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Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation

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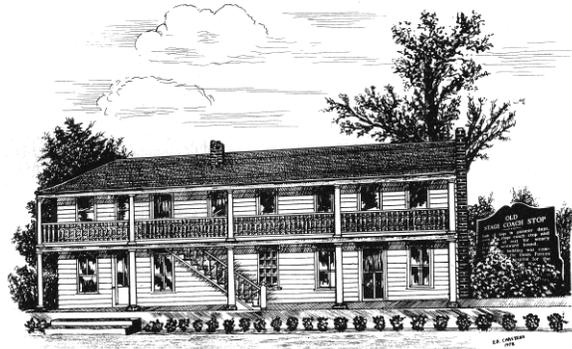
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Our Vision -

“to preserve its educational value for future generations.”

Visit our website:
www.oldstagecoachstop.org

Rt. 66 Oktoberfest / Appreciation Day 2017

On Saturday, October 21st we will be celebrating **Appreciation Day** in conjunction with the **Rt. 66 Oktoberfest**. Our children’s activity of making Civil War dolls will be happening inside the Old Stagecoach Stop this year and the OSS will also be open for tours. Craft and food vendors will be set up around the square in downtown Waynesville so there will be great opportunities for a wonderful family day.

Appreciation Day is a reminder of the many friends in our community who have contributed so much to continue the rich history of the Old Stagecoach Stop. Without your past and on-going generous support, we would not be able to preserve this most historic place for future generations. Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to keep history alive.

SPECIAL THANKS to the volunteers from the CBRN Advanced Leadership Class who raked, cleaned gutters, washed windows, and cleaned up trash in the back yard of the OSS. Wonderful!

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.

SAVE THE DATES:
Oct. 21 – **OktoberFest-OSS Appreciation Day/Activities** on the Square 11 – 4 pm

Dec. 7 – **Christmas on the Square/OSS** will be open from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The kitchen table will be filled with food, coffee, mulled cider, and hot chocolate!

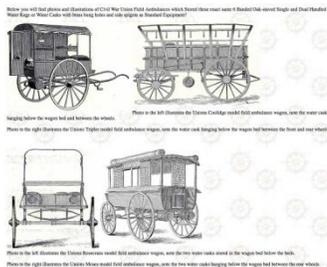
SPOTLIGHT ~~~~~

- Special artifacts at the Old Stagecoach Stop –

This edition will take a look at the latest additions to our Stop – a water keg or cask and a small wood-burning stove. These items were donated by Bob Dodds, the first president of the Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation.

Water Kegs or Water Casks

The photos and illustrations below show Civil War Union Field Ambulances which stored these kegs or casks below the wagons. These were built with brass bung holes and side spigots as standard equipment.



The photo in the upper left illustrates the Union's Coolidge model with the keg hanging below the wagon bed and between the wheels. The photo in the upper right illustrates the Union's Tripler model. Note the water cask hanging below. The photo in the lower left illustrates the Union's Rosecrans model field ambulance wagon. Note the two water casks stored beneath the seat. The photo in the lower right illustrates the Union's Moses model field ambulance wagon. Note the two water casks hanging below and between the wheels.

Small Wood Stove



From the beginning of a small foundry and machine shop in 1857 emerged two firms, The Great Western Stove Company and the Great Western Foundry and Mill Machinery Works.

The foundry was established to manufacture steamboat parts, but within a short period began casting wood burning stoves. The Great Western Stove Company of the 1870's had two foundries and its furnace yielded 15 tons of iron daily. In 1936, the Great Western Stove Company was still making coal, wood, and gas burning stoves and ranges of all kinds under the trade name "Banquet". The stove company closed in the early 1940's. The stoves produced by the Great Western Stove Company are prized today by antique collectors, and letters of inquiry are received to this day at the Great Western Manufacturing Company as to the availability of replacement stove parts. There are none.

County Hanging Took Place April 21, 1905

Excerpt from an article which appeared in the very first Old Settler's Gazette, Volume 1, No. 1 on July 21, 1983. This was the last hanging in Pulaski County, Missouri.

It fell his lot to prosecute the only man to ever be hanged by court order in Pulaski County. Jim Smith, a bachelor, was a neighbor of Elias Smith. He often stopped by for the children of Elias and took them to Sunday School and church. On November 7, 1904, he disappeared. Elias sent out the report that he had bought him out and that he had left the country. Later, he told that Jim had gone to Joplin. Then a charred body was found in a burned brush pile about 3-1/2 miles away. As soon as Elias heard this, he said, "I'll bet that was Jim Smith." When he saw the body he said, "Yes, that's him alright." The prosecuting attorney, Dan Johnson and the sheriff, Bob Anderson were later taken by Elias to a woods on the Jim Smith farm where Elias told them to move away some leaves near a big tree. This they did and found dried blood. After that, he instructed them to remove leaves at another spot – where a blood stained broad ax with hair on it was found – then, came the gruesome account of a premeditated murder. Elias had taken Jim to the woods under pretense of picking out tie timber. As Jim threw his head back to look up at a big tree, Elias, who had managed to be in a position behind him, dealt the fatal blow to his head with a broad ax. Under cover of night, Elias carried the body on horseback about 3-1/2 miles. After he cut off one of the dead man's ears, which had an identifying scar, he put the corpse on a brush pile, covered it with leaves and set fire to it.

Daniel Johnson was deeply affected by this story and when the time came for him to make his speech in the courtroom, his emotions were fueled for a flow of tears. He started with Cain and Able – quoted Bible verse after Bible verse. He cried and nearly everyone else cried. Elias must have wept,

too, for his was a sad plight – death by hanging.

Elias was kept in the Waynesville jail until the day set for the hanging, April 21, 1905. A scaffold was set up near the door of the jail and to the side of it. A Stockade was built to keep the curious crowd from looking on. By arrangement many were allowed to go inside the wall. The son of preacher Frances was standing outside the wall with "Buff" on one side of him, on the other side was George who was 2 weeks short of being eligible to witness a hanging. "Buff," who had said, "I'd sure hate to stay in that jail tonight," bent over in an attempt to see what was going on inside – his gun fell out of his pocket and shot Ike through the leg. "Buff" picked up the gun, was arrested, and had to spend a sleepless night in what was to him a room of horrors. He was fined the next day and released.

Retired Richland City Marshal "Charlie" Powers remembers this hanging in detail because he "hitch hiked" a wagon ride to the hanging when he was 14 years old.

As we do tours at the Old Stagecoach Stop, from the balcony, we add the following legend, assumed to be a factual account by a witness: As the scaffolding was being built, Eliza Black, who owned the Stop, then known as the Black Hotel, realized she could see over the scaffolding from the balcony. She started selling tickets to the hanging; her daughter, Amanda, sold tickets, and Cora, the maid sold tickets. But they didn't keep track of how many tickets they had sold. The day of the hanging came and all the ticket holders attempted to get up on the balcony. But there wasn't enough room for all of them, so a fight broke out at the foot of the stairs. Everyone turned to look down at the fight --- and missed the hanging!

We welcome Mark Zurbrick to the OSS Board. He has been an outstanding volunteer this summer, fixing and upgrading many things.

Old Settlers Day was again organized by **The Pulaski County Museum and Historical Society**. The festivities were held on July 29 & 30, 2017 with 1862 Civil War reenactments at the park and presentations from “Abraham Lincoln,” “General Grant,” and “General Sheridan.” Music was provided by the **Back Porch Players** from Nixa as well as Native American and Scottish dancers. A Civil War era service with period music was held on Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the park. There were many other vendors at the park including homemade soap, blacksmithing, homemade root beer, and homemade bread and butter.

Old Settlers Day – Special Thanks

- to **David Chuber** for sharing his knowledge of Civil War medicine. 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.

- to the **Bell Motel** for providing the shuttle, driven by Cheryl, from the Old Stagecoach Stop to the park on Old Settlers Day. It was greatly appreciated and truly increased the number of visitors to the Old Stagecoach Stop that day.

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."

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

www.oldstagecoachstop.org

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.

Membership Please remember to renew your membership. The form you need is included on the back page of this newsletter. We need the support and interest of the community to continue our mission.

View from the Balcony

Jeanie Porter, President

2017 has provided another very busy spring and summer for the Old Stagecoach Stop. We have enjoyed many visitors from around the county, state, country, and even the world. One family I remember in particular called from Colorado saying they would be coming into town on a Saturday evening for a military graduation and wondered if we could open the Stagecoach Stop on Sunday. I agreed to meet them after church and thoroughly enjoyed their excitement at seeing this great piece of history unfold for them. They really appreciated all the care that has gone into making our Stop a wonderful place of memories. It's those little things that make our volunteer time so enjoyable. We are thrilled that so many people in our world have taken the time to stop in to see our wonderful, historic building. Our visitors are always impressed with our museum and the history represented here. It makes us proud of our museum and the preservation of this remarkable history of our town.

The OSS no longer holds an Annual Meeting of the Foundation membership. The **Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation Annual Report** is available on our website in November.

TAKING THE REINS

We owe a huge thank you to **Marge Connors, Anna Maria Reigle, Amelia Falge, and Abigail Hillman** who act as tour guides and also assist with special tours and events. They have all played an integral role in keeping the building available for the community. With bus tours, 4th grade classes, and special groups, as well as our regular Saturday hours, it takes many volunteers to keep the Stagecoach Stop open for the summer. If you are interested in joining our **Foundation Board**, or **volunteering** at the Old Stagecoach Stop, contact a current board member. We welcome new volunteers. **How about you?**

Special Thanks --

- to our advertisers in the annual *Old Settlers Gazette* -

ISSUE 35 of the *Old Settlers Gazette* was delivered to our advertisers on July 24 & 25, 2017. This is a group effort, led by our author/editor **Terry Primas**. The board does the difficult job of ad sales and delivery. The entire proceeds are put back into the building, allowing us to make improvements and maintain the building. If you did not get a copy, stop by and pick one up on Appreciation Day or Christmas on the Square. If you are out of town, request one at tprimas@mac.com and we will mail you an issue. We appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who placed an ad in the Gazette. If you would like to place an ad next year for your business or as an individual, please contact one of the board members as soon as possible.

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 .

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