

# Lowell Davis Collectors Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 2

January – March 2009



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Thanks to all of you who submitted an entry in the second Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz. This quiz was a bit tougher than the first one and we had only one completely correct entry which was from Carolea Hunter. See the Collectors Quiz article in this newsletter for more details as well as a new quiz for you to enter.

If you are not on the list to receive my newsletter and would like to be or know of someone else who would like to receive this newsletter, please send us an email: [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net).

You can view and download all issues of my newsletter from my web site: [www.redoakiimissouri.com](http://www.redoakiimissouri.com).

You are always welcome at Red Oak II. I hope to see many of you this year.

Best wishes!

Your friend,

*Lowell Davis*

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#### Greetings from Lowell



Spring is finally here at Red Oak II after quite a cold winter. In the past 3 months since my last newsletter, I have been busy doing commission paintings including a mural for a store in Joplin Missouri. As the weather has been warming up, I have been working outdoors much of the time on projects around Red Oak II.

In this issue we have our regular Red Oak II updates and an assortment of feature articles that I hope you will enjoy and find useful.

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#### Red Oak II Updates



There is always a lot going on at Red Oak II. Here are the happenings of the first quarter of 2009:

#### Winter at Red Oak II

All the seasons at Red Oak II are very nice and when we get a significant snowfall during the winter, Red Oak II becomes a winter wonderland. Red Oak II resident Judy Knudsen captured the late January 2009 snowfall at Red Oak II in the following photos:



Looking towards the General Store



The Salem Church



Wagon wheels and fence in snow

#### Red Oak II Renovations

The historic buildings at Red Oak II always need periodic renovation to keep them in good condition. We endeavor to keep them true to their original design and where possible we use materials that we have rescued from other older buildings in the area that are being torn down.

#### School Marm's House:

Renovation of the interior of the School Marm's house has been completed and work is underway on the exterior, stripping off the old paint, repairing rotted areas and applying a primer coat of white paint.



School Marm's House under renovation

The final color will be a surprise for you to see when you visit.

#### Salem Church Privy:

The weekly music sessions and Sunday church services at the Salem Church are bringing many folks out to Red Oak



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II. The privies behind the Salem Church are being renovated for those visitors.



Salem Church Privy under renovation

Folks always ask if the cross on the top of the church is meant to be crooked.



Salem Church with crooked cross

Lowell says “No”. The plan is to get it straightened sometime when we get a boom truck to Red Oak II to handle this and other projects.

#### **Belle Starr House:**

Lowell is doing some work on his Belle Starr House, replacing and repainting rotted boards.



Belle Starr House under renovation

#### **Sparrows Ville:**

Even Sparrows Ville received a face lift this year. Lowell and Red Oak II resident Jack Knudsen repaired the sparrow houses, in some cases rebuilding them, and gave them all a fresh coat of paint.



Sparrows Ville renovated

See Lowell’s full story about Sparrows Ville later in this newsletter.

#### **The Acorns:**

The Acorns (small cabins behind the Phillips 66 gas station at Red Oak II) are also being spruced up.



The Acorns

The sign was redone and Jack Knudsen is building flower boxes for the front of each cabin.

#### **Red Oak II General Store:**

The interior of the Red Oak II General Store is being redone to make it into the Lowell Davis Museum and Art Gallery. Jack Knudsen is building doors for the shelves on which we will be exhibiting

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Lowell's figurines and bronzes. To keep with the theme of Red Oak II, Lowell designed the doors with wire chicken fencing instead of glass or Plexiglas.



New doors for display shelving in General Store



Jack Knudsen working on new doors for displays

### Signs of Spring at Red Oak II

The red buds are a sure sign that spring is in the air at Red Oak II.



Red Bud tree at Civil War House

Oggie, Geisha and Fido can all be seen enjoying the springtime sun after being cooped up all winter long.



Oggie



Geisha



Fido

### Saturday Night Pickin' & Singin'

Bluegrass / Country / Old Time Gospel Music sessions are being held every Saturday evening beginning at 4 PM at the Red Oak II Salem Country Church.



Photo courtesy Judy Knudsen

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Photo courtesy Judy Knudsen

Everyone is welcome to participate or just listen. You can find out more info in the Calendar of events section of the Red Oak II website:

<http://www.redoakiimissouri.com/index/red-oak-ii-missoura/calendar-of-events.html>.

### Laying Again

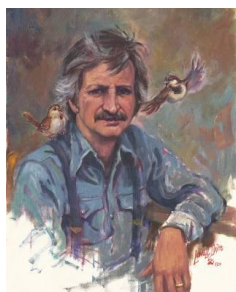
As you may recall from my last newsletter, I was not getting many eggs from my chickens. I don't understand why they were not laying but I am happy to report that they are laying lots of eggs again as you can see below.



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### Sparrows Ville

Feature Article by Lowell Davis



Well There Goes the Neighborhood  
by Lowell Davis

I even built Sparrows Ville for my little feathered friends, the sparrows.



Lowell's Sparrows Ville, Red Oak II

However, this year the recession is taking its toll, even on Sparrows Ville



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with Bank Repossessions and Foreclosures.



Photo courtesy Judy Knudsen



Photo courtesy Judy Knudsen

*Lowell*

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### Lowell Creates a Mural and Still for Joplin Store

Lowell did a beautiful mural based on a hillbilly/Little Critters theme for a long time friend Vic Coulsen for his new Black Market Liquor and Smoke Shop at 5277 North Main Street in Joplin MO.



Mural painted by Lowell Davis

Lowell also designed and supervised the construction of a still which is on display in the shop.



Lowell supervising construction of still



Lowell with completed still

A number of Lowell's beautiful paintings are also on display in this shop:



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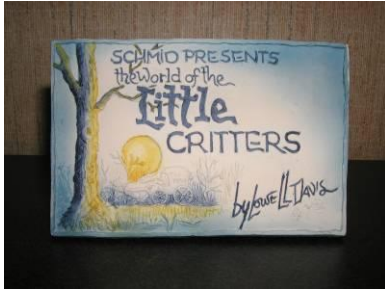
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**Lowell Davis Little Critters**

One of Lowell's most popular lines was his Little Critters series of figurines produced by Border Fine Arts of Scotland in cold cast porcelain. Here are all the pieces in this beautiful series:



Gittin' A Nibble 25294 (1989)



The World of Little Critters Counter Sign 25515 (1992)



Great American Chicken Race 25500 - Ltd Ed 2,500 (1991)



Charivari 25707 - Ltd Ed 950 (1992)



Hittin' the Sack 25510 (1991)



Christopher Critter 25514 - Ltd Ed 1,192 (1991)



Home Squeezins 25504 (1990)



Double Yolker 25516 (1992)



Itiskit, Itasket 25511 (1991)

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Milk Mouse 25503 - Ltd Ed 2500 (1991)



Punkin' Wine 25501 (1991)



Miss Private Time 25517 (1992)



Toad Strangler 25509 (1991)



Outing with Grandpa 25502 - Ltd Ed 2,500 (1990)



When Coffee Never Tasted So Good 25507 - Ltd Ed 1,250 (1991)



Private Time 25506 (1990)



When Coffee Never Tasted So Good Music Box 809225 - Ltd Ed 1,250 (1991)



Punkin' Pig 25505 - Ltd Ed 2,500 (1990)



A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing 25518 (1992)



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**Tell Us about Your Favorite  
Lowell Davis Art Work**

Jeffrey Bialobrzkeski, winner of the first Lowell Davis collectors quiz sent us the following story and photos of his first/favorite Lowell Davis pieces.

*I began collecting Lowell's cold cast porcelain sculptures back in 1989. I saw them in a small chain of stores called The Briar Patch here in Connecticut and just could not get over the detail in these sculptures. I think the first piece I remember seeing was "Strawberry Patch".*



Strawberry Patch & Counting the Days

*The strawberries look good enough to eat and of course the look of delight on that turtle's face is priceless! The first piece I ever bought however was "Counting the Days". That little rabbit with his buck teeth that just can't wait for those carrots to start growing stole my heart! And of course, almost as much fun as getting the figurine home, was waiting to see Lowell's little "story card" inside the box!*

*Since that small beginning, I went on to collect over 300 figurines and that is not including plates, steins, and other miscellaneous items.*

*Some of the other attached pictures are of pieces with rare colors and/or items. For instance, one of my favorites is "Don't Play with Fire" with the RED candle and red, green, and white candle wax in the holder.*



Don't Play with Fire (Red candle)

*Most of the pieces I have seen just have the white candle and wax. "Freeloaders" has the dog with more intricate coloring than just the plain brown.*



Freeloaders (white, black and brown dog)

*"Oh Where is he Now?" was a "special" limited-limited edition that included a brush on the ground.*



Oh Where is he Now? (with brush)

*I recently purchased online an edition of "Long Days Cold Nights" that was only*



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*half painted!! I don't know where this piece came from or why it is not completed, but it looks interesting next to my full-color piece!*



Long Days, Cold Nights versions

*I am also proud to own both "New Day" (which was changed due to production problems) and "Brand New Day".*



New Day (left) and Brand New Day (right)

*There is just something about Lowell's chicks! So sweet and innocent.*

Jeff also responded to our article in the last newsletter about "Grandpa's Ole Tom". It appears that some "Grandpa's Ole Tom" Farm Club pieces were in fact sold. Jeff had been able to order one when he ordered "You Snooze, You Lose" from the Farm Club.



You Snooze, You Lose & Grandpa's Ole Tom

We would love to hear about your favorite Lowell Davis art, what your first Lowell Davis art piece was and how it got you started collecting his art. Please send via email to: [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net). Attach photos too.

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## 2009 Lowell Davis Art Calendar



The 2009 Lowell Davis Art Calendar has been very popular with Lowell's collectors. If you haven't got yours yet, you can purchase one of these beautiful calendars from the Red Oak II General Store: [redoakiigeneralstore@att.net](mailto:redoakiigeneralstore@att.net).

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## Collectors Exchange

If you have Lowell Davis art or collectibles that you would like to swap, buy or sell, just email a detailed description of the item to: [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net). We will list your items so that other interested collectors can contact you.

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#### **Wanted:**

The Lowell Davis Art Gallery is looking for:

- Wildlife and farm bronzes
- Early original paintings

If you have any of these items for sale, please send us an email at [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net) stating which you have, condition and asking price.

#### **For Sale:**

No listings received for this issue.

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### **Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz**

#### ***Winner of Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2009 Q1***

We would like to thank all who entered the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2009 Q1. This quiz was harder than the first and we received only one completely correct entry from Carolea Hunter of Missouri. Congratulations Carolea!! Carolea's prize was a set of 12 beautiful Lowell Davis lithographic prints.

#### ***Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2009 Q2***

For the 2009 Q2 Lowell Davis Collectors quiz, the winner will receive a voucher for \$40 which can be used toward the purchase of any Lowell Davis items available in our on-line store:

[www.redoakiigeneralstore.com](http://www.redoakiigeneralstore.com). In case of a tie, there will be a random drawing from among all correct entries to select the winner.

To enter, send your answers to the following questions by email to [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net). Entries must be received by 12:00 midnight US EDT on June 30, 2009. The winner will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter. Here are the questions:

- 1) In what year was Lowell born and how much did the doctor charge to deliver him?
- 2) In what year did Lowell join the Air Force, what was his position and in what aircraft?
- 3) How much did Lowell pay for the farm that he and Charlie turned into Foxfire Farm?
- 4) At what event, in what city and in what year did Lowell introduce his line of Border Fine Arts figurines in the USA?
- 5) How did Lowell raise the \$10,000 for the deposit on the cabin in Noel MO that Charlie purchased for the family in 1997?

Good luck and have fun!

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### **Contact Us**

#### **Lowell and Rose Davis:**

[lowelldavis@ecarthage.com](mailto:lowelldavis@ecarthage.com)  
[redoakrose@ecarthage.com](mailto:redoakrose@ecarthage.com)

#### **Lowell Davis Collectors:**

[lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net)

#### **Red Oak II General Store:**

[redoakiigeneralstore@att.net](mailto:redoakiigeneralstore@att.net)

#### **Larry Sernyk, Collectors Newsletter:**

[lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net)

### **Web Links**

#### **Red Oak II Missouri:**

[www.redoakiimissouri.com](http://www.redoakiimissouri.com)

#### **Red Oak II General Store:**

[www.redoakiigeneralstore.com](http://www.redoakiigeneralstore.com)

### **Credits**

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