

Points East

By Ike Adams



I usually wait until after the State Fair to make this report, but this year there is some news that simply needs not to be postponed that long.

If you've been a POINTS EAST reader for the last decade or so, you already know that Loretta and I run a photography day camp for 4-H kids, under the auspices of the Garrard County Extension Service, every year in June. You also know that we are so tired by the time the whole thing is over that we swear we won't be doing it again because we're getting too old to keep up with a bunch of 10 to 14 year old kids who are pumped up on soda pop and sugary stuff.

But when the weather is cold and dreary in January, we start talking about how much fun we had in photo camp last year and bumping ideas off each other as to how we could make it better this year and it takes very little convincing that maybe we ought to do it one more time.

By the first of May we are in full-steam-ahead, day-camp mode, all the while promising each other that this will, indeed, be the last year we do it because just can't take it anymore.

And then we start talking about the kids who were there last year and how well they did at the State Fair after doing so well at the County Fair. These kids don't know it but we talk, behind their backs, about how wonderful they are, collectively and individually, and how talented they are and just how lucky we are to spend a scant few days in their lives. I can only hope that, one day, down the road, they'll feel good to have encountered Lo and me when they pull a camera---or a cane out--- but that's beside the point.

4-H is pretty awesome in Garrard County and it probably is in yours. Here in central Kentucky where we raise cattle, horses, sheep, goats, hogs and the hay and corn it takes to feed them. We used to raise tobacco up until about four years ago, but that's a different topic

and it's subject to a different column down the road.

So, anyway, we spent a bunch of time with kids and cameras during the second week of June in the classroom and out there taking pictures on The Patterson Farm where Dorothy Murphy and her Mom have cherries ripening and peaches blushing and flowers in full bloom exactly when we do photo camp.

In fact, the week before we started I told Loretta that she'd better call Mrs. Patterson to see if the cherries were going to be ripe because we might have to put the day camp off for a week or two if they weren't.

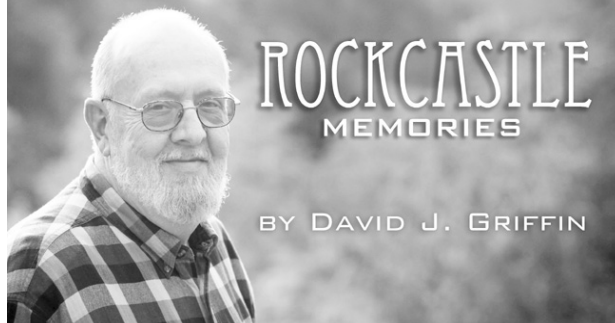
Mrs. Patterson and Dorothy also have sheep, goats, cattle, chickens, a donkey and a spotted horse named Sugar who relishes the attention she gets during photo camp as much as the kids love petting on her. You may believe that Secretariat was the most photographed horse ever but Sugar would suggest that you might need to do some actual counting.

Let's just say that Sugar's mug, mane and tail have been prominently featured in one aspect or another by 4-H kids at both the Garrard County Fair and the Kentucky State for the last dozen years or so because she is not camera shy.

So Loretta calls me up on opening night from the fair grounds and says, "Guess who won Grand Champion in photography in the open class?" Open class is for photo hobbyists, serious amateurs and professional photographers and you'd better be pretty good with a camera before you enter a photo. Lo and I both had entries this year, as did some people who take pictures for a living.

But I didn't miss a heartbeat before saying to her, "If Cassidy's shot of Sugar didn't win you better be firing the judges." I'd seen the picture and watched when Cassidy took it. Perfect sunset light on Sugar's face and ears and eyebrows with her tongue stuck out as if to say, enough already!

(Cont. to A4)



Been Around A Long Time

To my surprise, we just received a package from Amazon that my wife had ordered; it contained the latest CD release by Delbert McClinton -- one of our favorite blues/country/rock artists. He is one of the few artists we will actually seek out for a live concert, because that is basically Delbert at his best.

For those of you who are having a hard time figuring out just who McClinton is, let me remind you that he was the harmonica player on the 1962 number-one hit by Bruce Channel, Hey Baby. The song remained in the number one spot for three weeks and remains one of the most requested rock-and-roll songs of the early 60's.

McClinton is a legend among Texas roots music aficionados, not only for his longevity but also for his ability to combine blues, country, soul, and rock and roll. He has been playing that harp and singing for over 50 years. Kathy and I did not "discover" him for ourselves until the early 90's, when we attended an outdoor concert of his in Bardstown. The music was amazing, bringing the crowd to its feet for most of the concert. Many of the fans rushed to the front of the stage and remained there for the entire show. It is kind of hard to sit still when Delbert and his band turn loose. Kathy and I have followed him all over the state for the past 20 years and have seen him in concert many times -- never to be disappointed.

The latest CD by McClinton is entitled, Blind, Crippled and Crazy. The first song on the disk caught my eye even before I was able to listen because it is called "Been Around A Long Time." It came to me once again that Delbert and I are roughly the same age -- and yes, we have been around a long time. Listening to the lyrics, I found that I agreed with the sentiments expressed in the song:

I ain't old but I been around a long time

Long enough to know age is just a state of mind

Some things just get better like fine wine

I ain't old but I been around a long time

I've seen 'em come and go and come back around again

Some of life's hard lessons finally started sinkin' in

If you don't do nothing your're gonna live to regret

You won't have to live with what you can't forget

I ain't old but I been around a long time

Some people say you burn out if you go too fast

But I just want to live it up

as long as it lasts

If there's a secret to life I've ever found

It's all about staying in the here and now

I ain't old but I've been around a long time

Keep your expectations under control

You just might surprise yourself

To see how far you go

Don't hold too tight, let it all unwind

Keep a positive state of mind

I ain't old but I been around a long time.

This sort of philosophy about life is certainly aligned with mine. I have never thought of myself as old, but if you look at my birthdate -- I have been

(Cont. to A4)

Strange... But True?

by: Tonya J. Cook



The Elusive Unicorn

Being a lover of all animals, except the creepy-crawly ones, I've wondered about the existence of the mythical unicorn. I tend to believe there, at one time, the unicorn must have existed. It is noted several times within the pages of the Bible as a "re' em" (Hebrew).

The Hebrews believed the unicorn to be an animal of great strength and agility, but it was untameable. It had one or two horns. The American Standard Bible translates "re' em" to be "wild ox". The unicorn is mentioned in Numbers 23 and 24, Deuteronomy 33, Job 39, Psalms 22, 29, and 92, and Isaiah 34. The classical Jewish understanding of the Bible did not identify the "re' em" animal as the

unicorn. Instead, the "tahash" animal (Exodus 25, 26, 35, 36, and 39; Numbers 4, and Ezekiel 16) was thought to be a kosher (suitable for eating or sacrifice) unicorn with a coat of many colors that only existed in biblical times. The unicorn can be seen as early as 1213 as depicted in mosaics on a church floor.

The unicorn is not found in Greek mythology, but in accounts of natural history as writers of natural history were convinced in the reality of the unicorn. Some of the writers attempted to render the unicorn to be a kind of antelope, wild ass, or a rhinoceros. One writer, Pliny the Elder, describes the unicorn as an "oryx" (a kind of antelope) and an ox, possibly a rhinoceros, as one-horned beasts as well as a fierce animal called a monoceros, which had the head of a stag, feet of an elephant, tail of a boar, body of a horse, and had a black horn projecting from its forehead about two feet long.

Several Asian cultures have a mythological creature rendered to be a unicorn, of sorts. The Chinese unicorn is said to have a deer's body, lion's head, green scales, and a long horn. Other cultures to include the unicorn are the Japanese and Vietnamese.

The unicorn has a long and rich history that has woven itself into the fabric of many cultures. Today, it is thought of as only a creature of legend. It is thought to be a white horse with a single spiraled horn protruding from the forehead. It is at this point we have to question a few facets of the unicorn. It was a common animal of reference in the Bible. It was supposedly still in existence during the classical Greek era and to a point thereafter, and noted quite often during the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

(Cont. to A4)

On Call.....

Submitted by
Rick Branham, Captain
Brodhead Fire Dept.

Do you know the difference between a volunteer firefighter and a career firefighter? The answer, a career firefighter gets paid to risk his/her life. Whether you're a volunteer or career, you receive the same training; utilize the same gear and equipment. A volunteer does it for no pay. Did you know that 80% of this country's fire departments are staffed with volunteers and some paid department s have volunteers on staff to respond to certain incidents.

Rockcastle is comprised solely of volunteer fire departments with each member volunteering their time and risking their lives to protect the citizens of this county. They are trained to the same level as the paid departments and take great pride in being a firefighter.

This column, hopefully, will provide a source of education and interest regarding the first responders of Rockcastle County. In this column you will read about the history of each department and of the fire service. Each week will cover a different topic, for instance, what type of tools are used to extricate a person from a vehicle or discover that it's not actually the wood that is on fire in your campfire. Also, I want to include what each department does for the community. What fundraisers they are doing, the responses they make and the equipment they are using.

I am very excited about this column. Who am I you

ask. My name is Rick Branham. I have been in the fire service since 2000. I am a Captain on the Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department and in 2009 I started working for the Lexington Fire Department. I am a certified fire instructor and an EMT. By serving for both types of fire departments, I see firsthand how each operates and through this column I hope you will as well.

I entitled this column, On Call because as a firefighter you are always on call. Volunteers are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Most carry a pager or radio and are ready to respond when a call is dispatched. Career firefighters are on call while on duty. Their shifts typical last for 24 hours and usually have 48 hours off. However they could be called in for duty given a large incident.

Until next time, I leave you with a question. When and where was the first full-time paid fire department formed?

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2x12	\$13.15	\$16.43	\$19.72	\$ 23.73	\$ 26.71	\$ 30.64	\$ 42.31
5/4x6	\$ 3.72	\$ 4.88	\$ 6.13	\$ 6.80	\$ 7.68	NA	NA
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