

Lowell Davis Collectors Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 2

January – March 2011

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Greetings from Lowell



Greetings to all my friends and collectors! I am very pleased to bring you this latest issue of my Collectors Newsletter.

I am sure glad that spring has finally arrived at Red Oak II. It was such a hard winter for us this year in SW Missouri with heavy snow falls on two occasions,

one of which closed the schools for a week. So spring is more welcome than usual this year.

I am sad to say that I lost a longtime friend this winter. My faithful companion Fido passed away in March. Red Oak II will not be the same without him. I have included a tribute to Fido, my faithful friend of 12 years, in this issue of my newsletter.

In addition to the regular Red Oak II updates, this issue of my newsletter has a number of feature articles including an article about my recent visit to Woolaroc and Coffeyville, an article showcasing some of my latest paintings and a number of articles for my collectors.

Carolea Hunter was the winner of my 2011Q1 Collectors Quiz. Her prize is a beautiful 2011 Lowell Davis Art Calendar which features art from my upcoming book "The Dalton Gang, Up to Their Old Antics". Be sure to try your hand at the 2011Q2 quiz included in this newsletter.

If you would like to receive an email notification when a new issue of my newsletter is available, please send an email to: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net. You can always view and download the current and past issues of my newsletter at: www.redoakiimissouri.com.

I hope to see you at Red Oak II this summer.

Your friend,

Lowell Davis

Red Oak II Updates



Hard winter at Red Oak II

It was a very hard winter at Red Oak II this year. The blizzard in early February dropped over 20" of snow which hung around for over a week. Schools were shut down due to the roads being too hazardous for travel. This was the same storm that dropped over 20" of snow on Chicago. All this snow this winter made Red Oak II into a winter wonderland as you can see in the following photos courtesy of Rose Davis.



Plumber's Nightmare



Belle Star Cabin



Bridge and General Store



Emery isn't going anywhere soon!



Phillips 66 Gas Station



Marshall Hooker's Cabin and Sherriff's Office

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Lowell's wood pile and Red Oak II Cemetery

Frank Stafford's Radiator Repair Shop

In late 2010, we had poured the slab for Frank Stafford's Radiator Repair Shop that we will be moving from Carthage to Red Oak II.



Finished Slab for Radiator Repair Shop

The severe winter prevented us from moving the building but now that the weather is improving, we will proceed with moving the building to Red Oak II. We will have a feature story on moving and restoration of this building in the next issue of the newsletter. It will be a great new addition to Red Oak II.

New Walking Bridge for Otis Cabin

The Otis Cabin (formerly Mother-In-Laws House) is perhaps the most popular building with visitors to Red Oak II. This winter the walking bridge that leads to the Otis Cabin had begun to sag severely. Restoration work was

done to address this and the Otis Cabin has a brand new sturdy walking bridge that Lowell projects will be good for 20 years. Thanks to Rick and Buddy for the great work they did on restoring the walking bridge.



Restoring Walking Bridge to Otis Cabin



Otis Cabin with New Walking Bridge

Our next projects for the Otis Cabin will be to replace the Privy behind the cabin that had been blown over by straight line winds and to do cosmetic restorations on the cabin's exterior and interior.

Tribute to Fido

On March 17, 2011 Lowell's faithful friend Fido crossed over the rainbow bridge to dog heaven. Lowell wrote the following tribute for his faithful friend Fido:

"As all my dogs were, Fido was just another stray. When Fido first showed

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up in Red Oak II, I wasn't really into having another dog so I knew I was going to get rid of him at the first opportunity. Being as I wasn't going to keep him I just gave him the generic name Fido. And 12 years later I still had Fido.



"There was nothing that Fido enjoyed more than riding around with me in my pickup Emery. Fido was not like most dogs who like to travel in cars as he didn't just sleep while I was driving. He didn't want to miss a thing so he was always alert and looking out the window. He went with me everywhere that I drove Emery.



"Fido was a very unsociable dog. He didn't have anything to do with any other dogs or with other people. His mission in life was to protect me on my porch. He would always bark when any strange person or dog approached.

"In his last days Fido was slowly deteriorating but I couldn't bring myself

to put him down. Finally on March 17 his body was worn out and he gave up the ghost. I buried him in my back yard so now every time I pass over his grave I can remember all the good times we had together and his devotion to me.

"Thanks Fido for all the good years and your loyalty to me!" Lowell

A funny thing happened just after Fido passed on. A new stray dog showed up at Red Oak II.



New Stray Dog at Red Oak II

He is very well behaved and gets along well with Lowell's other animals and he loves people too. Lowell is not sure where he came from but his arrival at Red Oak II just after Fido passing has Lowell puzzled. He also looks a lot like the stray dog in Lowell's Border Fine Arts figurine by that name.



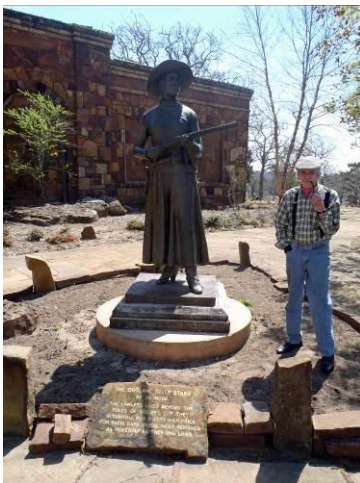
Stray Dog 25223 by Lowell Davis (Schmid BFA)

Lowell Visits Woolaroc and Coffeyville

One of Lowell's favorite museums is at a place called Woolaroc near Bartlesville Oklahoma. It's way off the beaten track and that's why most people have never seen or even heard of it. The museum was built by oilman Frank Phillips, founder of Phillips Petroleum, on his 3,700 ranch which he made into a wildlife preserve. Frank bought much of the art that is in the museum during the Great Depression. Lowell likes this museum so much because there are paintings on display by all of his hero painters including CM Russell.



Entrance to Frank Phillips' Woolaroc Museum



Lowell standing by life size bronze of Belle Star

There is also a section of the museum covering the history of the Phillips Petroleum Company.



Early Phillips 66 gas pumps and tanker truck

For more information on Woolaroc, see their website: www.woolaroc.org. Lowell highly recommends stopping by to visit Woolaroc if you are in NE Oklahoma.

If you visit Woolaroc, you should also stop by Coffeyville KS which is where the Dalton Gang met their demise while trying to rob two banks at the same time.



Condon Bank, Coffeyville KS



Lowell Davis and Jack Knudsen outside Condon Bank

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Painting of Dalton Gang after foiled double bank robbery

Lowell's New Paintings

Lowell created a number of magnificent new oil paintings in the past quarter. As with all of Lowell's art, each of the paintings has a story that goes along with it. In this issue of the newsletter we highlight a couple of his most recent beautiful paintings.

Hunting Party

When Lowell first moved back to Missouri from Texas, he noticed that many family farms were being bought up by neighboring farmers. Lowell was saddened by this and he would drive around and photograph all the fallen down farm buildings as well as the abandoned rural churches, school houses, stores and gas stations. Originally Lowell captured these buildings in his paintings, not in their fallen down condition, but in the original condition as he remembered them.

However Lowell now realizes that it's important for an artist to paint the era that he lives in. So he now incorporates these farm buildings into his paintings in their present condition before they are totally gone. His 2011 painting "Hunting Party" is an good example of this.



Hunting Party by Lowell Davis (2011)

Lowell finds it ironic that the coyotes that the family farmers tried so hard to eliminate are still around but the family farmers are largely gone. The coyotes continue to serve their role in the environment as they always have. Lowell loves to sleep with his windows open listening to the mournful howling of the coyotes that surround Red Oak II and Fox Fire farm at night.

Born for this Day

Lowell occasionally does paintings on commission and recently did his first painting featuring an Australian Cattle Dog (Blue Heeler) and a herd of sheep.



Born for this Day by Lowell Davis (2011)

Rose put a photo of the painting on the Red Oak II Facebook asking people to suggest a name for it. Some of the names that people suggested were: Follow the Leader, Follow the Heeler, Ewe All Follow Me, The Heeler's Herd, Wherever My Shepherd Leads, and

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Homeward Bound. Lowell decided to call it "Born for this Day" because Australian Cattle Dogs live to herd sheep and as you can see in Lowell's painting, this one is beaming with enjoyment as this day she has the sheep so well under control that they are following her.

Last of the Litter

Lowell just completed another beautiful painting entitled "Last of the Litter".



Free Pups by Lowell Davis (2011)

It is along the lines of Lowell's ERTL figurine "Last of the Litter".



Last of the Litter by Lowell Davis (ERTL)

Route 66 Drive Inn

There were a couple of figurines in Lowell's Route 66 Collection that were done in very limited numbers. Several of these were featured in an earlier issue of this newsletter, Sarah and Country Wedding.



Sarah by Lowell Davis



Country Wedding by Lowell Davis

There were only a couple of each of these two figurines made.

There is one additional figurine that Lowell created featuring the Route 66 Drive Inn. Only one was produced and auctioned off at the Midwest Gathering of the Artists. It was purchased by long time Lowell Davis collector John Miller who still owns this piece. We were fortunate to be able to visit John recently and get some photos of this very rare piece.

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Route 66 Drive Inn by Lowell Davis



The Route 66 Drive Inn in Carthage is still in existence and is open on weekends.

Route 66 Drive Inn, Carthage MO



My Favorite Christmas Present Ever

We recently acquired one of Lowell's smaller Chilmark pewter pieces for the Lowell Davis art gallery. This piece entitled "My Favorite Christmas Present Ever" shows the young Lowell with his first Red Ryder Daisy BB Gun that he received as a Christmas present. This piece was produced in a limited edition of 750 pieces.

My Favorite Christmas Present Ever



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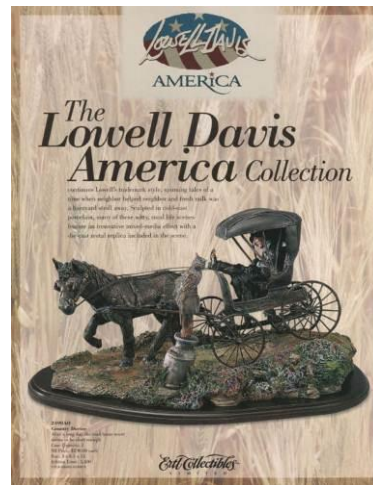
Country Doctor

In 1997, Lowell created a piece for ERTL entitled "Country Doctor" for their Lowell Davis America Collection. The caption that goes along with this sculpture is: "After a long day, the road home never seems to be short enough."

Country Doctor by Lowell Davis (1997)



This piece was to have been produced as a limited edition of 3,500 pieces with a list price of \$290. An Artist Proof was produced but the limited edition was cancelled and never produced. We were fortunate to have acquired the Artist Proof for this piece a while back and recently acquired a copy of the ERTL brochure.

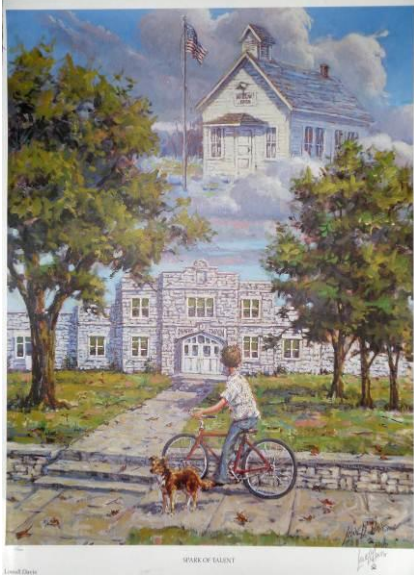


Lowell Davis Country Doctor Brochure (1997)

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Spark of Talent

We recently acquired a print of an awesome painting that Lowell did depicting himself in his youth in front of the Mark Twain Elementary School in Carthage MO with the Red Oak School House above it in the clouds.



Spark of Talent by Lowell Davis



Mark Twain Elementary School, Carthage MO

Lowell remembers being very nervous about going to the “big city” Mark Twain Elementary School having come from the small Red Oak Country School. It was while attending Mark Twain that Lowell took his first art lessons on Saturdays from Mrs. Esterly. I think we can all agree that he certainly had that “Spark of Talent”!

2011 Lowell Davis Art Calendar

The 2011 Lowell Davis Art Calendar has been a very popular item. It features 13 beautiful paintings from Lowell’s upcoming new book “The Dalton Gang, Up to Their Old Antics”. It has been a very popular not only with Lowell Davis collectors but also with Border Terrier owners.

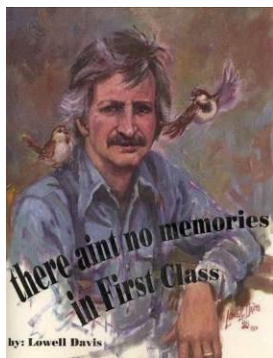


You can order your copy from our online store at:
<http://www.redoakiigeneralstore.com/calendars/index.html>

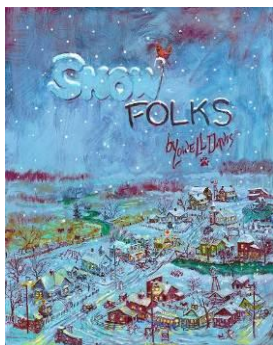
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Lowell Davis Books

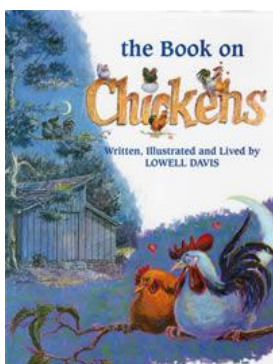
Lowell's autobiography and art story books are a must have for Lowell Davis collectors.



Lowell's Autobiography



Snow Folks



The Book on Chickens

An order form for these books can be found on the Red Oak II website at: <http://www.redoakiigeneralstore.com/lowell-davis-books/index.html> or you can send an email to Rose at: redoakrose@redoakii.com.

Tell Us about Your Favorite Lowell Davis Art Work

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 us an email at:

lowelldaviscollectors@att.net. Attach photos too. We will put your story in a future edition of the newsletter.

Collectors Exchange

Here's a link to the Lowell Davis Collectors Exchange:

<http://www.redoakiimissouri.com/index/collectors-resources/lowell-davis-collectors-exchange.html>

A number of individuals have listed pieces that they want to sell. There is also a list of pieces wanted. We have received quite a few responses to the listings and have connected the interested purchasers with the sellers.

If you have any Lowell Davis art or collectibles that you would like to sell, buy or swap in our Collectors Exchange, just email: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net.

Restoration of Lowell Davis Cold Cast Porcelain Figurines

Do you have a damaged Lowell Davis figurine that you would like to have restored? Lowell's daughter April Davis, an outstanding artist in her own right, can do an excellent restoration of your figurine. If you want to contact April about repair/restoration work, send an email to: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net.

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Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz

Winner of Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2011Q1

The winner of the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2011Q1 is Carolea Hunter of Missouri. Carolea's prize is a 2011 Lowell Davis Art Calendar:



Congratulations Carolea!

Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2011Q2

Here are the questions for the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2011Q2. They are all about the South End of Red Oak II:

- 1) Why was the Mother-In-Law's House (now the Otis Cabin) at Red Oak II built on an island and connected to the mainland by a drawbridge?
- 2) What was the original location of the Dalton Homestead that is now located at Red Oak II?
- 3) The Civil War House at Red Oak II was originally located on a creek just west of the original town of Red Oak. There was a Civil War battle in this area that was named after this creek. What is the name of the creek that the Civil War House was originally located on?
- 4) In what year was the Chicken Museum (now the Train Station)

relocated from the original town of Red Oak to Red Oak II?

- 5) The Red Barn behind the Civil War House and Dalton Homestead was moved to Red Oak II in 1993. What city 30 miles north of Red Oak II was this barn originally located close to?

To enter, send your answers to these five questions by email to lowelldaviscollectors@att.net.

Entries must be received by 12:00 midnight US EDT on June 30, 2011. The winner will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter.

The winner of the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2011Q2 will receive a Lowell Davis Farm Club Sign (1997) in brand new condition in original box.



Lowell Davis Farm Club Sign (Schmid 97006)

In case of a tie, there will be a random drawing from among all correct entries to select the winner.

We hope everyone will enter. Good luck and have fun!

Contact Us

Lowell and Rose Davis, Red Oak II:

*Please note that Lowell and Rose
have new email addresses:*

lowelldavis@redoakii.com

redoakrose@redoakii.com

Lowell Davis Collectors:

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Red Oak II General Store:

redoakiigeneralstore@att.net

Larry Sernyk, Collectors Newsletter:

lowelldaviscollectors@att.net

Web Links

Red Oak II Missouri:

www.redoakiimissouri.com

Lowell Davis Collectors:

www.lowelldaviscollectors.com

Red Oak II General Store:

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