

MUSEUM MESSENGER



Have a safe and happy summer!

PADUCAH FACTS

- Krispy Kreme's recipe originated in Paducah before traveling to the Carolinas.
- The first underwater cable was laid in Paducah by Jack Sleeth
- Bauer Pottery began in Paducah and later was relocated to California, becoming highly collectible in the process.

Inside this issue:

Many historic boats have floated past Paducah	1
An unusual taste treat... Chocolate Chip Pound Cake	2
Dr Robertson's unique possession gave a great deal of trouble	2
Hawk Cave's relative operated on the Duchess of Windsor	2
Ringling Bros, Barnum and Bailey, And others visited Paducah	3
History Quiz with connections to Paducah...see how well you do!	3
The Kentucky Opera House offered many attractions	4

Published monthly 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.

Henry Clay statue never fails to astound museum's visitors

Few politicians can top the tenure of Kentucky's Henry Clay, a state legislator, congressman, senator, secretary of state, presidential candidate, treaty negotiator, and author of compromises to save the Union.

Clay spent over 50 years in office. He fought duels with political foes. But like the "Great Compromiser" himself, the wooden statue at the Market House Museum is a true survivor.

The likeness in yellow poplar turns 165 years old this year.

The statue survived the 1937 flood, the fire that destroyed the Carnegie Library in 1969, and the 1974 fire that heavily damaged the museum itself.

Standing more than 6 feet tall, the statue is one of the oldest exhibits at the facility, which is the 1905 brick Paducah Market House.

It was carved from a large yellow poplar log, and took its creator three years to carve. Young George Theobald depicted Clay in a cutaway coat with snappy bow tie and spats under his heeled shoes. The image is one of a dapper man about town, a politician comfortable in his clothes, and well adjusted to his principles.

It was originally thought that the statue was carved by George's brother, Henry. But that fallacy was dispelled when another brother, John, said, "That's nonsense. Henry could-

n't carve anything but a beef-steak. It was carved completely by George, the talented one in the family."

When George finished his creation, it was exhibited at the Louisville Merchant's Institute. His craftsmanship won him a \$500 prize.

In 1858, the Catholic Theobald family moved to Paducah, bringing the Clay statue with them. On exhibit before the Civil War, it passed through at least two other owners and ended up resting in a dark, damp stable before being rescued. Dr D.G. Murrell replaced the hands and feet and restored it to its former glory.

The statue amazes our many visitors who see it yearly.

Many historic boats have floated past Paducah

A saying often heard in the old days was that something was 'as big as the Sprague.' It wasn't until I was many years older that I found out that the *Sprague* was indeed the largest towboat afloat at one time, able to haul 60 loaded barges of coal downstream. That is as

much coal as a freight train could push, except it would be eleven miles long!

Other famous boats were the *George Cowling*, the *Dick Fowler*, the *Silver Star* and the Paducah. That steamer made weekly round trips to Florence,

Alabama, which was 300 miles upstream. Her whistle could be heard ten miles up and down the river.

The *Island Queen* had glass enclosed decks, a capacity for 5, 500 persons, and was known as an excursion showboat.

An unusual taste treat...Chocolate Chip Pound Cake

This recipe comes from a reader, who says it is a family favorite with her bunch in Jupiter, Florida. It is moist and delicious, and keeps well in a covered cake carrier or on a pretty cake stand. It is always the perfect treat for after dinner or as a late night snack.

Ingredients:

1/2 pound butter (that's 2 sticks, be sure its salted butter!)	2 tsp baking powder
2 cups sugar	1 cup whole milk
4 eggs	2 tsp vanilla extract
1/2 tsp salt	1 cup mini chocolate chips (can add another 1/4 cup if preferred.)
3 cup flour	

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray bundt pan with Pam. In large bowl, cream together softened butter and sugar. Add eggs individually, stirring well after each one added. Add vanilla to milk. Combine salt, baking powder and flour. Alternately, add dry ingredients and milk to butter/sugar mixture. Stir in chocolate chips. NOTE: Set timer for one hour. Do "toothpick test." If cake is still wet, leave cake in a little longer. Can take up to 15 minutes more, depending on your oven. Watch carefully! Let cool somewhat before inverting to remove from Bundt pan.



America's Favorite Cakes

Coconut Cake
German Chocolate Cake
Yellow Butter Cake
Devil's Food Cake
Strawberry Cake
White Cake
Red Velvet Cake
Italian Cream Cake

Dr Robertson's unique possession gave a great deal of trouble

A 'horseless wagon' was something to arouse curiosity back in 1901, when Dr J.D. Robertson exhibited the first automobile to be seen on the streets of Paducah, an Oldsmobile.

The streets of downtown Paducah were a dangerous place to be when the car came rumbling along. It caused him much embarrassment as it chugged and snorted its way

through the thoroughfares. It would only go at a maximum speed of about 30 miles an hour. It often stalled, causing him to call a mechanic. It had no steering wheel, but only a lever which was responsible for charting the course of the automobile.

The car was painted a bright red and quickly gained the nickname 'The Red Devil.'

It was so often pulled to the

garage by a team of horses that folks took to calling out, "Get a horse!" The owner often endured the jibes of friends and pedestrians because of the contraption he had invested in.

By 1902, 13 cars were registered. Within a few more years, several hundred other cars were traveling the roads of Paducah. In 1920, over 2100 license plates were in evidence.

Hawk Cave's relative operated on the Duchess of Windsor

Dr Henry Cave was a well known doctor and surgeon, who had studied abroad and ended up as a member of the surgical staff at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City.

After having been on the staff for some time, he was able to assist in several operations, on prominent persons whose names we still recognize today.

J. P. Morgan was a patient of Cave's, as well as Charles Dawes. But perhaps the most famous of all was the Duchess of Windsor, who was married to the one time King Edward VIII of England.

Many people today may not know about the 'love story of the century.' But Edward was a reluctant heir and even more so, a reluctant king. When his

father, George V died, he burst into tears. Less than a year later, he abdicated to marry his long term divorced sweetheart, his 'ideal' of the feminine world, an American named Wallis Warfield Simpson. He could not marry a divorcee and remain king; so he gave up all for 'love.' They led a wandering life of ease and indolence; never accepted by the Royal family after the abdication.

Humor in Odd Places

I think that I shall never see
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Perhaps unless the billboards fall,
I'll never see a tree at all.

I prefer to forget both
pairs of glasses and pass
my declining years saluting
strange women and
grandfather clocks.

A door is what a dog is
perpetually on the wrong
side of.

The cow is of the bovine
ilk, one end is moo, the
other, milk.

The world would not be in
such a snarl, had Marx
been Groucho instead of
Karl.

Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey, others visited Paducah

There were several circuses and shows that played to Paducah over the years.

Pink lemonade, the shriek of the calliope, and the laugh of the clowns all made the hearts of young and old beat fast with excitement.

Smith's Great American Circus was the first to arrive, July 1857. The city charged a license fee of \$75, but Smith's could well afford it. The whole town turned out to enjoy the show.

Dan Rice and his Circus

came through in 1860, and pitched the tent on the north side of Broadway between 7th and 9th Streets. Dan, a lovable clown, was a born showman. Rice also awarded Paducah a steam fire engine in recognition of kindnesses shown to him while without funds.

Buffalo Bill Cody also arrived, and was seen three times, in 1895, 1900, and 1913, the last time with Pawnee Bill as his partner.

A balloon ascension was also

a crowd pleaser. All went well, till at 200 feet up in the air, it descended rapidly, jarring its occupant out of the mood for another try.

Barnum and Bailey, and The Ringling Brothers Circuses played Paducah. Louise Montague, "the 10,000 beauty" and Bolivar, 'the biggest elephant in the world,' made appearances. Paducah was also home to the Terrell family's 'Buckskin Bill Wild West Show.'

The popcorn and hot dogs tasted better back then, under the 'big top.'

A Poem for Paducah Homecoming Week, 1913

I remember, I remember,
The place where I was born;
Where the morning glories twined around
the door at early morn.

I've forgotten, I've forgotten,
how long I've been away,
But I'm glad to wander back again...
down the lane to yesterday.

History Quiz with connections to Paducah....see how well you do!

- There is just one other Paducah located in another state. Which state is it located in?
- Of the well known partnership of the Lewis and Clark expedition, which was the famous founder of Paducah?
- What is the name of the mile long island that lies at the confluence of the Tennessee and Ohio Rivers?
- What the name of the native American tribe who settled in the Paducah area long before the white man arrived?
- Who was the famous homely looking, but witty author who wrote over 600 stories and essays about life in the South, who called Paducah 'home?'
- How many Market Houses has Paducah erected on the present Market House site?
- What was the name of the Federal fort located in Paducah during the Civil War?
- Who was Paducah's first city mayor, elected May 4, 1857, receiving a total of 210 votes above his rival?
- Who was one of Paducah's Civil War mayors, who won the May 2, 1859 election, and was recalled in 1867, serving eight years in all? (This was the mayor who had to deal with US General Paine.)
- John Fisher was Paducah's third mayor, also serving during the Civil War. He has a large marker 7 feet high in a Cemetery in town. What is the name of the Cemetery?
- James Smith became a mayor of Paducah at the age of 33. It was he who also lived in the large white home on Hwy 45 known today as Whitehaven. What was its original Scottish name?
- There was a nickname for Paducah, which is found in some old documents, and adopted by several businesses. What was the nickname?
- A tablet at 700 South 6th Street reads, "here lived Colonel Ed Murray, Builder of the Merrimac." What ship did the Merrimac fight at Hampton Roads, March 9th, 1862?
- Jack Sleeth was famous for running a underwater cable at the foot of Campbell Street to the Illinois shore. What company benefited by this?

Answers:

1-Texas, 2-William Clark, 3- Owens Island, 4-Chickasaws, 5-Irvin S. Cobb, 6-three, 7- Fort Anderson, 8- Jesse Gardiner, 9- John Sauner, 10- Oak Grove, 11- Bide-a Wee, 12- Plain City, 13- Monitor, 14-Western Union

MOSCOW to be seen at Wallace Park, 1908

An unusual show sat in Wallace Park's baseball grounds in 1908. It was Gregory's "Moscow," a representation of Moscow in Russia, in an anarchistic reign of terror. A large number of 'extras' were used as actors (young boys who worked inexpensively.) It had painted backdrops with the statues coming to life, dancing Russian folk dances and having swordfights. At length, the anarchists went 'wild' and blew up the fake prop houses, with Russian troops dashing here and there. The audience was a little uneasy with good reason. In all the smoke and chaos sometimes folks got their toes stepped on!

Museum Messenger

Hours: Monday thru Sat, 10-4;
Closed Sundays and Major holidays.
Open mornings by special pre-arranged
appointment please.

Located at 121 South Second Street
(Market House Square)
Mailing Address: PO Box 12, Paducah, Ky 42002
Telephone during working hours, or leave a message
270-443-7759

Need to send an email?
info@markethousemuseum.com
Website:
www.markethousemuseum.com



The Fulton Banana Festival was
in operation for over 30 years!

Fulton was the home of the Banana Festival

Fulton was a busy town which depended largely on the railroad for its commerce. The Illinois Central ran every day, prompting folks near the depot to pull pocket watches out to check the time, and argue whether the train was late or on time! In later years, Charles Lindberg and Bill Clinton would visit the town.

Many businesses were located in Fulton in the early 1900's, such as Twigg's Livery Stable, Bondurant's Grocery, Homra Brothers Dry Goods, Huddleston Hardware, Brann's Flour Mill, Beadles Dry Goods, Baldrige's Variety Store, Swift Meats, Fulton Bank, City Bakery, Dahnke Bakery, Fulton Ice Company, Fulton City Hospital, A&P Grocery, and others. Large hotels such as the Usonia, which boasted 80 guest rooms, several parlors, a dining room, electric lights and fans, and hot and cold baths. It had steam heat in winter, and a barber shop, did a thriving business, thanks to the IC Railroad bringing patrons in from all over. Another hotel which was billed as a 'traveling man's home away from home,' was the Meadows. It burned in 1900 in one of the worst conflagrations to ever be noted in Fulton's history. It soon reopened in 1901.

In 1962, a giant festival paying homage to the banana industry was conceived and put into motion by the citizens of Fulton. The annual celebration spanned over 30 years and focused on the railroad history of the town, including the huge warehouses used to ice down the large 'hands' of bananas shipped yearly to many destinations. Called the Banana Festival, it featured the world's largest banana pudding. Huge painted clusters of bananas hung from light posts and decorated park areas. A Banana Box Derby was initiated, beauty pageants, and entertainment was shared.

The Kentucky Opera House offered many attractions

Many shows were given at the Kentucky Opera House, which entertained visitors from far and wide with the variety of shows they offered.

One such road show was called "On the Bridge at Midnight." Another was "Forty Five Minutes from Broadway." "Rip Van Winkle" was a hit, and all proceeds benefited the San Francisco Earthquake sufferers. Several parts of the play were done by Paducah actors in conjunction with the traveling troupe. Richard Mansfield as well as local Paul Gilmore, who went on to shine on other stages elsewhere after his debut performance.

The Depew Stock Company

paid two visits to Paducah at the Opera House, and Lillian Russell and Company showed in December 1913, in a play called "Wildfire." She was a sexy siren that everyone wanted to see, men to 'oogle' over and women to glare at.

Six years later, the playhouse offered "the Rose Maid," "mutt and Jeff," and "Get Rich Quick Wallingford." The Garfield Stock Company proved very popular over several weeks, during the summers of 1910 and 1911, with a dramatic rendition of "under Two Flags."

Alfred G. Fields Minstrel's were seen during the next season. Nearly all the great actors known to the dramatic arts

were seen from 1901 to 1915.

There were other opera houses in Paducah, namely, the St Clair Hall, 112-114 South Second Street (where Max's Courtyard is today.)

Morton's Opera House was opened in 1885, on the East side of South 4th Street near Broadway. This playhouse was destroyed by a spectacular fire. It had been able to seat 1,100 patrons.

The Kentucky Opera House later became the Orpheum Theatre, after having been erected in 1900 on North Fifth Street. It could seat 1,600 in the main auditorium, the balcony, and gallery.

