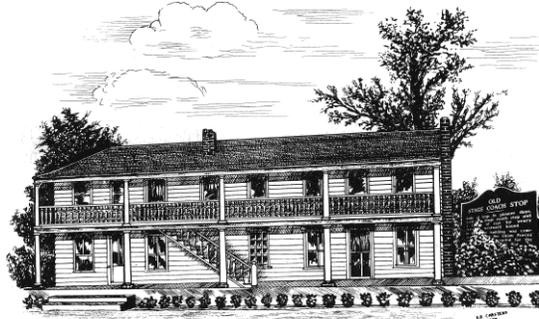


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- Kelly Howley, Secretary
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- Dave Edie
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Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation



Our Vision:

“to preserve its educational value for future generations”

Visit our website:

www.oldstagecoachstop.org

WONDERFUL SEASON!

It has once again been a wonderful privilege to be able to share our amazing history at the Old Stagecoach Stop in Waynesville, MO. After being closed for 2 seasons, we are grateful for the opportunity to be open for the community, the state, the nation, and the world. According to records, we have had visitors from all 50 states and from over 50 countries worldwide. Being listed in the tour guides of Route 66 has enabled us to be visible to many people as they tour our nation from Chicago to Santa Monica. And, surprisingly, almost every week we have Waynesville visitors who say, “I’ve lived here all my life and have never been here for a tour.”

Many people find us on Google when searching for museums, attractions, and activities. Many people comment that they were just driving by and found us by accident or were looking for something else and were delighted to find us instead. Many parents of military graduates find us as something to do in between their graduation activities. However you find us, we welcome everyone to take the time to learn about our history which started in the mid 1850s and continues until today.

It was started by William Walton McDonald as a stagecoach stop, then became a military hospital for the Union army from 1862 to the end of the war, then had a long history of many owners as a hotel and apartments through the 1960s. In 1980, it had fallen into disrepair and was scheduled to be torn down by the city. A group of citizens, spearheaded by Maxine Farnham formed The Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation to save and restore the building. It took many dollars and many hours to restore it to its original luster, but thanks to the foundation, a supportive community, and many volunteers, we have this wonderful history for future generations.

The unique thing about our museum is that you can learn all about its history as you tour because each room represents a different era of its history. If you have not visited us yet, please plan to do so soon. We are open every Saturday, April through October and by special appointment March through November.



SAVE THE DATES:

- Oct. 8 – Oktoberfest – 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Dec. 1 – **Christmas on the Square** is being celebrated from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

The **VISION of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation**, as noted on our website is “to preserve, restore, protect, and maintain the historic structure in Waynesville, Missouri known as the “Old Stagecoach Stop” in order to permit its educational value to be appreciated by future generations; to engage in educational and charitable activities related to the “Old Stagecoach Stop.”



ON BOARD

The Old Stagecoach Stop is the oldest publicly accessible building in Pulaski County. Who owns the museum? If you're a member of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation, you're one of the owners. The Old Stagecoach Stop Board has nine directors that conduct the business of the museum. Those same nine people make up the majority of the volunteers who keep the building open on Saturdays, April thru September and for special tours and events. Without their dedication, there would be no Old Stagecoach Stop House Museum.

Old Stagecoach Stop Activity

There are two ways to keep abreast of the Foundation's activities. We have a website and a Facebook page that are active and have current news/events.

Our Facebook page is listed as: Old Stagecoach Stop Museum and Foundation or go to [Facebook.com/oldstagecoachstop](https://www.facebook.com/oldstagecoachstop) if you do not have a Facebook page.

The website also has the current and all past issues of the *Old Settlers Gazette* available for reading/research.

www.oldstagecoachstop.org

Podcasts on the Website

Tune in to hear Dru Pippin, Jaretta Laughlin, Robert Lee Bates, Pearl Wilson, Louise & Argus Skaggs, Jiggs & Dorothy Miller, and Irene Mitchell Morgan tell stories from the “old days!”

Virtual Tour - A New Feature

A new feature on our website is a virtual tour where visitors can start a guided tour or click on a map of the building and explore each room, floor by floor. Terry Primas spent many hours taking pictures, processing historic images, and laying out and revising the new web pages. With assistance from his wife, Jan, the virtual tour was completed and now provides an enjoyable journey for visitors. The website is a rich source for resources of our county.

The Old Stagecoach Stop no longer holds an **Annual Meeting** of the Foundation membership. The **Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation Annual Report** will be available on our website by January 5th.

Old Settlers Day, organized by **The Pulaski County Museum and Historical Society** was held on July 30th and 31st, 2022. The many activities, music, and vendors were enjoyed by all.

Special Thanks to **David Chuber** for once again sharing his knowledge of Civil War medicine for the fifth year. He was wonderful with our visitors, young and old, as he demonstrated many types of instruments and explained many aspects of medicine practiced during the Civil War.

Also, **Thanks** to the **River Church** for providing the shuttle from the Old Stagecoach Stop to the park.

A "New" Home for an "Old" Chair

On July 30th, LTC (Ret) David Chuber returned to the Old Stagecoach Stop (OSS) to give a series of seminars on medical care during the Civil War. Old Settlers Day visitors were able to have a close-up look at the historian's extensive collection of 19th century medical equipment and supplies, and learn about the life (and death) of sick or wounded soldiers during America's deadliest war.

At the end of the long and eventful day, OSS volunteers helped David pack up a truck-load of displays and props. As folks were thanking him and wishing him a safe trip home, he handed a folding chair to OSS Vice President, Jan Primas, saying that he wished to donate it to the museum.

But this wasn't just any ordinary folding chair, rather an exact reproduction of a Union Army Camp Chair. Such a chair can be seen in a number of photographs taken during the conflict, including a rather famous view of General Ulysses S. Grant leaning against a tree at his headquarters in Cold Harbor, Virginia, in June of 1864.



The beautiful bentwood walnut chair reproduction was accurately patterned off of an original chair in David's collection, and then crafted by David himself! Like the original, the chair contains no nails, and uses a pair of hard-to-find wagon box rivets, and has a not so military looking, but none-the-less accurate, floral pattern cloth seat. During the war these folding chairs were issued to Union staff officers for use in command tents where battle plans were drawn up, orders were issued, and outcomes of battles reported. Now because of David's generous donation, future visitors to the OSS will be able to visit our Civil War Room, see the chair, and



imagine Grant, cigar in mouth, sitting in front of his tent reflecting on the past two-month campaign that resulted in nearly 55,000 Union soldiers dead, wounded, or missing. Or picture an Army surgeon assigned to Post Waynesville's stagecoach stop-turned-hospital, sitting in a similar chair as he recorded the names of nearly twenty soldiers admitted on a single day in the fall of 1862, of which more than half were suffering from dysentery.

Submitted by: Mark Zurbrick, OSS volunteer

Anna Marie Reigle

February 15, 1929-September 13, 2022

One of our dedicated and beloved Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation board members passed away at the age of 93 on September 13, 2022. Anna Marie Reigle served on the board 1998-2009. Harry was also a board member and served several terms as Secretary. Until her husband Harry's death in 2007, the two of them volunteered at the OSS in any way needed and Anna Marie continued until her health began to decline.

It seems Anna Marie was always feeding us. Fresh veggies from their garden, her favorite German cookies or coffee cake, sandwiches, and candy. Anytime she was at the OSS she had something to share. We all have to smile as we visualize her standing watch over our kitchen table during Christmas on the Square. She seldom moved from her spot, from beginning to end of the evening. She tasked herself to keep the line moving and keep little hands from handling all the food as they made their selections. She had that German grandmother tone and it worked, not just with the kids, but with everyone. We will miss you Anna Marie.

Thanks to those who donated to the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation in her name.

A New “Type” of Artifact Finds a Home at the Old Stagecoach Stop

Visitors to the Old Stagecoach Stop (OSS) will find an abundance of late 19th and early 20th century artifacts associated with everyday life. These range from thunder mugs and kraut cutters to medical and dental equipment and kitchen cookware. Thanks to generous donations and timely purchases, this diverse collection continues to grow.

A recent addition to our collection has found a home on the desk in the 1950’s Room. While many labeled as being part of Generation Y or Z may not have ever used, or even recognize this item, it represents a major improvement in how people recorded their thoughts and shared them with others. This intricate piece of machinery is the “all-in-one” precursor to the electronic keyboard, monitor, and printer...the typewriter.

For those of you that grew up using Apples, Dells, HPs or Lenovos, Wikipedia defines a typewriter as “a mechanical or electro-mechanical machine with an array of keys, which when struck by a finger transfers the selected character onto a sheet of paper via an inked ribbon.”

Placing a character on a piece of paper goes back to the 7th century when the Chinese used carved wooden blocks to print words which eventually led to a German named Gutenberg whose invention of the printing press in the 15th century dramatically changed how ideas and knowledge were disseminated around the world. Because printing presses were expensive and required trained printers to operate them, they were primarily used by book and newspaper publishers, with individuals still writing using pen or pencil.

By the mid-19th century, the increasing pace of business communication had created a need to speed up the writing process where a writer with a pen was limited to about 30 words per minute, while telegraph operators could tap out up to 130 words per minute using a key and Morse code. Historians have estimated that more than 100 different inventors, spanning three centuries, had a hand in contributing to what became the typewriter that we know today. A patent for what is recognized by many as the first practical typewriter, one that could type

faster than a person could write by hand, was issued to a group of Wisconsin inventors three years after the end of the American Civil War.



During the Civil War, E. Remington and Sons Company produced firearms for the Union Army; however, after the war, the company was looking for new peacetime

manufacturing opportunities, including building sewing machines. The Badger-State inventors sold the manufacturing rights to their typewriter to the Remington Company in 1873. Not surprisingly, this typewriter was mounted on a sewing machine stand. Among the patented improvements found on the first Remington typewriter was the so-called QWERTY arrangement of the letter keys, which is still used on many of today’s keyboards. The origins of this unusual arrangement of the alphabet remains in dispute, some claim it was developed for mechanical reasons, while other believe that it was arranged to suit Morse code operators.

Missouri’s native son, Mark Twain, purchased a Remington typewriter in 1874 for \$125 (\$3,200 in 2022 dollars). A year later, the famed satirist writes in a letter to the Remington Company stating that he is no longer using his typewriter because it corrupted his morals by making him want to swear. In a letter

to a friend, Twain writes... “The early machine was full of caprices, full of defects--devilish ones.” “After a year or two I found that it was degrading



my character, so I thought I would give it to Howells...He took it home to Boston, and my morals began to improve, but his have never recovered.” However, his poor opinion of the typewriter appeared to have lessened somewhat over time. A number of years later he writes, “I will now claim--until dispossessed--that I was the first person in the world to apply the typewriter to literature.” In

1883, a typewritten manuscript for *Life on the Mississippi* was submitted to his book publisher. However, Twain did not himself use the satanic machine to type the manuscript... his secretary typed it on a Remington.

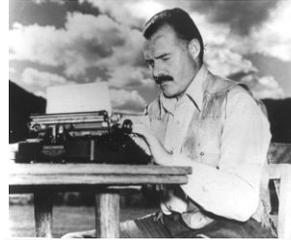
The Remington typewriter's popularity resulted in a number of companies forming to build even better and more affordable typewriters. One such company, the Underwood Company began building typewriters in 1896. In less than two decades, it had become the world's largest manufacturer of typewriters, selling more than two million by 1920, and nearly five million by 1940. Prior to the beginning of World War II, the Underwood factory was turning out typewriters at the rate of one each minute! Just as their competitor, Remington, had done eight decades before during the Civil War, Underwood quit manufacturing typewriters and began producing firearms during World War II. In less than two years, the company produced more than a half million M1 carbines for the Allied cause. After the war, the company returned to building typewriters.



The typewriter on display in the OSS is Underwood Model 77 Noiseless Portable Typewriter, which was

first produced in 1932, with nearly 900,000 being built in the next ten years. Unlike preceding models the "noiseless" model has a soft rubber platen/roller so that when the typebars hit the paper it doesn't make the familiar click-clack sounds. This model was Underwood's first "portable" model being both lighter and with smaller overall dimensions that allowed it to be placed in a carrying case (also on display). The immaculate example found in the 1950's Room is one of the 13,000 post-war Model 77s that were produced prior to it finally being discontinued for good in 1948. Similar Underwood portables have found homes in other museums and collections.

Another Underwood portable can be found at the Hemingway Museum in Florida. Like Mark Twain, Ernest Hemingway began his writing career as a newspaper journalist, and like Twain, he began his career in Missouri. Hemingway's first job was as a cub reporter for the *Kansas City Star*. Although Hemingway is pictured typing on his Underwood for this



photo, the Nobel Prize winner preferred to type while standing.

At American novelist, William Faulkner's home, now a museum in Mississippi, sits an Underwood portable typewriter in its carrying case. While his typing resulted in being awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, Faulkner received a "D" grade in English while in college.

Playwright and actor, Orson Welles used an Underwood Noiseless Portable to type the radio script for *War of the Worlds* and his Academy Award-winning movie, *Citizen Kane*. Unlike Twain and Hemingway, Welles never wrote for the newspapers; however in an odd twist, his most famous movie script was based on the life of notorious newspaperman, William Randolph Hearst, who occasionally employed Mark Twain as a reporter. After a rival newspaper reported that the celebrated author had died, Twain famously responded in Hearst's paper that "the report of my death was an exaggeration."

Typewriters began to disappear into attics, basements, and recycling centers as personal computers, running word processing software, came on the scene in the 1980's; however, reports of their total demise are also "an exaggeration". To this day, these mechanical wonders have managed to remain a useful means of legible communication, especially in places lacking reliable electrical service.

If you enjoyed this brief history of the typewriter and a few of the people whose fast flicking fingers produced some of America's greatest stories, we are confident that you will enjoy visiting the Old Stagecoach Stop, a place full of interesting artifacts and more than 160 years of un-exaggerated stories!

Submitted by M. A. Zurbrick, OSS volunteer

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation Membership Application

The work of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation is supported by memberships and donations. We invite you to join the Foundation at any one of the membership categories listed below.

Complete this form and mail to:

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation, P.O. Box 585, Waynesville, MO 65583

Please make checks payable to Old Stagecoach Stop.

Name _____

Address _____

Email address _____

*You may use my email address for:
(please check all that apply)*

___ *special event announcements*

___ *OSS Newsletter*

___ *membership renewal notice*

Level of Membership:

___ Individual \$10

___ Family \$15

___ Patron \$25

___ *Sponsor \$100

___ *Life \$250

* Sponsor and Life members will be recognized in the Old Settlers Gazette. However, if you prefer to remain anonymous, please check here _____.

** Questions about your membership status - email pamela.barnabee@gmail.com

Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation
P. O. Box 585
Waynesville, MO 65583