

*Hootin an Hollarin*

**H&H**

*Scrapbook*

Photos from 1964 - 2019



*FREE • published by Ozark County Times • September 2020*





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# A note from Nancy – and a little secret

Sometimes life just doesn't go the way we think it will or want it to.

I thought this year would be the 60th time we've celebrated my all-time favorite festival in my favorite and only-ever little hometown, and I wanted it to be the best Hootin an Hollarin ever. But things haven't turned out the way I thought they would and wanted them to, and I'm sad about that. As I told the Hootin an Hollarin Committee on Aug. 3 when we voted unanimously to cancel this year's festival, if tears could make a difference, I've shed more than a few.

But, Lord willing, we'll all be here to enjoy the 60th Hootin an Hollarin next year, and when we do, we'll really have something to celebrate. In the meantime, we can look back and remember all the fun we've had – and the near-calamities we avoided (or didn't) – in the 59 times we've come together before at Hootin an Hollarin to remember olden ways in olden days.

One of my favorite things about Hootin an Hollarin is that it's enjoyed every year by people of all ages, from 9 to 99 and everything in between. Some of my own first memories of Hootin an Hollarin are of how excited my boys would get when they had their terrapins competing in each year's terrapin races. And I'll never forget the time a little 9-year-old girl told me Hootin an Hollarin was her favorite time of year – even better than Christmas, she said!

And while the kids are running wild around the square, having a good time, the older ones are comfortable in their lawn chairs, sitting in the shade on the courthouse lawn, visiting with friends and relatives they haven't seen in a while.

Now I'll tell you a little secret. I've been chairing the Hootin an Hollarin Committee for a long, long time, and this year, the 60th celebration of my favorite festival is my last time as its chairman. I'm turning over my chairman's hat to Paula Herd Rose, who's been a devoted, determined member of the committee for several years.

For ages, Paula has organized each year's Hootin an Hollarin bed races, and a couple of years ago, she took on the job of running the outhouse races too. Now, let me ask you: What better experience for leadership could anyone have than overseeing a bunch of crazy people running down the street pushing beds and outhouses?

Paula was going to serve as chairperson-in-training this year, and I had thought that by 2021, I'd be plumb out of committee-chairing and I could just sit in the shade in my lawn chair visiting with friends and relatives I haven't seen in a while. Instead, if the covid virus will just go away, I'll still be around to be Paula's assistant as she takes over the job I've enjoyed for all these years.

I want to say that this whole thing has been a group effort – a



community creation – since its very beginning. And I can honestly tell you that I don't remember a single time in all these years when a harsh word was spoken or a temper was lost in any of our committee meetings. The people who put together this festival each year are good folks, doing their jobs just because they want to keep this thing going so all of you can enjoy it.

Every one of them had already done a lot of work for the 2020 Hootin an Hollarin when we all agreed it had to be canceled. Through all the meetings in all the decades, that had to be the saddest meeting we ever had. But Hootin an Hollarin will be back next year, and I'll be there to help Paula and encourage all the committee members as we all work hard to make the 60th celebration of Hootin an Hollarin, when it does happen, the best one ever.

God bless you all. Stay healthy!

Nancy Walker has chaired the Hootin an Hollarin Committee for "Lord knows how long"



Congressman Mel Hancock presented Nancy with the 1996 Ozark County Citizen of the Year award.



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# About the cover

In the early days of Hootin an Hollarin, many Gainesville business people celebrated the festival by wearing old-time attire as they went about their daily jobs. Jarrett Hicks, left, and Arthur Gaddy donned overalls to work in their Gainesville Maytag store. Joining them for the 1960s photo was Joy Wolf Stone, who worked in the nearby Lister Drugstore owned by Roy and Addie Lee Lister. Addie Lee was one of the founders of Hootin an Hollarin.

The photo is from the collection of the late Jean Dreckman, whose daughter, Diane White, shared it with the *Times*. When she took the photo in the 1960s, Jean managed Terry's Dime Store, next store to Gainesville Maytag on the north side of the square.



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*A year like no other*

## Hootin an Hollarin is canceled – but the *Hootin an Hollarin Magazine* is not!

This year's *Hootin an Hollarin Magazine* is being published Wednesday, Sept. 16, the day when Lions Club members and other volunteers would normally be hauling bleachers, square dance platforms and the Hootin an Hollarin stage to the Gainesville square in preparation for the 60th celebration of Gainesville's beloved Ozark County festival.

But the covid-19 pandemic put a stop to those plans, and for the first time since 1961, the autumn season will roll right on by without the usual three-day visit back to olden times. No Thursday night queen pageant with girls in pretty dresses charming the crowd. No kids and grown-ups showing off their best old-time costumes. No beds or outhouses racing down the street. No music ringing out all day and night. No square dancing under the stars.

Oh, how we'll miss all that fun – not to mention the kettle corn, pork rinds and pinto beans and cornbread!

To help ease our sadness at having to skip an in-person Hootin an Hollarin this year, and in keeping with this time of pandemic, we're doing what we think of as a virtual festival, sharing a collection of photos and reminiscences selected from *Ozark County Times* editions of the past – and from our readers. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you next year at the 60th celebration of our beloved hillbilly festival. Until then, we hope you enjoy this special edition of the 2020 *Hootin an Hollarin Magazine*.



***Riding in style***

Ira Duggins waves from the seat of his Conestoga-style wagon drawn by matching white mules during the 1964 Hootin an Hollarin Big Parade. Sue Hambelton, dressed in old-time dress and bonnet, rode in the wagon with Duggins.



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# How it all began ... and how to keep Hootin an Hollarin going

Hootin an Hollarin began in 1961 with a group of local citizens who volunteered their time. County Extension agents Doyle Sanders and Fred Oehring organized a meeting to bring together three distinctive factions of Ozark Countians – country folks, townspeople and resort owners – around a common “community interest.”

Two hundred people attended that first meeting, and among the ideas shared was Addie Lee Lister’s idea of holding a special day with

booths to demonstrate early homemaking skills and other crafts. Addie Lee credited the late Ed Petterson, an artistic woodworker, with creating the name Hootin an Hollarin.

The first festival was held the last weekend in October with Springfield radio entertainer Loyd Evans serving as master of ceremonies and Rex Ebrite and J. J. Pace serving as announcers.

The schedule was filled with demonstrations by local residents making lye soap, hominy, sorghum, shingle shakes and other old-time items. A horse-drawn haywagon took customers on a moonlight ride to the ballpark and back, and blacksmith Henry Hubbard of Brixey brought in his forge and shod six horses during the event.

The Pontiac Area Association (now incorporated into the Theodosia Chamber of Commerce) served charcoal-grilled hamburgers and other delicious choices, and on Saturday a “basket dinner” was served on the courthouse lawn, open to everyone. The *Times* reported that the food for the dinner was contributed by the Lions Club and local residents. Servers listed were Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Pace, Lyndell Strong, Dorcas Rackley, Betty Rackley, Mrs. G. R. Crisp, Mrs. G. W. Rogers, Mrs. Loren Taylor, Helen Marie Luna, Frances Johnson and Lou Anna Wade.

To serve as a landmark for the event, a cabin, someone’s former smokehouse, was moved to the southwest corner of the square by “Roy Smith, who hauled it in almost intact,” the *Times* reported. “He was aided by Mel Hambelton, M.



## 1962 information booth

Helen Osborn, left, Extension agent Fred Oehring and Hootin an Hollarin general chairman Addie Lee Lister, later known as “the Mother of Hootin an Hollarin” operated the information booth at the 1962 festival.



## Future H&H committee chair

Paula Herd (Rose) is shown in her 1969 costume parade attire. Paula is to become chair of the Hootin an Hollarin Committee in 2021, as longtime chair Nancy Walker retires.

L. Kirkpatrick, O’Dean Evans, John Dodson and others. Elbert Owen of Dora supplied a cornshuck mop and Mrs. G. R. Crisp added a gourd dipper for atmosphere. Gordon Archie of Theodosia and Nick Salst of Ocie brought in rails for a stake-and-rider fence.”

A moonshine still – or parts of one – stood next to the cabin.

The first festival featured coon-dog trials, greased-pig scrambles, a best-decorated hat contest, cake walks and contests judging turkey and cow calling, fox horn blowing, archery, horseshoes, fiddling, square dancing and other skills.

Nighttime entertainment was furnished by local musicians and out-of-towners too.

And, of course, where there’s fiddle music, there’s bound to be square dancing ...

Over the years, the Young Homemakers Extension Club joined the Lions Club in organizing activities, bringing in entertainment and raising money to pay the bills. Eventually, members of those

groups, with others, evolved into a Hootin an Hollarin Committee that meets throughout the year to organize and prepare for each year’s festival. For many years, Nancy Walker has chaired the committee.

Each year’s theme and lineup change while the focus remains firmly fixed on Ozark County people and their traditions, on having fun and commemorating the past while enjoying great country music and reconnecting with friends and family.

Generous support by current and former residents, as well as area businesses, keeps Hootin an Hollarin going. More tax-deductible donations are always needed. Make checks payable to Hootin an Hollarin and send to Chris Harlin, Century Bank, P.O. Box 68, Gainesville, MO 65655.

With your help, Hootin an Hollarin will continue for another 60 years – and beyond.





**Tonie Jenkins, broom-maker**

The Oct. 14, 1965, *Ozark County Times* pictured Tonie Jenkins of Pontiac demonstrating broom making on equipment once owned by his father, the late J. G. Jenkins, who had come to Ozark County in 1892. At first, the senior Jenkins used homemade equipment; then he bought this set in 1915 and used it until his death. Tonie had helped his father for about 20 years and continued to make brooms after his father's death, using broom corn he had grown himself. He told the *Times* in 1965 that the next year, he planned to plant more broom corn and have a supply of brooms to sell because he could have sold many more than he was able to make during his demonstrations.

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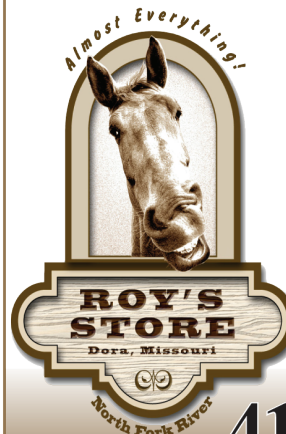
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# 1960s

## 1960s Hootin an Hollarin queens



**1964**  
Pam Carter  
Hutchinson



**1965**  
Barbara  
Mahan

**1966**  
Glenda Evans  
Douglas



**1967**  
Delores  
Smith



**1968**  
Karen Dancy  
Stewart



**1969**  
Beth Taber  
Peters



Pam Carter Hutchinson  
now lives with her hus-  
band, Steve, in  
Kimberling City.



Current  
photo  
unavailable



Glenda Evans  
Douglas lives in  
Gainesville with  
her husband  
Allen



Current  
photo  
unavailable



Karen Dancy Stewart  
lives with her  
husband, Bob, in  
Fulton, Kansas.



Beth Taber Peters  
lives with her  
husband, Jim, in  
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### 1961 • Making shake shingles

**Above left:** During the first Hootin an Hollarin in 1961, J. W. Crawford of Howards Ridge, center, demonstrated the old-time method of making shake shingles with a froe as Dewey Garrison of Isabella, left, and A. L. Hagans of Gassville, Arkansas, watched. **Above right:** Trena Lewis shared this color photo of Crawford and Garrison explaining their work to interested onlookers.



### 1962 costume winner

Frances Jenkins Johnson, who won third place in the 1962 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade, gathered her family – husband Rex and their children Teresa and Eric, also clad in old-time attire – for a picture in front of the stake-and-rider fence surrounding the Hootin an Hollarin cabin.





## 1962 Admiring a Model T

Amyx Auto's 1962 Hootin an Hollarin display included this 1923 Model T that was admired by Gerald Ames of the state line, left, and Hays Crisp of Gainesville. During the early years of Hootin an Hollarin, black felt hats, sold as festival attire, were popular with many men. The *Times* reported that supplies of the hats quickly sold out. Some men, like Ames and Hays, grew beards to complete their old-time image.

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### 1962 Chuckwagon ladies

The Pontiac Ladies Club wore matching costumes as they operated their "chuckwagon lunch stand" during the 1962 Hootin an Hollarin. From left: Billie O'Neil, Florence Kitzmiller, Fran Gregory, Argie Wilbanks, Jewell Shaw, Mildred Kenney, Dora Bingold, Edna Moody, Mary Shipley, Zola Gibson and Daphene Stevens. The club, organized in 1959, had 23 members in 1962 plus a mascot, Jewell Shaw's granddaughter Carla Hunt. In addition to feeding festival-goers from their hamburger stand, the club donated \$100 to the Hootin an Hollarin fund. Nearly 60 years later, the chuckwagon is still a popular Hootin an Hollarin hamburger-and-hot-dog stand on the southeast corner of the square; it's now operated by another Bull Shoals Lake group, the Theodosia Chamber of Commerce.



### 1964 Making sorghum on the courthouse lawn

Gene Strong set up an old sorghum mill on the courthouse lawn for the 1963 Hootin an Hollarin. Gene's burro Jack supplied power for the mill.





## Arts and crafts fair in the 1960s

**Above:** In later years, the Hootin and Hollarin craft fair has circled the square, but in the early 1960s, the Ozark County Arts and Craft Association members sold their wares during Hootin an Hollarin inside the old McDonald store building, now the Ozark County Historium. **Left:** Members of the association in 1964 included, from left, Jessie Rose, Delphia Carter, Catherine Jessup, Hilda Stanley, Rose Ranck, Mable Baker, Mildred Shipley and Bessie Freeman. Helen Osborn stands in back with the spin-wheel she and Lude Cole demonstrated during the festival.







**1964 H&H chair John R. Sims**

The late John R. Sims served as chairman of the 1964 Hootin an Hollarin. The *Ozark County Times* reported that this photo was taken "after the big parade of floats on Saturday."



**1964 Dresses and bonnets**

Sue Hambelton, left, and Dollie Channel modeled the dresses and matching bonnets they wore to celebrate the 1964 Hootin an Hollarin festival.



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## Hootin an Hollarin smiles – and tears

*Almost everyone was happy about being photographed in front of the Hootin an Hollarin cabin in their old-time costumes for this 1964 or 1965 picture. From left: Earlene Crisp, Monty Crisp, Dana Crisp and Patty Crisp.*

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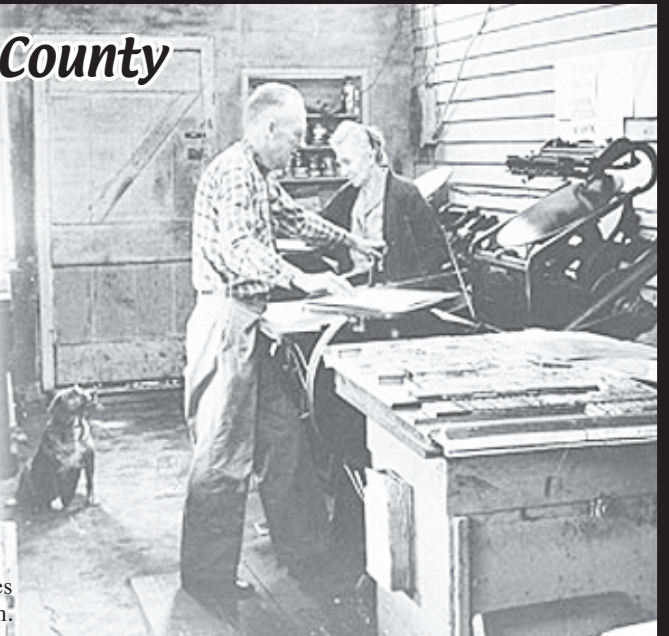
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Dewey Ebrite and Helen Ebrite Blisard work on a Times edition on the old letterpress as Dewey's dog Pheobe looks on.







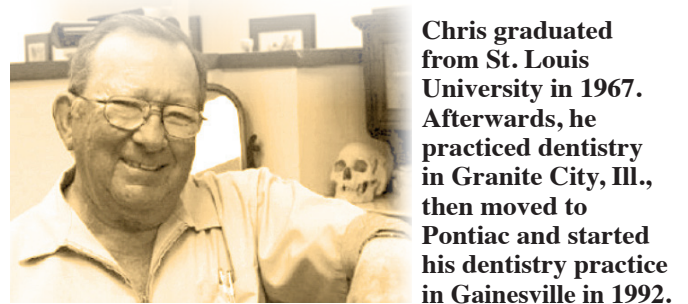
## 1965 Hootin an Hollarin display

Gainesville businesses set up exhibits of old-time items in store windows and display cases during the early years of Hootin an Hollarin. Gainesville post office employees, Geraldine Smith, left, and Lois Frazier, with postmaster Frank Johnson, posed with their 1965 Hootin an Hollarin display. At the time, the Gainesville post office was located in the building on Third Street that now houses the H & R Trophy Shop.



## 1966 Hootin an Hollarin queen and friends

Glenda Evans (Douglas), second from left, the 1966 Hootin an Hollarin queen, joined high school friends on the square to assist with the costume parade. From left: Fellow queen pageant contestants Phyllis James (Bentley), Douglas, Diane Dreckman (White), Kathy Blackburn (Snell). In front: Joy Oxley.



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## 1968 costume winners

The 1968 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade winners were (front row, from left) Tandy Strong, Dana Herd, Jerry Beasley and Terry Strain. Back: Dorothy Clarke of Hacienda Heights, California, Mrs. Orpha Jeffress of Gainesville and Norman Price of Independence. Jerry Beasley would go on to win the costume contest a total of nine times as the years went by. His mother, Fern Beasley, created the prize-winning costumes that charmed the contest judges each year until Jerry was 12, when he insisted he was too old for such things but

f i n a l l y  
agreed to  
enter if  
Fern would  
let him take  
his dog with  
him. Fern  
a g r e e d,  
and Jerry  
won one  
last time.  
**Left:** Jerry  
Beasley in  
2019.



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## Band concert on the square

The Gainesville High School band, directed by Jim Heiskell, came to the square to perform for 1967 Hootin an Hollarin visitors. The band's female participants dressed in matching old-time dresses.



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# 1970s

## 1970s Hootin an Hollarin queens



**1970**  
Charlene  
Sweet Robbins



**1971**  
Loretta  
Terry Walker



**1972**  
Sidney Duncan  
Casey



**1973**  
Sheila Parson  
Jefferis



**1974**  
Jane  
Ewing



**1975**  
Connie  
Horn



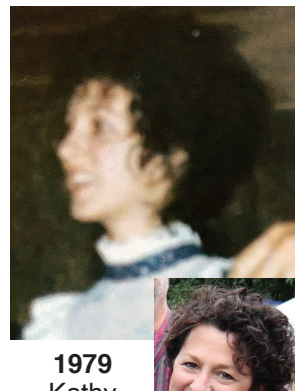
**1976**  
Marsha Watson  
Evans



**1977**  
Carol Land  
Ebrite



**1978**  
Kim Terry Kinney with  
John Harlin



**1979**  
Kathy  
Laughlin  
Morrison  
lives with her husband,  
Patrick, in Nixa.



## 1971 Husband- calling champ

Alice West of Willow Springs won the 1971 husband-calling contest with her shrill call, "Rudeee!" followed by harshly bellowing, "I know you can hear me. You come on home now" while jiggling with impatience.



## 1971 Carnival queen

After Barbara Sue Cruz Terry was named 1971 Bakersfield High School carnival queen, she rode in the Hootin an Hollarin parade in a convertible furnished by the Guffey Chevrolet dealership.

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### Young Homemakers Club members, 1971

Members of the Young Homemakers Extension Club organized the Hootin an Hollarin costume parade for several years. Club members who were pictured in the *Ozark County Times* in 1971 were, from left: Phyllis Evans (Hollingsworth), employed at Bushong Mercantile; Carryl Brown, secretary at the Ozark County Health Department; Barbara Roberts, teacher's aide at Gainesville kindergarten; Dyana Terry (Crawford), Extension office secretary; Patty Crisp, Gainesville Schools teacher's aide; Maxine Terry, Gainesville Elementary School secretary.



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### 1973 costume winners

Bertha Creed, left, and Alta Headrick were runners-up in the 1973 costume contest. Winners were Norman Price, center, Ola Herd and Dolly Parson.



### Young dancers

When that Hootin an Hollarin fiddle music starts, dancers young and old head for the square dance platforms. Here, Brad Hambelton and Shellie Anderson show their moves in 1973.

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Morey Batesel demonstrated his handmade steam engine for 1973 Hootin an Hollarin visitors.

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## 1974 costume winners

Winners of the 1974 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest were, from left (front), Jerry Beasley, Lori Hannaford, Brad Hambelton. Back: Louise Walker, Bertha Creed, Jacqueline Anderson. Other winners, not pictured, were Brian and Leslie Ford and the Lutie Head Start group.



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### 1974 parade twirlers

Young baton-twirling students of Patty Crisp who marched in the 1974 Hootin an Hollarin parade were (front row, from left): Gayla Evans, Christy Frazier, Teresa Tharp, Gayla Hillhouse, Susan Ledbetter, Jolene McFarland, Lana Allen, Shelly Overturf, Shelly Hillhouse. Back: Lisa Johnson, Cathy Turner, Teresa White, Valentine Cisco, Beth Pierce, Lisa Griffith, Rhonda Donley, Jerri Sue Strong and Patty Snell.



### Stirring the pot

Paralee Smith (Rae) took her turn stirring the hominy pot over an open fire on the courthouse lawn during the 1974 Hootin an Hollarin.



### Demonstrating the old ways

Annie Faye and Allen "Jack" Reeves were among those who demonstrated old-time methods and crafts during early Hootin an Hollarin celebrations. In 1974 they demonstrated soap- and lard-making on the Gainesville square.



# THE OZARK COUNTY HISTORIUM



Fifty years before the Historium opened in 2011 to offer Hootin an Hollarin visitors a comfortable place to gather and celebrate the past, festival-goers crowded into the shade of the brush arbor to visit with friends and neighbors and talk about days gone by.

*We're on temporary hiatus during the pandemic, but our work continues behind closed doors. Follow us in the Ozark County Times and on the Ozark County Historium Facebook page. Visit our website to order historical books or to peruse our collection of wonderful old photographs. Whether you're an Ozark Countian by birth or adoption, or if you have a long-distance affection for the Real Ozarks, we look forward to seeing you again soon!*

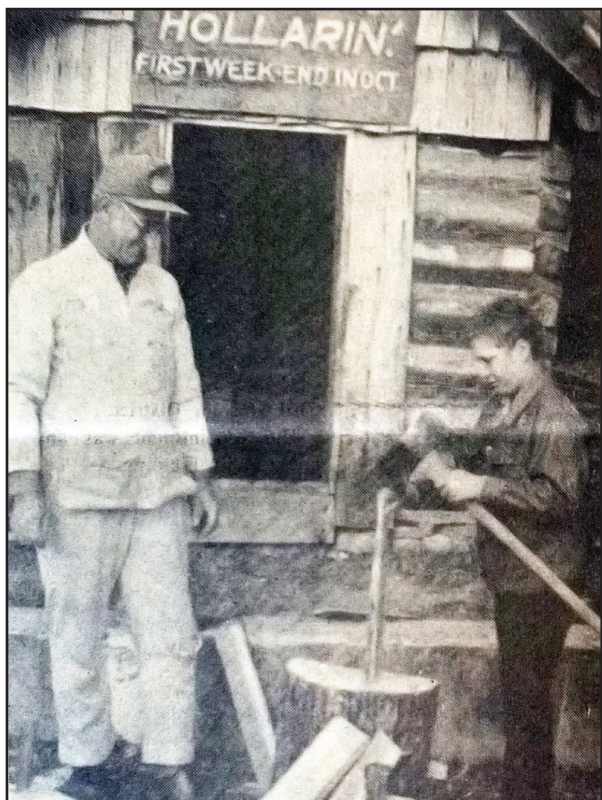
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### *Wagons, ho!*

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kelley of Rogersville, with their covered wagon and pony-team hitch, left, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe H. Monger of Ozark, with their wagon and mule-team hitch, traveled to Gainesville, a seven-day trip, to participate in the 1974 Hootin an Hollarin parade. The couples were members of the Wagons-Ho Club of Ozark that participated in the festival.



### *1974 Chuckwagon*

By 1974, the Hootin an Hollarin chuckwagon hamburger stand on the southeast corner of the square was operated by the Twin Bay Area Association. Pictured here, from left: Alyce Robinson, Lou Perry, Bessie Mae Irmen, Elda Edwards and Roxann Russell.

### *Shake shingle student*

Gainesville building trades class instructor Chester Lyday instructs Andy Wilson how to take the bark off a shake shingle in front of the Hootin an Hollarin cabin in this 1976 photo. Lyday also demonstrated making shingles and splitting rails.





## Linnie and lads with chickens

We don't know why Linnie Ingram and these two handsome, unidentified lads posed proudly with their chickens for this 1978 Hootin an Hollarin photo, but we love the picture, which shows entertainer Morey Sullivan on the stage in the background. Morey performed with the Hootin an Hollarin band for several years while his dad, Don Sullivan, led the band and also served as festival emcee. Morey became emcee in 2000 after his dad's retirement and continued in the role through 2019, when he announced his own retirement, making way for his cousin, Sam Overturf, to take over the job in 2020 – or, as it happens, in 2021. Linnie, now 98, is an *Ozark County Times* correspondent who writes the Tecumseh items.

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# 1980s



## *1980 costume winners*

The 1980 Hootin an Hollarin costume winners were (front row, from left): Jeffrey Fisher, Carrie Walker, Shelley Uchtman, Tracy Bushong, Wesley Uchtman and Chris Bushong. Back: Bizzy Brown, Jill Castle, Wilma Fish, Alta Headrick and Rachel Headrick.



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9/16/21-9/18/21: Hootin an Hollarin - Gainesville square. *We hope to see you all next year at the 60th annual Hootin an Hollarin festival!*

Check websites for updated event information.

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# 1980s Hootin an Hollarin queens



**1980**  
Pam  
Morrison



**1981**  
Brenda White  
Warren



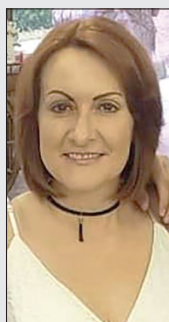
**1982**  
Shana  
Long



**1983**  
Melanie Forrest  
DeWeese



**1984**  
Kim Dillsaver  
Liss



Jolene McFarland  
Cunningham lives  
in Ozark.



Brenda White Warren  
lives with her husband,  
Sam, in Gainesville.



Susan Ledbetter Ewing  
Cordova lives with her  
husband, Shane, in  
Springfield.



Air Force veteran  
Tammy Strain  
Doebl lives with  
her husband,  
Nelson, in  
Howards Ridge.



Melanie Forrest  
DeWeese lives  
with her  
husband, Bruce,  
in Gainesville.



Kimberly Dillsaver  
Liss lives with her  
husband, David, in  
Nixa.



**1985**  
Jolene  
McFarland  
Cunningham



**1986**  
Susan Ledbetter  
Ewing Cordova



**1987**  
April  
Clark



**1988**  
Tammi Strain  
(also named Miss  
Sweetie Pie)



**1989**  
Cathy  
Grant

Where they are now





### A float of football players

Members of the Gainesville High School football team rode in the 1980 Hootin an Hollarin parade.

### Nail-driving champ

Ruby Winslow was the 1980 Hootin an Hollarin nail-driving contest winner.

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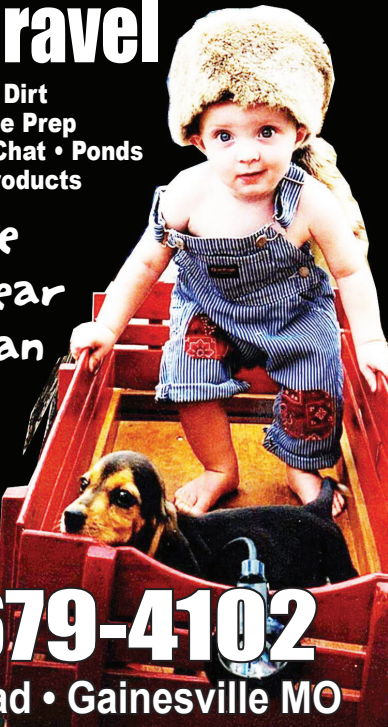
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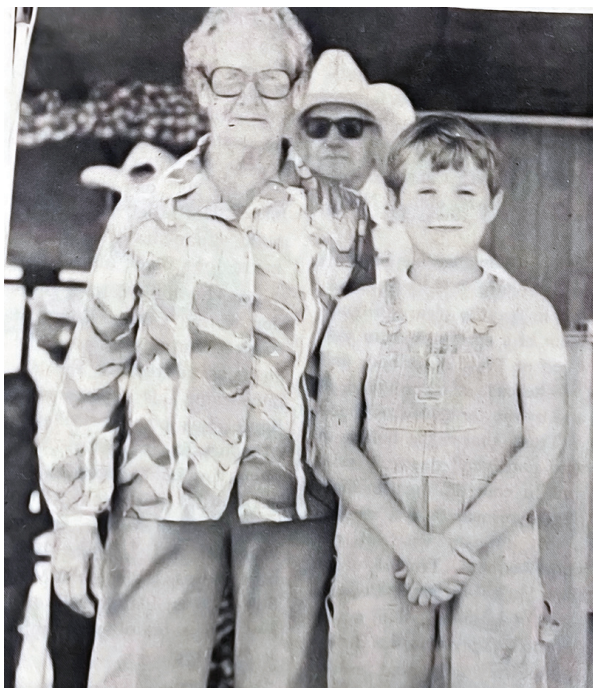
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### 1982 Cow-calling champs

Hootin an Hollarin is fun for all ages. Pictured here, the 1982 cow-calling champions Virgie Hambelton and Steve Carson. Don Sullivan, the former Hootin an Hollarin emcee, stands behind them.



### 1982 Two-man band

Whether it's a popular area band performing on stage or a group of friends performing in the shade of the courthouse lawn, old-time music has been the thread that ties together all the components of the Hootin an Hollarin festival. In 1982, the *Times* reported that Lionel Hedrick, playing a guitar-cross and autoharp, left, and Carroll Linn with guitar "played all day around the square to the delight of those who stopped to listen." The two friends came from Melbourne, Arkansas, to share their talent with festival-goers.

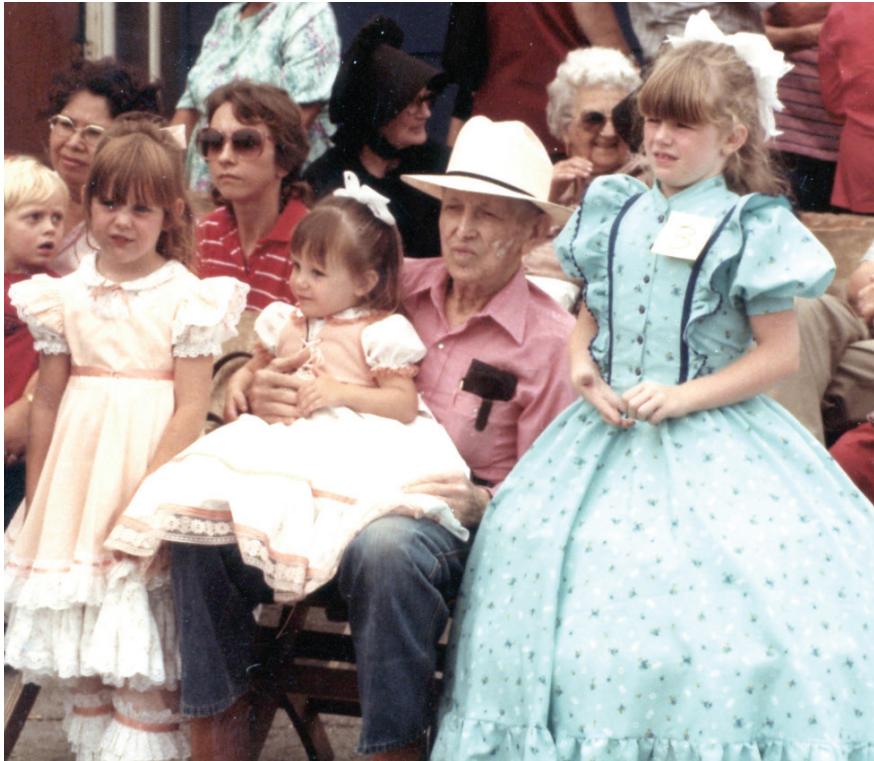
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### *Waiting for the winners*

The daughters of Diane and Darrell White – from left, Dusty, Tiffany and Mandy – sit with their granddad, Al Dreckman, while focusing intently as the winners' names are called during a Hootin an Hollarin costume parade in the 1980s.



### *Big smiles*

Angela King (McLaughlin), left, and Crystal Holmes (Meek) wore big smiles and favorite costumes as they were getting ready to ride on the Bank of Gainesville's float in the 1981 Big Parade.



### *1981 Street scene*

This street scene from the 1981 Hootin an Hollarin has been repeated many times in the festival's 59 years.





## *Generations of fun*

**Above:** April Kline's mother, Jackie Kline, got her all dressed up for the 1985 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest and parade. These days, April Kline Luna is one of the costume parade's organizers, and her three children are regular participants. **Right:** Last year

two of April's kids won first place in the large group category, with a little help from their friends. Riding in the wagon: Jena Brantingham (whose grandmother, Karen Brantingham, helps April with the costume contest), Wyatt Hawkins and April's daughter Stella Luna. Standing: Weston Hawkins and April's son Chase Luna.



## *Early Hootin an Hollarin helper*

Nancy Walker, who would soon be asked to chair the Hootin an Hollarin committee, was overseeing the 1983 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest and parade with other members of the Young Homemakers Extension Club when this photo was taken.



## *Loudest and longest*

Zachary Hamby and Jennifer Driscoll's hound dog puppies won the "Loudest" and "Longest ears" awards in the 1986 Hootin an Hollarin pet show.





### *'I changed my mind, Mom'*

Heston Johnson, left, changes his mind about being in the 1987 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest and seeks refuge with his mother, Janet Johnson, while Evin Bushong, wearing a coonskin cap, looks on in sympathy as his mother, Lana Bushong, leads him onward. Watching from the sideline are Janice Gaddy Blisard and her children Shasta and Sam.



### *1987 Pet show winners*

With her long pony tails, Brandi Snell (Miller) won the "owner lookalike" award in the 1987 Hootin an Hollarin pet contest. She was assisted by her little brother, Chance.

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### *Clogging smiles*

Drucilla Cowart, front, formerly of Dora, was one of the cloggers from Rolla who entertained the crowd during the 1988 Hootin an Hollarin.

### *1989 Costume winner*

With a charming curtsey that showed off her pantaloons, Kristin Crawford (Solomo) won the prize for best costume in the girls infant to age 3 category of the 1989 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade and contest.



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### *Square dancing teens*

Berta Fay Hambelton, in back at left, called the sets for young square dancers during the 1989 Hootin an Hollarin.



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# 1990s



## ***1990 • Fastest bed in town***

The Gainesville Future Homemakers of America team came in first in the 1990 Hootin an Hollarin bed races. Team members were, from left: Chrystal Holmes, Sandi McGinnis, Penny Cochran, Tammy Strong and Sarah Taber.



# 1990s Hootin an Hollarin queens



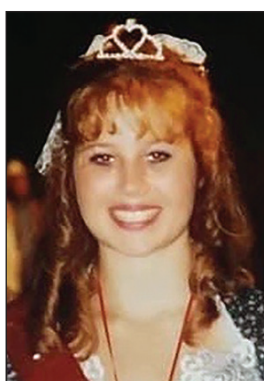
**1990**  
Kelli Kyle  
Humphries



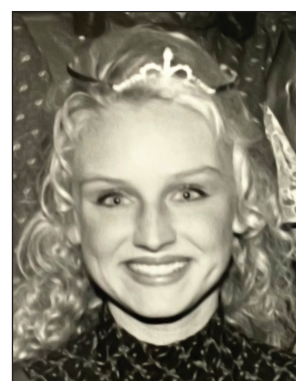
**1991**  
Carrie  
Lewis



**1992**  
Shelly  
Uchtman



**1993**  
Angela Smith  
Broome



**1994**  
Jade  
Tetrick

Where they are now



Alma Squires Reder now lives  
in Cincinnati with her family.



Angela Smith Broome now lives  
in Mountain Home, Arkansas.



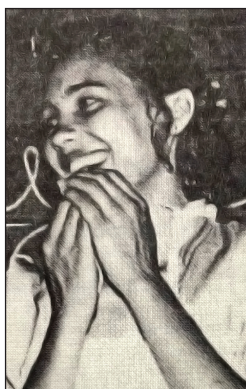
Kristian Richison Wallace now  
lives in Springfield, Ohio.



**1995**  
Katie  
Huggins



**1996**  
Alma Squires  
Reder



**1997**  
Mary  
Marley



**1998**  
Kristen Lawson



**1999**  
Kristian Richison  
Wallace





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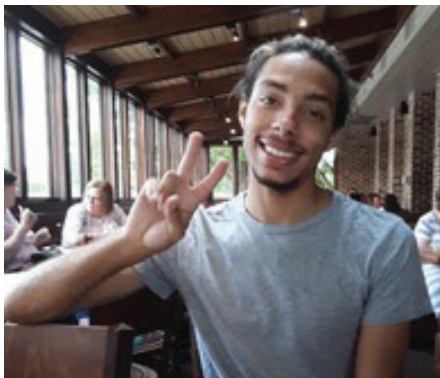
### ***Bonnet beauty***

Crystal Walker House took home a trophy for the girls age 4 to 7 costume group during the 1991 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade and contest.



### ***1991 • The Henegars' Pajama Party***

This group of lovely ladies took home the large group trophy in the 1991 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest and parade. The group, titled "Henegars' Sleepover," included, back row, from left: Melissa Beard, Rebecca Jascowiz (Scott), Alicia Turner (Adams), Natalie Henegar. Front: Mary Schlicht (Burby), Cherie Turner, Courtney Henegar and Kristi Bassham (Walker). The name of the little girl holding the trophy is not known.



### ***1995 • Mr. and Miss Chili Pepper***

**Left:** Tyne Rose and Jesse Wemlinger won the Mr. and Miss Chili Pepper contest in 1995. The contest, open to children ages 4-5, was held during the 1990s. **Above:** Tyne now lives in Nixa with her husband Kellen and their children Cru and Jae. She is a counselor at Springfield School District. Jesse lives in Springfield and has his yoga teaching certificate and works at Target.



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### *They've still got it!*

The Century Bank of the Ozarks, which team won a trophy in the 1997 Hootin an Hollarin outhouse races, recently re-created the 23-year-old photo, complete with the original outhouse-race trophy. From left: Pat Funk, Chris Harlin, David Bushner, Corey Hillhouse and Bill Trivitt.



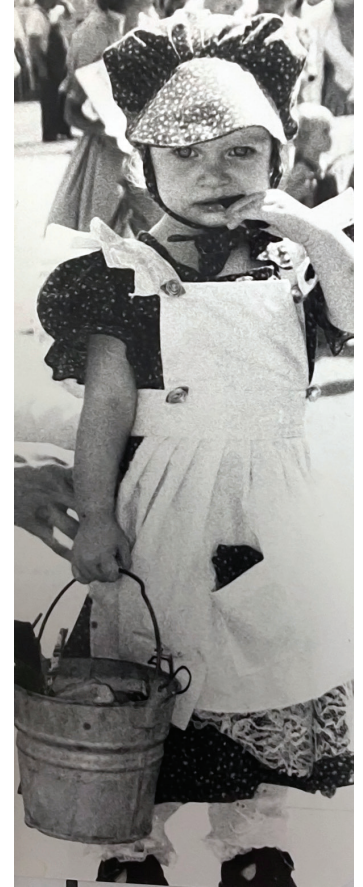
### *Chili tasting fun*

Melinda Abraham dishes up her best chili recipe to Allan Howe, dressed in an old-time sheriff's uniform, during the 1997 chili cookoff event at Hootin an Hollarin.





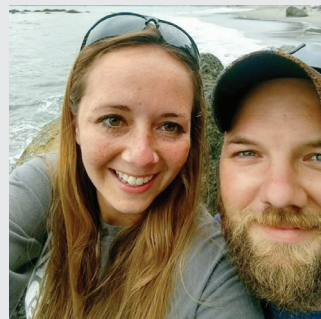
**Left:** Dakota and Dalton Nash sported beards and pitchforks in the 1997 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest. **Above:** The brothers now live in Pontiac. Dakota is a MSHP trooper and Dalton is a registered nurse at Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home, Arkansas.



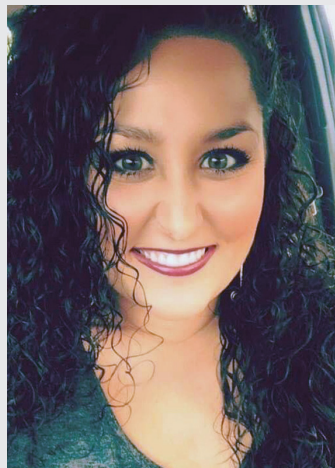
**Above:** Riley Cockrum Gossett won the 1997 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest in the 0-3 girls category with her sweet outfit. **Below:** Riley now lives in Nixa with her husband, Brantly, and daughter, Aspen.



**Above:** Paul Stevens, left, brother Ryan Stevens, far right, and cousin Valerie Geroff entered the 1991 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest together.



Ryan and wife Amy (Peter) Stevens now live in Springfield.



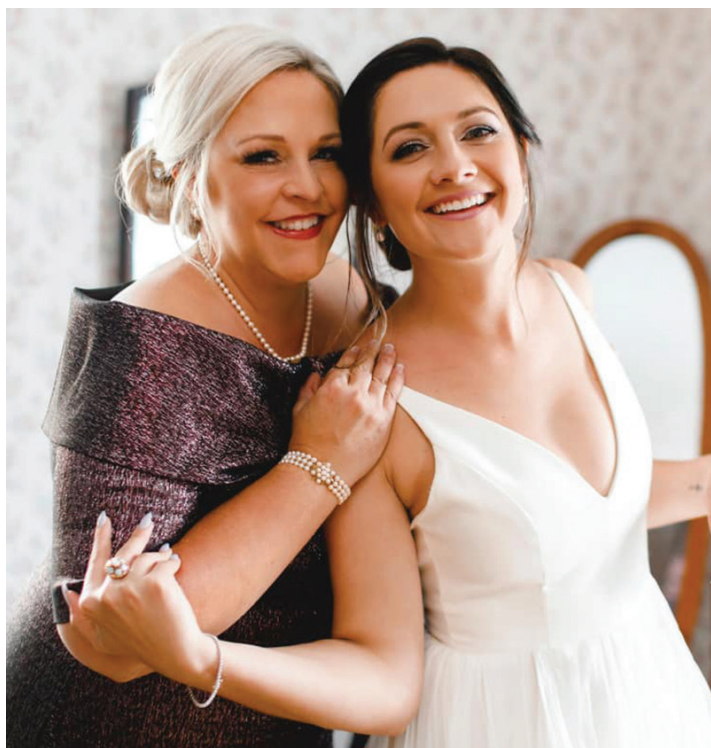
Valerie now lives in St. Louis.



Paul Stevens now lives in Orlando with wife Jamie and children Emily, Olivia and Liam.







**Left:** Missy and Abbi Harlin walk around the square in themed outfits during the 1996 Hootin and Hollarin. **Above:** Abbi now lives in Fayetteville with her husband, Alex Martin.

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Rockie Acklin walks his hillbilly-dressed dog Rascal during the 1991 Hootin an Hollarin festival.

**Tossing cow chips**  
Logan Klineline readsies his selection before competing in the 1997 Hootin an Hollarin cow chip tossing contest. Behind Logan are Drew Dreckman, center, and Jared Haas.



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# 2000s



## *Nice catch!*

Molly Ledbetter Collins showed off her catch to the judges of the 2000 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade and contest. Her sign says, "Pa ... Look what I caught!" and the short piece of fishing line leads to Paxton Smith – who looks perfectly happy to have been caught.

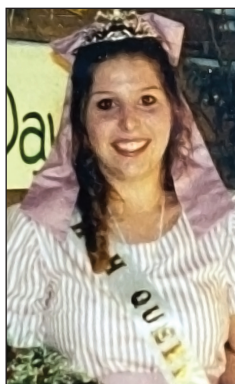


## *Dance a jig*

Square dancing takes the spotlight most nights during Hootin an Hollarin, but sometimes the music is so good, folks break out in spontaneous jig dancing. That must have been the case in 2001 when Art Griffith of Potosi showed off his jig-dancing moves along with Larry Sanders (back to camera) Jane Elder (partially hidden) and her husband Andy Elder, and Toby Lane, far right.



# 2000s Hootin an Hollarin queens



**2000**  
Kara Smith  
Henson



**2001**  
Ashley Adamson  
Leppert



**2002**  
Jessica Long  
Dreckman



**2003**  
Melissa  
Young

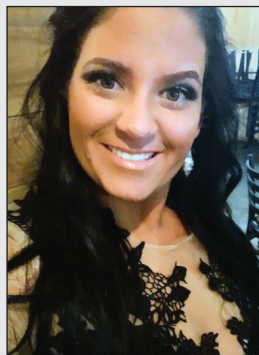


**2004**  
Kristen Crawford  
Solomoko

Where they are now



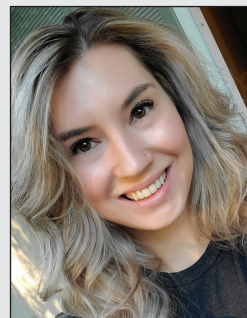
Kara Smith Henson  
now lives in  
Theodosia with her  
husband Chauncey  
and their children  
Hadley and Weston.



Charley Haskins  
now lives in West  
Plains with her  
daughter, Hallie  
McKee.



Jessi Long  
Dreckman lives in  
Gainesville with  
husband Drew and  
daughter Delilah.



Jamie Turner Hale  
lives in Mountain  
Home, Arkansas,  
with husband  
Colton Hale.



**2005**  
Misty  
Campbell



**2006**  
Charley  
Haskins



**2007**  
Tyne Rose  
Burns



**2008**  
Delaney Ross  
Jordan



**2009**  
Jamie Turner  
Hale





## Taking aim

**Left:** Alyssa Abraham (Eller) checks the sights on her 2001 Hootin an Hollarin rubber band gun before loading it. Kids loved the rubber band guns and also the popular marshmallow shooters, but sadly, adult passers-by and vendors appealed for a cease-fire, and a few years ago, vendors were prohibited from selling toys that shoot projectiles.

## Cat in a hat

**Right:** Both Emily Dotson and her cat wore bonnets for the 2001 Hootin an Hollarin pet show.






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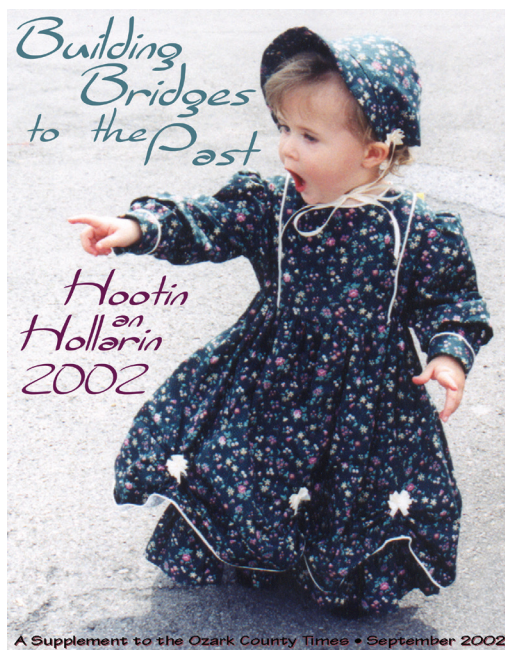
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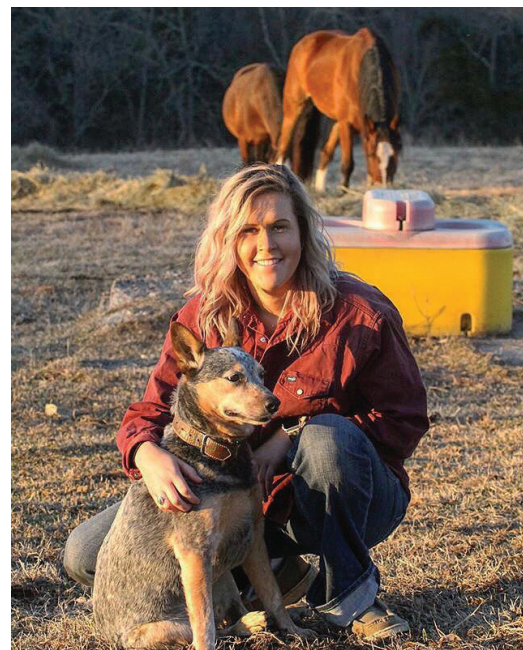
### *'Have a little fun in 2001'*

Hootin an Hollarin is generally an alcohol-free event, but that didn't keep the Happy Hillbilly Saloon from rolling into town for the 2001 Big Parade. The float won the Hootin an Hollarin grand prize.



### *Oh my!*

Shai Meek was featured on the 2002 Hootin an Hollarin magazine cover. Now 20, she lives in Gainesville and works as a veterinary technician at All Creates Veterinary Hospital in Mountain Home, Arkansas.







### *Ride 'em cowboy!*

With his dad, David Bushner, working as wrangler, Maverick Bushner rode into town in time for the 2003 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade and contest.



### *Dancing fools*

Jane and Andy Elder, shown in this 2005 photo, have been square dancing - and having a blast - at Hootin an Hollarin for decades.



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### *A quorum of queens*

Several former Hootin an Hollarin queens rode on a float sponsored by the Ozark County Historium in the 2010 Hootin an Hollarin parade. Seated, from left: Kimberly Terry Kinney 1978, Marsha Watson Evans 1976, Angela Smith Broomer 1993, Kara Smith 2000, Kristian Richison Wallace 1999, Sheila Parsley Jefferis 1973, Delores Smith James 1967, Jamie Turner 2009, Charley Haskins 2006. Standing, from left: Susan Ledbetter Ewing Cordova 1986, Jolene McFarland Cunningham 1985, Kelli Kyle Humphries 1990 and Pam Carter Hutchinson 1964. Sisters Angela Broomer and Kara Smith were Hootin an Hollarin queens seven years apart, and both were contestant number 7.

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### *Hats and longhandles*

The crew at the Missouri Department of Transportation's Gainesville shed put on their hats and longhandles to compete in the 2003 Hootin an Hollarin bed races. From left: Darin Evans, Jeff Anderson, Chris Miller, Jeff Hogan and Robert Merriman.



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### *Rainy day beauty queens*

Stylists and clients at Polly's Hair Salon dressed as beauty queens of yesteryears during the 2009 Hootin an Hollarin. From left: Pam Cooper, Barbara Loftis, Jody Yarger (back), Polly Huddle, Norma Morrison (back in floral dress), Shonnie Allen Pettit, Michelle Anderson and Sheila Allen.

### *Cabbage patch kids*

Colton Anderson, left, and cousin Zane Anderson, son of Jesse and Michelle Anderson (pictured above), won the small group category in the 2003 Hootin an Hollarin costume contest with their version of "cabbage patch kids," complete with real cabbage leaf caps.





# 2010s

## Hootin an Hollarin is ‘a big thing for us’



2013 Hootin an Hollarin queen Kendra Tetrick Neal with her husband, Colton, and their children Isaac, left, and Lydia at the 2019 festival.

Kendra Tetrick Neal, the 2013 Hootin an Hollarin queen, credits the festival with helping her meet her husband, Colton Neal.

She had only lived in Gainesville one year when she was crowned queen in 2013. “I was so proud to represent our little town in such a way!” she said in a message to the *Times*.

The next year, after she’d crowned the 2014 queen, she met Colton, and asked him if he had a dancing partner.

“I do now,” Colton answered.

“I thought he was the most handsome guy I had ever met!” Kendra said. “He asked me to be his girlfriend on Sept. 28, 2014. I was smitten!”

Colton told Kendra that, a year before they met, he had admired her boldness when he saw her “stand up and testify for the Lord at Frontier Baptist Church in Pontiac,” she said.

They were married Sept. 10, 2016, and at Hootin an Hollarin a few days later, they “danced the night away,” Kendra said, adding that Hootin an Hollarin continues to be “a big thing for us. We haven’t missed one yet. We have always come back to that place, and I am owed at least one dance a year until the day we die.”

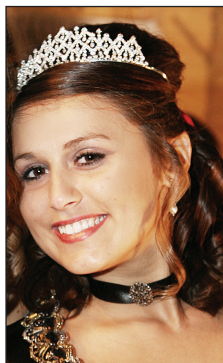
The Neals live in Wasola with their two children, Lydia and Isaac.



# 2010s Hootin an Hollarin queens



**2010**  
Darian Amyx  
Clayton



**2011**  
Hannah  
Childress  
VanCamp



**2012**  
Kursten Suter  
Hamm



**2013**  
Kendra Tetric  
Neal



**2014**  
Sunni  
Amyx

Where they are now



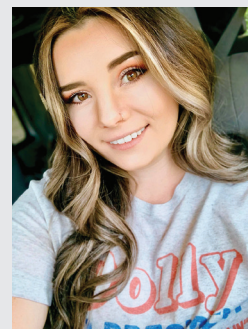
Darian Amyx Clayton lives in Caulfield with her husband Kyle and daughters Kelbi, Laney and Brylee.



Andrea Belt Fowler lives in Bakersfield.



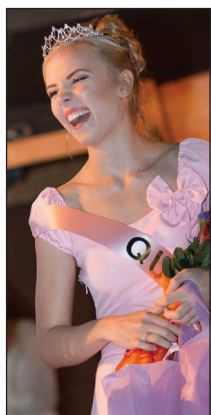
Hannah Childress VanCamp lives in Gainesville with husband Austin.



Kursten Suter Hamm lives in Gainesville with husband Brad and sons Colt and Cord.



**2015**  
Andrea Belt  
Fowler



**2016**  
Rya  
Hoverson



**2017**  
Payton  
Hubbard



**2018**  
Jaima  
DeVries



**2019**  
Lily  
Parker





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# *Square-dancing girls*

Guided by Jane and Andy Elder, contestants in the 2019 Hootin an Hollarin queen pageant performed a square dance for the judges and the crowd.



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## Backstage smiles

Some of the contestants in the 2017 Hootin an Hollarin queen pageant took time for a quick selfie: from left, Hunter McCullough, Jaima DeVries, Martha Wood and Payton Hubbard.

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### *Saddled up poodle*

Lucas Wrinkles dressed in his most authentic cowboy attire and saddled up his grandparents' standard poodle, Jasper, for the 2013 Hootin an Hollarin costume parade and contest. Lucas is the son of Dusty Wrinkles and the grandson of Diane and Darrell White of Gainesville.



### *It's all about family*

For many with Ozark County roots, Hootin an Hollarin is all about family, and for Randy and Paula Herd Rose, right, family means their daughters Talli Rose, center, and Tyne Rose Burns, come home to visit. Tyne, who was the 2007 Hootin an Hollarin queen, was accompanied by her husband, Kellen, and their son Cru, who was checking out the famous Hootin an Hollarin barrel train. Paula is set to become the next Hootin an Hollarin Committee chair as current chairperson Nancy Walker steps into retirement next year.



### *Old-time gospel singing*

Gospel singing in the gazebo, using the old shaped-note hymnals, is always a popular Hootin an Hollarin activity. From left: James Jordan, Rex Johnson, Ruby Anderson and Clay Headrick





Paul Wade, chosen by the Gainesville Lions Club as the 2020 Barney Douglas Citizen of the Year, is shown at the Hootin an Hollarin cabin on the courthouse lawn in 1961 and a few weeks ago.

# Paul Wade, 2020 Citizen of the Year 'doesn't mind getting his hands dirty'

By Sue Ann Jones  
sueann@ozarkcountytimes.com

Paul Wade, Ozark County's 2020 Barney Douglas Citizen of the Year, was chosen for the honor by Gainesville Lions Club for both his professional and physical work on behalf of Ozark County.

"He's always there when we need somebody to take charge of things or to help out in any way," said Pat Funk, a member of the club's Citizen of the Year committee. "He's a good volunteer. He doesn't mind getting his hands dirty."

Funk said some of Wade's most important work for the county has been with the Gainesville Industrial and Community Development Corporation, which most recently brought Ozark Vinyl to the former Hodgson Mill Enterprises building on the west side of Gainesville.

The former owner of the company donated the building to the development corporation several years ago, and Wade

worked with other committee members to find a company to occupy it and generate jobs for the community.

"A lot of that has been because of Paul's efforts," Funk said. "He's been the spearhead."

In serving on the development corporation, Paul Wade follows in the footsteps of his father, the late Howard Wade, who helped organize the corporation with other community leaders, including the late Don Rackley, John R. Sims, Rex Johnson and others.

"It was originally a for-profit company that started back then with everyone throwing in a chunk of money," Paul said. "When it started back in the 1950s, they bought and sold property."

The original development corporation owned property with the idea that it would be made available for industry or development. If neither of those possibilities played out, the property would be sold, ideally for a profit to be used for

other land purchases. More recently, Paul has helped the corporation shift into non-profit status.

He grew up as the youngest of the six children of Howard and Lou Anna Wade (including one son who died in infancy). The Wades owned the Western Auto store in Gainesville for many years. Lou Anna was also a teacher.

Paul's work for the community that made him the Lions Club's choice for Citizen of the Year followed his parents' longtime service to the community. Besides serving on the industrial development board, Howard Wade was a strong supporter of Lions Club activities, including the summer ball program and Hootin an Hollarin. Lou Anna was also heavily involved in Extension Service and 4-H activities, and both Wades were involved in the work of the Gainesville Church of Christ.

**Continued to page 66**



## Continued from page 65

Paul graduated from Gainesville High School in 1973 and then attended York Junior College in Nebraska before transferring to what is now Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas, and earning an accounting degree. While he was at Harding, he met and married Beth McHan. They have three children: Emily Wilson and husband Hunter, who live with their children in Maumelle, Arkansas; Jay Paul, who lives in Avon, Colorado; and Spencer and wife Sandra, who live in Jonesboro, Arkansas. At this writing, Paul and Beth are eagerly awaiting the arrival of their sixth grandchild.

After graduating from Harding, Paul worked in public accounting in Harrison, Arkansas, and in Springfield before passing the CPA exam in 1983 and coming back home to Gainesville to start an accounting office in the back of his parents' Western Auto store on the square.

"But anybody who knew what a CPA was had one," Paul said, describing the rough start to his first private practice here. His dad was ready to retire, so, sometime around 1984, Paul took over the job of managing the Western Auto store while continuing to do CPA work, sometimes working out of the basement of a house he and Beth built east of town.

In 1989, he opened a second office in Ava, returning his focus to accounting. Howard Wade died in 1990, and the Western Auto closed.

After returning to Gainesville in the 1980s, Paul joined Lions Club, joking that he did it "because Dad made me." Like his dad, Paul became active in supporting Gainesville's summer ball program, which was sponsored and operated by the Lions Club until a few years ago, when the club turned over management of the program to the school.

Paul was also active in organizing a Mitey Mites football program in Gainesville. Years later, long after Mitey Mites had ended, David Murphy organized and coached a separate Gainesville team in the Ozark Football Association, and Paul was very supportive of that effort too. He also participated in the Lions Club's men's basketball team that played once a week in the gym that now houses the Gainesville post office.

Through his years here, Paul has provided free or discounted accounting services for several area groups, including the Senior Citizens of Ozark County and the Ozark County Historium. He's a faithful participant in the Lions Club work crews that set up and take down the stage and bleachers for each year's Hootin an Hollarin festival, and he's an enthusiastic helper at the annual Lions Club Auction which supports the summer ball program and other community activities. Wade volunteers by sitting on the board of directors for the Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Wade also volunteers by sitting on the board of directors for the Baxter Regional Medical Center in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

He continues to operate two accounting offices, one in Gainesville, managed by Katrina Amyx, also a CPA, and the other in Ava.

Paul says he's honored to be named Ozark County's 2020 Citizen of the Year, but he wants readers to know that he nominated someone else for the award "and campaigned strongly for that person – but failed."

The Lions Club committee members insisted Paul's turn has come.

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you all at next  
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Paul Wade's granddaughter was all  
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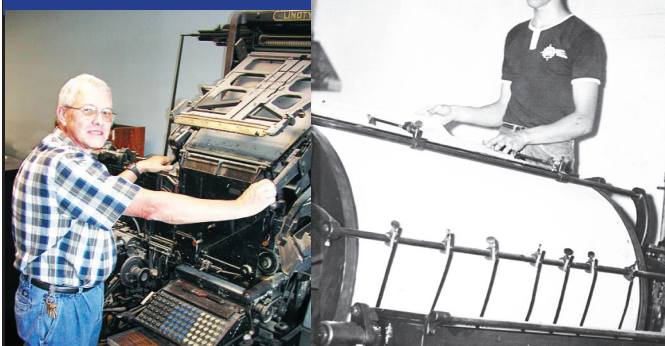


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