon

Trouble is only opportunity in work clothes.

—Henry J. Kaiser

The American Revolution: A patriotic mini-quiz

Historians generally agree that 1764 to 1784 were the formative years of the founding of our nation. See how well acquainted you are with some the facts concerning that era of American history! Here goes...

1. The Stamp Act was approved by Parliament in **a) 1764; b) 1765; or c) 1772.**

2. A famous event took place in 1773. Was it **a) the Boston Tea Party, b) the building of Constitution Hall, or c) when the King visited the American colonies.**

3. This patriot gave a stirring speech, exhorting an assembly to "Give me liberty, or give me

death!" **a) Benedict Arnold; b) Patrick Henry; or c) Thomas Jefferson.**

4. The First Continental Congress convened at **a) Boston, b) Philadelphia, or c) Braintree.**

5. The Declaration of Independence was approved in 1776. Who was the first man to sign? **a) John Adams; b) John Hancock; or c) George Washington.**

6. What event occurred on December 14, 1774? **a) Paul Revere alerted Boston while riding his horse; b) American patriots seized arms and powder at Portsmouth, New Hampshire; or c) George Washington ordered**

that a wagonload of new rifles be delivered to the army.

7. George Washington was chosen as Chief of the Continental Army in **a) 1767; b) 1775; or c) 1776.**

8. The terrible winter at Valley Forge was endured in **a) 1777; b) 1778; or c) 1779.**

9. Cornwallis surrendered the British Army at which location in 1781? **a) Yorktown; b) Boston; or c) Cambridge.**

Answers: 1-b; 2-a; 3-b; 4-b; 5-b; 6-b; 7-b; 8-a; and 9-a.

How well did you do on this American Revolution mini quiz?



Boonesborough, Kentucky was established on April 1, 1775. (No fooling!)

Message from the Executive Director

I recently read a book just out of sheer curiosity...because the odd title caught my eye while it rested on the shelf of the bookstore. It dealt with looking at life with a positive vision, and through that, netting a more effective method of success in our everyday undertakings.

This little tome inspired me. One of the most enlightening entries stated, 'To those who need encouragement, remember this: Beware of giving up too soon. Dr. Seuss' first children's book was rejected by 23 publishers. The 24th publisher accepted it, and sold 6 million copies.' This is a prime illustration of ***a belief in your mission can net large results.***

Likewise, having always felt that good news which is shared will create more awareness in the community, I regularly call the newspaper concerning new or impressive exhibits. In doing this, I feel that persistence in contacting them will ultimately net positive coverage for the museum.

Recently I telephoned a Paducah Sun journalist to thank her for the superb articles she had written about the us in the past. We shared thoughts about the importance of history for a few moments. The following day, she arrived at the museum, notebook in hand and photographer in tow, to do a front page article for the paper. How wonderful!

Getting the news out about the USS Arizona project was of utmost importance. Persistence in relaying information to others about our facility (and the many services it offers to the community) can have a big impact. Thanks for helping spread the good word about the Museum...and the new exhibits for 2017. Your efforts can, and do, make a difference!

—Penny Baucum Fields

PO Box 12
121 South Second Street
Paducah, Kentucky 42002

Phone: 270-443-7759 during business hours

**Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10-4 pm,
from the first Saturday in March to
December 15th each year.
Closed Sundays and major holidays.**

Group or school tours in morning hours by prearranged appointment, please.

Need to send an e-mail?

info@markethousemuseum.com

www.markethousemuseum.com

New exhibits for 2017

Benjamin Leroy Military Insignia Exhibit

Benjamin Leroy owned a music store in Paducah and serviced band instruments for years, though his family claimed he couldn't identify middle C! He collected insignia most of his life and the family donated these interesting patches to the Museum for others to identify and enjoy.

Elna Morris Sandefur Carnival Glass Collection

This exceptional mother collected, bought and sold the poor man's art glass, (Carnival Glass) to save enough money to send her sons to college....the beauty of the glass is a tribute to her sense of beautiful things....and both her sons became professors!

The Peosta and Paw Paw: Guarding Paducah's Riverfront 1861-1865

Learn about the USS ironclads that guarded the riverfront of Paducah during the Civil War, and see a tiny replica of the Peosta.



April is one of the nicest months of the year. Be sure and enjoy Paducah at its prettiest!

Thank you for being an integral part of the Market House Museum family!