

Bella Vista Vision

Newsletter of the Bella Vista Historical Society

October – December 2024

Editor: Xyta Lucas

The Bella Vista Historical Society was founded in 1976 in order to “discover, collect, preserve or restore materials and artifacts concerned with our community’s heritage.”

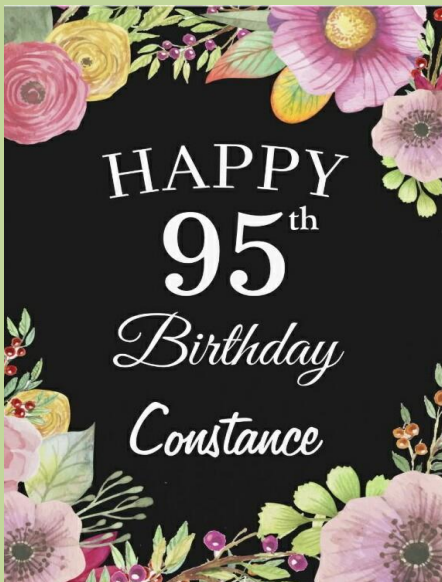


1885 Bella Vista Way, Bella Vista AR 72714 (479) 855-2335

Website: www.bellavistamuseum.org Facebook: Bella Vista Historical Museum

Open Wednesday – Sunday, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SPOTLIGHT ON CONSTANCE NORTON WADDELL



Constance Norton Waddell (second from left)



Constance Norton Waddell celebrated her 95th birthday in November and still amazes us with her energy and exuberance! She brought family members to the museum in October for a tour conducted by docent Debbie Sorensen. Constance was also honored as a special guest at Krista Bradley’s fundraising gala for the Wonderland Cave movie project on October 24 at the Meteor Gallery in Bentonville (see page 17).

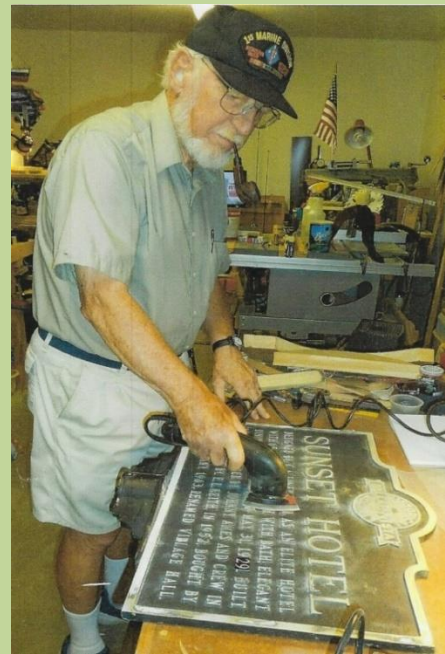
MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR

Your editor would like to thank everyone for their support and comfort through the loss of her beloved husband Jim Lucas on December 3 at age 96, after 45 years of marriage. While Jim was rarely at the museum in person, he was definitely a museum volunteer with all the projects he did. After 9 years in the Marines and nearly 35 years with Philco-Ford/Ford Aerospace, he began to devote more time to woodworking in retirement, while he continued other hobbies of golf and fishing. In lieu of flowers, donations were suggested to the museum's expansion fund and we send a big thanks to all who donated a total of over \$1300 in his memory. Thanks also go to everyone who donated food for Jim's Celebration of Life event, including Steve Morrow of Allen's Food Market, Debbie Sorensen, and Ginny Swinney.

This triangle cabinet was one of several museum woodworking projects.



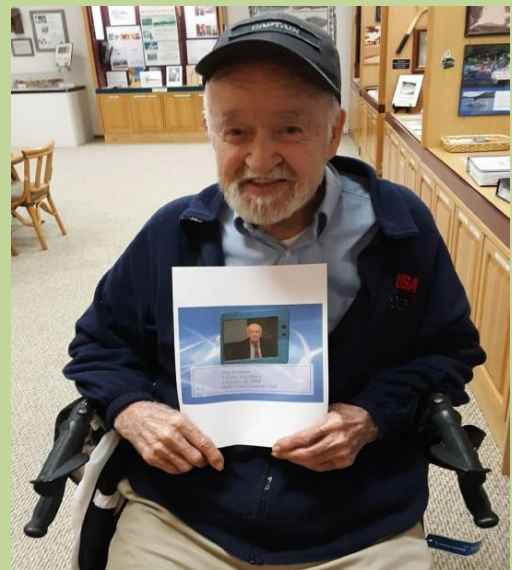
Jim also refurbished all the old historical markers that were originally made over 40 years ago.



CONDOLENCES

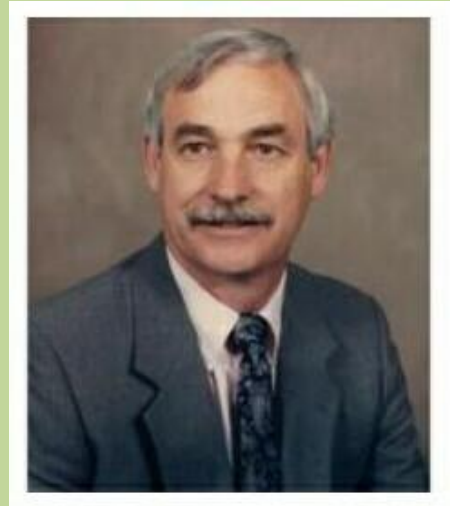
Our condolences also go to the family of Milt Fronsoe, who died Sept. 29 at the age of 94. He was a retiree of 3M Company after almost 34 years of service, and became a popular host for Bella Vista Community TV. He was married for 61 years to his high school sweetheart, Doreen, who died in 2012. He leaves behind his children David Fronsoe, Scott Fronsoe, and Nanci Mills, and their families. A memorial service was held on October 19.

Milt visited the museum in March 2022 and posed holding a picture of him being honored at a Tribute Luncheon in February 2019.



CONDOLENCES, cont.

Our condolences also go to the family of Verlin Alderton who died Oct. 18 at the age of 89. His career was with Moore Business forms but in his retirement, he was a volunteer with the Bella Vista Baptist Church and helped us obtain the Paul Parish wood sculptures which Paul had originally donated to the church but later were put in storage. We now have two of those on display in the Cooper Room. (We set up that sculpture exhibit after obtaining the Settler's Cabin in 2019. The cabin was originally saved from destruction by Paul Parish in the 1970s, when Cooper Communities began to develop the Highlands area. Paul used the cabin as a sculpture studio behind his house on Lake Avalon.)



We learned in October that John Cole died on Sept. 13 at his home in the Boston area. A native of Tulsa, he went to Harvard University and settled in that area. An excerpt from his obituary reads, "John also taught historic preservation at Harvard and the University of Arkansas and founded the Peel Mansion Museum in Bentonville. John spent time most summers of his life at the resort area Bella Vista, an annual gathering spot for family and friends and home to the Cole family's adored Hagler Cottage, a 1920's era cabin." *We thank nearby cottage owners Nan Hughes and Margaret Holcomb for their donation to our museum in memory of John.*



JIM WOZNIAK'S RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC SERVICE

According to the December 11 issue of the Weekly Vista, Jim Wozniak announced his retirement from public service effective at the end of his current term on City Council. Jim was our speaker for our annual membership meeting at the museum on March 15, 2020, the last day we were open before closing for seven months due to Covid. He brought with him for display that day this old New York City police call box that he had received as a retirement present, showing all the badges and medals he received over his career of nearly four decades in law enforcement. Jim already had several years in law enforcement in Wisconsin before moving to Bella Vista and joining the Bella Vista division of the Benton County Sheriff's office in 1977. He was promoted to Chief Deputy in 1995. When we incorporated as a City at the end of 2006, he became our first police chief, a position he held for two years. Then he became a City Council member, a position he has now held for 14 years, so he has totaled 53 years in public service! Our congratulations and a big thanks to him for all he has done for Bella Vista.




BELLA VISTA CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Bella Vista Civil War Round Table continues to meet monthly at the museum on the first Thursday evening of each month at 7 p.m. Their speakers for the fall quarter of 2024 were Louisiana professor Dr. Gary Joiner who spoke in October about the Confederate defense of Shreveport, LA; local resident and Civil War re-enactor Russ Pennington who spoke in November about General Steele and the Camden expedition, which was the Arkansas component of the Red River Campaign in 1864, and retired professor Jane Johansen of Neosho MO, author of several books on the Civil War, whose topic in December was "New Fields of Adventure: The Writings of Lyman G. Bennett....." The December meeting concluded with the annual book giveaway where interested attendees could select from over 100 books on the Civil War donated by Chuck Pribbernow.

The calendar for 2025 and 2026 speakers is filled, and they are working on speakers for all of 2027.

The Round Table was started in May 2019 and except for a few months when Covid hit, it has met monthly since then. Its Mission Statement reads, "To educate about and stimulate interest in the period of history of the United States known as 'The American Civil War'. To promote historical, educational, and literary study and activities related to the Civil War, including events and circumstances related to the cause and effects of the War."



PROGRAM SPEAKERS FOR 2025

★ 2025 ★

Jan 2	Dale Phillips - <i>Chickamauga, The First Day Sept. 18, 1863</i>
Feb 6	Connie Langrum - <i>Price's 1864 Campaign</i>
Mar 6	Dr. Chris Huggard - <i>On Pea Ridge: Civil War Battle, Community Memory, and the Making of a National Park</i>
April 3	Danny Sessums - <i>Granbury's Texas Brigade</i>
May 1	Ken Lockhart - <i>It's Hard to Keep a Good Man Down; The Many Deaths and Burials of General Ben McCulloch</i>
June 5	Eric Jacobson - <i>Battle of Franklin, TN</i>
July 3	Molly Hutchins - <i>Plantation Life During the Civil War in the Indian Territories</i>
Aug 7	Jim Spillars and Band - <i>Civil War Brass Band Music (Cooper Chapel)</i>
Sept 4	Charles Allison - <i>The Second Siege of Fayetteville</i>
Oct 2	Curtis Varnell - <i>Everyone Has a Story (Heaven Born and Hell Bound)</i>
Nov 6	Kerry Jones - <i>The 1st Michigan Sharpshooters</i>
Dec 4	Mattison Griffin - <i>Battle of Prairie Grove, AR</i>

★ **OFFICERS/CONTACTS:**

President - Chuck Pribbernow - cnpribb@yahoo.com
 Vice-President - Dale Phillips - dkp55@gmail.com
 Secretary - Brenna Drindak - brenna_drindak@yahoo.com
 Treasurer - Rick Hebar

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

BELLA VISTA LIBRARY

The Bella Vista Library hosts a Monday evening Adult Speaker Series in which museum volunteers participate. On Oct. 21, Xyta Lucas gave a presentation about the history of the former Bella Vista Arts & Craft Festival.

War Eagle started first, in 1954

- The War Eagle Fair was founded in 1954. It was the brainchild of Blanche Elliott. After a successful week of a weaving course hosted in War Eagle by the Northwest Arkansas Handweavers Guild which ended with an exhibition of items created during the course, Mrs. Elliott was inspired to put together an arts and crafts fair with the beautiful War Eagle River valley as the backdrop. Fall was chosen in order to showcase the colorful beauty of the Ozarks foliage as well as the traditional arts and crafts.



E VISTA, Bella Vista Village, Ark. PAGE 13

First Annual Bella Vista Arts and Crafts Festival

Fall

1969



BEN COWAN, right, of Rogers, demonstrates the almost forgotten art of rope making by hand for visitors to the Bella Vista Arts and Crafts Festival.

MUSEUM BURGLARY OCTOBER 26



We were quite upset that someone broke in through one of the back doors of the museum late Sat. evening, October 26. All he took was the time capsule that Jim Parsons, Frank Anderson and others set up in 2007 in honor of the City of Bella Vista's incorporation, and to be opened 100 years later, in 2107. Since the time capsule materials were in a safe, evidently the burglar assumed there was money inside. We don't know if he would have taken more items, but the security alarm went off after 60 seconds and he quickly left. Thankfully, Rosita's Restaurant next door to the museum had a camera that recorded his vehicle, a white Ford Flex, driving through about that time. A few days later, the police in nearby Tontitown pulled over a vehicle, which happened to be a white Ford Flex, because of a license plate problem and they discovered that the driver had a duffel bag full of the items from our time capsule. Detective Tony King of the Bella Vista police interviewed the guy but since he claimed to have bought those items from someone else, all he could be charged with at that time was a misdemeanor of receipt of stolen goods, and he was then released. A few days later, they were able to get a warrant for his arrest on a felony charge of burglary but he has not been found again. Detective King reviewed our museum visitor logs and found the guy's name on our log from a visit the day before the burglary so he obviously cased out the place then. Local TV stations interviewed Co-Presidents Xyta Lucas and Dale Phillips to help draw the public's attention to the burglary.

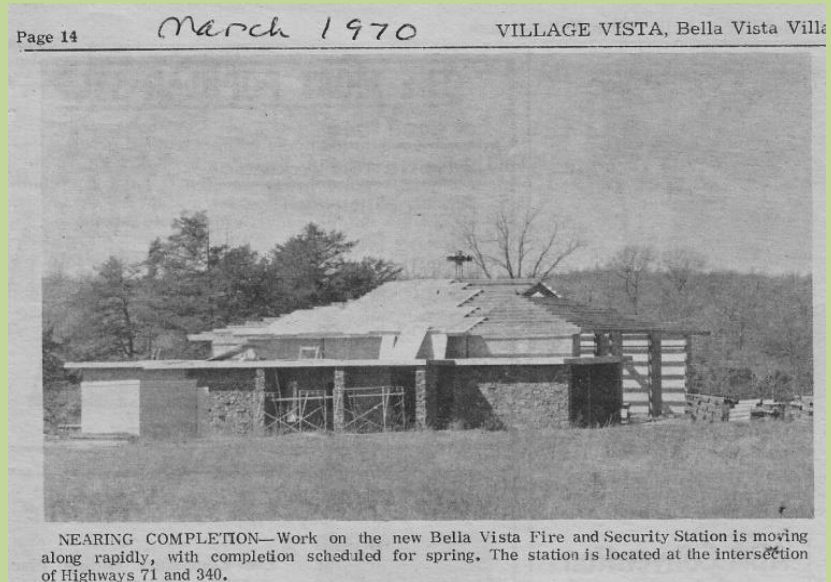
Our volunteer in charge of security, Jack Kellogg, has now spent many hours over the past two months improving our security set up. The first thing he did was to change the alarm timing so that it now goes off immediately when one of the back doors are opened instead of having a 60 second delay. With the help of electrician Jeremy Carter, several more cameras were installed inside and outside the museum building, then employees from Kinco Construction reinforced the two back doors so that a crowbar can no longer easily be slipped in to release the lock. They also removed the window from that back door so it is now a solid door.



Volunteer Dustie Meads set up a GoFundMe to raise money to help pay for the cameras, the electrician's work and the reinforcement of the doors. We are very grateful to everyone who contributed to that fund, and especially to docent Angie Rader who made a major donation to bring us up to the total that we needed. While the contents were returned to us, the original safe was not recovered. We thank Jim Parsons for donating the cost of a replacement safe similar in appearance.

SOUTHWEST QUADRANT OF BELLA VISTA TOWN CENTER

Over the years, the complex in the southwest quadrant of Bella Vista's Town Center at the intersection of Highways 71 & 340 has served several purposes: Fire Dept, Security Dept (predecessor to the City's Police Dept.), POA offices and later City Hall. The Police Dept and POA offices are now in other locations. Today the complex is being expanded to give additional space to Fire Station #1 and to City offices. Here are pictures from over the years:



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(cont. from prev. page)



December 31, 2024



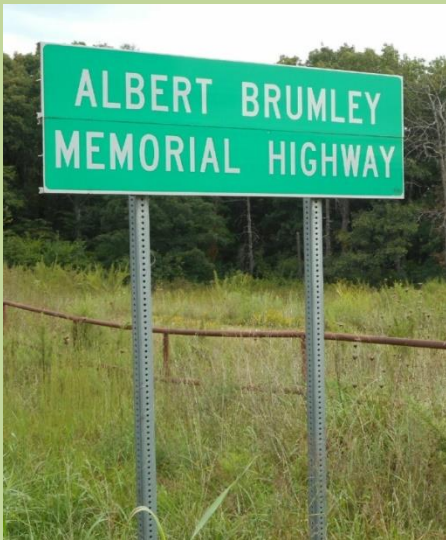
COMPOSER ALBERT E. BRUMLEY

Albert Brumley was a nearby neighbor to Bella Vista, having lived in Powell, Missouri, where he died in November 1977 at age 72. He was a composer and publisher, well known for his southern gospel music, and best known for his song "I'll Fly Away" which he wrote in 1929.

His granddaughter Betsy Brumley-Bernier and her husband Kevin have lived in Bella Vista since 2006. She and the <https://illflyawayfoundation.org> hosted a concert of Brumley music at the Cooper Chapel in September 2016.

His life story can be found in detail at <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/5659883/albert-edward-brumley>.

The highway just over the line into Missouri, north of the intersection of 340 and 94, was dedicated to him. According to Findagrave, "His songs have been recorded by such legendary performers as Elvis Presley, Roy Acuff, Red Foley, Johnny Cash....and many other singers and quartets. 'I'll Fly Away' has been recorded well over 500 times....The first refrain (including the musical score) of his "I'll Meet You in the Morning" is engraved on his tombstone."



CHASE FOGLE FENCE

Ten years ago, Chase Fogle was looking for a project to earn his Eagle Scout award. The year before, the American Legion had built a big new building next door, and we needed a way to easily designate the property line between the properties. We are so thankful that Chase agreed to build a fence for us. The metal sign we ordered back then deteriorated over the years so this year his dad, Greg Fogle, replaced the sign for us, which was much appreciated!

Chase drew up his plans and then dug holes for the fence posts.



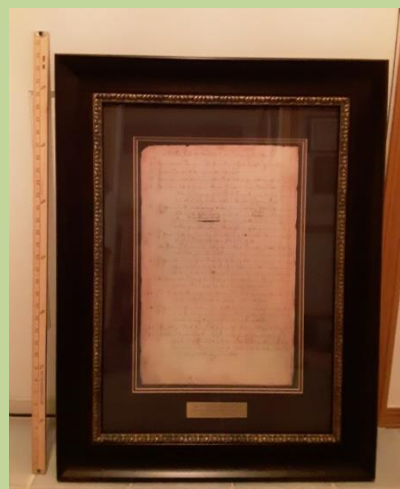
ORIGINAL RULES OF GOLF

Glen Whiting of Bella Vista was a recent visitor to the museum, at which time he donated a very large framed print shown at right of the “Articles & Laws in Playing the Golf”. A plaque at the bottom reads:

“The 13 Original Rules of Golf”

Golf’s most Significant Historical Document

St. Andrews, Scotland 14th May 1754



Rules of Golf, signed by John Rattray Captain 1744-47 and 1751 with amendments by Thomas Boswell Captain 1758. The original is in National Library of Scotland. A thousand copies were made and distributed by Hon Co and are on display in the golf museum at St Andrews and club-houses of many old golf societies.

For centuries, the original rules were thought lost, but in 1937 they were re-discovered by Mr CB Clapcott on two pages at the back of a Minute Book of the Honourable Company. The pages contained thirteen Articles and the signature of John Rattray, as Captain. As he was 'Captain of the Golf' in 1744-1747 and 1751, we cannot be sure what the date of these rules is, but as they were copied verbatim for use in St Andrews in 1754, we can be sure they applied at this time.

Source: <https://www.scottishgolfhistory.org/origin-of-golf-terms/rules-of-golf/>

According to various internet websites, the first known written set of rules were drafted by the Gentlemen Golfers of Leith, now known as the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers. The rules were originally known as the '13 Articles' and were implemented to govern the first Challenge for the Silver Club tournament played at Leith Links in Edinburgh, Scotland. The rules were drawn up at the request of the City of Edinburgh Council, who had presented the silver club prize and insisted there had to be rules for the competition. The competition was open to all gentlemen golfers in Britain, but only local players participated. Evidently there were no prior rules and maybe none would have been drawn up if not for the insistence of the Edinburgh Council. The rules were adopted a decade later for a similar Challenge played at St. Andrews. The rules appear in the St. Andrews Golfers' first minute book and were titled "Articles & Laws in Playing the Golf". The first Challenge at St. Andrews was played on May 14, 1754, and is now considered the start date of what would become the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews.

Over the years others took on the rules, adapted them, and played to their own rules before the formation of the R&A Rules Committee in 1897 began the modern era of golf that continues to this day. The R&A takes its name from The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, but in 2004 it became a separate entity from the golf club in order to focus on its governance role.

THANK YOU'S

As you know, we have no paid staff, so it's up to our volunteers to keep the museum running smoothly. We just can't thank everyone enough who pitches in any time we ask for help, including our Board members and all of our docents. We also thank our technical support & security coordinator, Jack Kellogg, as well as the City of Bella Vista for its continued financial support and the POA Grounds Maintenance Dept for their seasonal mowing and weed-eating of the museum grounds. Our thanks go also to the Democrat Gazette and the Weekly Vista for continuing to publish information about museum events. We also thank...

--Debbie Sorensen, Virginia Reynolds, and Gina Kietzmann for their many hours spent researching new insurance coverage for our building and our volunteers.

--Chuck Maclean and the Bella Vista Fire Dept for the donation of the firefighter statue that sculptor Don Lang created ten years ago for which, due to the new construction and renovation of the Town Center Fire Station and City Hall, there was no longer an appropriate place for it to stand. It now proudly stands in our Cooper Room.

--Jody Latham of Cooper Communities for the donation of the vintage golf club covers that we now sell in our gift shop and the donation of several boxes of books, some of which we sold and some of which we donated to the Bella Vista Library.

--Leslie McDonnell for the donation of two Native American prints

--Jean Rhodes for her continued decorations at the Funk Cemetery on Sherlock Drive.

--Karen Kraszewski for the donation of a beautiful fall wreath.

--Gail Meyers and Virginia Reynolds for decorating the museum, inside and out, for the Christmas holidays.

--Kathy & Kim Swanson for the donation of the square table and 4 chairs they bought in 1990 that were used at the Hill 'n Dale, a restaurant that stood alongside the northeast side of Lake Bella Vista in the early years of Cooper Communities' ownership.

-- Terri O'Byrne for the large dining room table and 6 chairs that belonged to her parents. She was downsizing following the September death of her father Frank Anderson, our first Mayor of the City of Bella Vista.

We apologize for anyone we overlooked but we are grateful for everyone's donations and support.

Hill n'
Dale
Table
from
Kathy &
Kim
Swanson



Frank
Anderson
table
from
Terri
O'Byrne



VISITOR GROUPS

We always welcome groups to come tour the museum when they can. We are willing to accommodate large groups outside of our normal open hours when possible and can do a brief program for them on the overall history of Bella Vista before they tour the museum and our Settler's Cabin.

A group from the Presbyterian Church in Bella Vista visited in November, and we thank docent Debbie Sorensen for serving as their tour guide. The Bella Vista Business Association also visited in November.

Xyta Lucas gave tours to a group from the Farmington Senior Center and to Beta Sigma Phi sorority members in October. We thank the sorority for their generous donation toward our museum expansion project.

Farmington Senior Center visitors



Some of the Beta Sigma Phi members toured the Settler's Cabin.



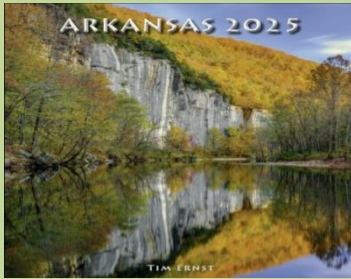
PHOTOGRAPHER DANA JOHNSON

We hosted Bella Vista resident and photographer Dana Johnson at the museum on Oct 19 for an exhibit and sale of his work. In return, he donated a beautiful large photo of the Mildred B. Cooper Memorial Chapel.



MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

We thank docents Paul Bickford and Dale Phillips for opening the museum on Christmas Eve afternoon for a couple of hours for last minute shoppers. Among the selections we still have available is this Tim Ernst 2025 calendar.



Ten years ago, in 2014, we didn't yet have a gift shop. The merchandise we sold back then was all on one table in what is now the Linebarger/Keith room. Then in 2015, we added the Harter Room onto the north end of the building and moved the museum office into part of that room, which freed up the room that had been the office, so we began using part of that room as a gift shop. Volunteer Jill Werner got involved in early 2016 and came up with all kinds of ideas on how to create a 'real' gift shop for the museum. Thanks to those efforts on her part, we now have a gift shop of which we are proud. If you haven't stopped in recently, come check it out!

Merchandise table in 2014



Gift shop today



RESEARCH PROJECT

Student Elise Bowerman was researching Wonderland Cave for an essay for her English class in October, so she spent some time at the museum going through our photos and binders on the Cave.



PROPOSED EXPANSION

Museum volunteers continue to work on fundraising ideas for our proposed expansion. Jill Werner organized a bake sale that was held at the museum on Nov. 17. We had 91 visitors to the museum and raised \$1,900. Jill and Jessica Traylor took the items that didn't sell that day and sold them at a table they set up in front of Allen's Food Market the next day. Those who helped included Rhonda Henderson, Pam Herold, Shayna Herold, Deborah Lukotch, Alicia Cook, Virginia Reynolds, Dale Phillips, Xyta Lucas, Wendy Picklesimer, Brynley Picklesimer, Ginny Swinney, Ann Russell, Lady Hawkins, Travis Harp, Anna Isbell, Rachel Mueller, Angie Rader, Joal Miller, Pat Chapman, Debbie Garrison, Debbie Sorensen, and Brian Mobley. We had 23 Bella Vista bakers, and our thanks go to everyone who helped. More thanks to Jill also for donating a percentage of her Agatha's Table jam sales to the event.



Anyone interested in donating to our expansion fund is welcome to do an online donation by going to our museum website, www.bellavistamuseum.org to the DONATE NOW tab, or by mailing a check to the Bella Vista Historical Museum, 1885 Bella Vista Way, Bella Vista AR 72714. We also accept credit and debit card donations in person during open hours of 1-5 p.m. Wed through Sun. We have a long ways to go to reach our goal of \$2 million but every donation, no matter what the amount, helps show how much the community supports this project so we are very appreciative.



ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY MARCH 16 AT 2 P.M.

While this is referred to as a "membership" meeting because we have our annual election of officers, the public is always invited to attend. Our speaker this March will be Vanessa McKuin, director of the Cane Hill AR historic site and granddaughter of our beloved Constance Norton Waddell.

The year 2024 was an exciting one at the museum. Thanks to the efforts of our great volunteers and much community support, we were able to hold a number of successful special events. As a result, those events combined with our monthly Civil War Round Table meetings made our guest register numbers just keep piling up! We set a new record this year with 5700 visitors, which was almost 1400 more than 2023.

DUG HILL CHURCH

We have been trying to find ways to help the Dug Hill Cemetery Association raise funds for the renovation of their church building. It was built in 1936 and was getting to the point where it was no longer usable. A Work Detail Team from the Benton County Jail repainted the inside of the building using paint and supplies donated by Lowe's of Bentonville, a local Questers chapter, Trail of Tears, donated money to help repair some of the windows, and others also stepped up to help financially. We hosted a bake sale and silent auction for them at the museum on December 7-8 that was organized by Dug Hill trustee Sam Walker and his wife Kara. They raised over \$1,000!

Kara Walker, center, and Dan Johnson package up goodies to sell to museum docent Ginny Swinney.



Visitors Jesse and Thelma Costulis, standing, visit with Sam Walker and Sam's aunt and uncle, Annie and Neil Fletcher, all long-time residents of the area.



REMEMBERING SADIE CUNNINGHAM

Sadie Cunningham was the last resident of the Cunningham family farm that stood along what is now Highway 71, and is why Cunningham Corner has that name at the intersection of Highway 71 and Riordan Rd. Sadie was born in western Kansas in the fall of 1894, and died at age 90 forty years ago in the fall of 1984. Her family moved to NW Arkansas 120 years ago in 1904, eleven years before the Bakers dammed up Little Sugar Creek to create Lake Bella Vista, so Sadie lived through the Baker years, the Linebarger years, the Keith years, and well into the Cooper years of Bella Vista's development. She became a school teacher at Dug Hill and never married.

Sadie at age 3



Sadie Cunningham exhibit in our museum



VOLUNTEER DOCENTS

We are pleased to welcome Liz Howie as a new docent in December. We also congratulate Brian Mobley on reaching his five year anniversary with us this January. We created a plaque in 2022 and put on it the names of any docents who were on board at that time and had served for at least five years. Of the 12 names now on that plaque, eight are still active with us. Two moved out of state, one retired, and one resigned to become Mayor.

We continue to recruit docents, as our goal is still to have enough docents available so that no one has to serve more than one afternoon per month (unless they want to, of course!). The docent role consists of welcoming visitors to the museum, giving a little information about Bella Vista history, explaining how the museum exhibits are laid out, and handling gift shop sales. We always have two docents per shift and start out new docents by having them partner with experienced docents for training. We look for men and women who like interacting with others and enjoy learning about Bella Vista history. We ask that they read Gil Fite's 1993 book on the history of Bella Vista, and our 2021 pictorial history book, Images of America Bella Vista. Anyone interested in becoming a docent is welcome to leave a message on our museum phone, 479-855-2335, on our email, bellavistamuseum@gmail.com, or to stop by in person during our open hours.

Our annual thank you luncheon for our volunteers and their guests was held this year on Tuesday, December 10, at Rosita's Restaurant which opened up next door to the museum in July.



2025 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Our membership form at the end of each newsletter offers the option of corporate sponsorship at the rate of \$50 per calendar year or for services donated. If your organization or business is interested in supporting the museum as a corporate sponsor, we will publish its name in our newsletter each quarter and add it to our posted sign at the museum. We hope you will join us! So far for the coming year, we have the following sponsors listed:

Acorn Realty

Allen's Food Market

Bella Vista POA

Blue Crane

City of Bella Vista

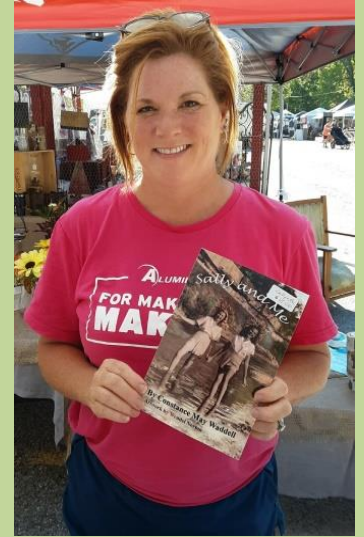
FLEA IN THE PARK

We participated again Oct. 4-5 in the POA's annual Flea in the Park at Blowing Springs Park. Our gift shop merchandise sells very well there and we are pleased to be included. We thank all of our volunteers who helped staff our booth those two days.

Nancy Cullins, Director of the Animal Shelter, posed by our booth for a fun photo.



This customer was very pleased with her purchase of Constance Norton Waddell's 'Sally and Me' book.



NWA FESTIVAL

We also had a booth at the NWA Festival, a new event that started last year, on Oct. 17-19. It takes place on the grounds on Highway 279 where the Bella Vista Arts & Crafts Fair was formerly held. Because of the long hours required to be present (8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for all three days), we needed a lot of volunteer help to meet that requirement while others dealt with the flow of visitors at the museum on Oct. 19 for Dana Johnson's photography exhibit. So we say a big thanks to those who volunteered to help either at the festival or at the museum, including Virginia Reynolds, Jim Ray, Fran Boulware, Deborah Lukotch, Xyta Lucas, Debbie Sorensen, Chuck Pribbernow, Jann Pittman, Lu Myers, and Debbie Garrison. We also thank Pat Chapman for letting us borrow her tent for the event.

Volunteer Debbie Sorensen



Volunteer Deborah Lukotch



POA HOLIDAY BAZAAR

This is always a fun event for us. This year it was held on Saturday, November 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bella Vista Recreation Center (the former Riordan Hall). Volunteers Deborah Lukotch and Xyta Lucas are shown below right. Also helping were Debbie Sorensen and Dale Phillips.



WONDERLAND CAVE MOVIE

The latest news on the Wonderland Cave movie project of Krista Bradley's is about the big fundraiser gala that she held at the Meteor Gallery in downtown Bentonville the evening of October 24. Approximately 160 guests turned out for the evening with lots of big band music and plenty of food. Bella Vista Historical Society Co-presidents Dale Phillips and Xyta Lucas gave brief presentations about the history of Bella Vista and the Cave. Krista also came to the Bella Vista Business Association meeting to talk about her project when they met at the museum on November 20.



Dale talked first about the history of the Bella Vista area, then Xyta told about the history of Wonderland Cave.

Constance Norton Waddell was honored as a special guest. She gave a short impromptu speech and took to the dance floor. Her parents managed the Bella Vista Summer Resort and Wonderland Cave during the Linebarger era.



MEMBERSHIP

New members are always welcome! Membership in the Bella Vista Historical Society, which operates the museum, is on a calendar year basis. So if you haven't already renewed for 2025, please do so now.

We appreciate your past support and hope you will continue to be a member with us. You may mail your check to us or, when we are open, stop by in person to pay by check or card.

By becoming a member, you support the preservation of Bella Vista's rich and unique history, and help us educate the public. Benefits include receipt of our quarterly newsletter and an invitation to our annual membership meeting usually held each March. Our newsletter is available by email or snail mail, but of course we would prefer to have your email address so that we can avoid printing and mailing costs. If you don't have email, however, we will mail our newsletter to your home address. We have no paid staff so all revenue, including membership dues and donations, is applied to our general operating expenses unless a particular project is specified. We very much appreciate the financial support we receive from the City of Bella Vista, which helps us pay for major operational expenses, but we still need your individual membership dues and donations to help us continue to improve the museum in every way we possibly can. Thank you!

Bella Vista Historical Society
1885 Bella Vista Way
Bella Vista, AR 72714

(479) 855-2335

www.bellavistamuseum.org

Date: _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Membership Fee:

Individual \$15 _____

Family \$25 _____

Corporate \$50 _____

Donations in excess of your membership dues are very welcome also.

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