



Mrs. Brown's Boiled Pudding

From *The Johnson County Historical Society Cookbook Volume 2*

Recipe submitted by Susan Pentlin of Warrensburg.
The caption reads "This recipe was in my great-great aunt Lina's recipe book. Aunt Lina (Pauline C. Gillum) was the wife of John A. Gallaher, who served as State Geologist from 1897 to 1900. She wrote above the recipe that "This is one of our favorite desserts."



Cook the fruit, apples, cherries, or any fruit, in lots of water with 1/3 to 2/3 cup of sugar.

Make a dough with:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tbsp of fat
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- Milk (enough to make batter softer than biscuits)

Drop by spoonful over hot fruit. Boil with lid on until done. The dough should be thick enough so as not to spread all over the fruit.

THE BULLETIN OF THE JOHNSON COUNTY (MO.) HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Centerview Man was the Dr. Anthony Fauci of the 1900s.

Very few people in Johnson County know

Dr. Joseph J. Kinyoun is the father of the National Institutes of Health

His statue greets visitors and employees in the District's Municipal Building's on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington D. C. His work was much more challenging than the Fauci story. Read his story in "Historical Chronicles" on the Johnson County Historical Society website.



OPEN HOURS

Tuesday, 1-4
Thursday, 1-4
Friday, 1-4
Saturday, 1-4

302 N. Main

CONTACT

curator@jocomohistory.org

Our Historic Complex Hosts four Museums

- The Heritage Museum
- Historic Courthouse
- Elm Schoolhouse
- Leland Culp Agriculture and Industrial Building

Outstanding Donations in 2024

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the contributions of the following:

- Bill Wayne—\$25,000
David Bowman Estate—\$767.97
Wilbur Kephart Estate—\$180,000
Lawrence Olson—\$1,000
Terrell Burkland—\$250
Natalie Halpin—\$500
KS Hass—\$250
Joe Roop—\$300
Michael Wyatt—\$500
WE in honor of Wendell Davis—\$50

CONSIDER CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Money or securities given to the JCHS not only help us serve our mission but also provide the donor with a tax deduction. We appreciate gifts of any size, and we welcome memorial gifts honoring a friend or family member.

The Johnson County Historical Society is a 501c (3) non-profit organization which maintains the Mary Miller Smiser Heritage Library & Museum and the historic buildings on the Old Courthouse Square in Warrensburg, MO. Archives of original county records dating from 1834 are housed here, original deeds, original court cases files, along with the original newspaper binders from many of the county's publications. We also house directories, Platt maps, cemetery records, family files, specializing in Johnson County local history.

GHOST AT THE COURTHOUSE DOOR

The Murder of Marsh Foster on Election Day

By Gregory D. Bontz

I saw them from the courthouse door.

They were stirring 'round the courthouse lawn,
Frock-coated men of brute and brawn.
Politicizing future fury
They thought was nothing more than duty.
Some voted yea, most voted never,
Which triggered some secession fever.

I could hear them from the courthouse door.

I heard such ire through their liquored lips,
As they jeered and spit through oral whips,
A vicious venom, a toxic ale,
Their prattling speeches did exhale.
To leave the Union, the Yank to fight,
With hate that hist'ry shall ever write.

I walked toward the courtroom stairs.

McCowns professed a Southern leaning,
Us Fosters were against seceding.
Against each other, we fought to win
And we out-canvassed them in the end.
William McCown with anger so blind,
Without forethought or sensible mind,
Had bitterness and jealous loathing
With hate, the kind of hate foreboding.

I stood on the courtroom stairs.

Friends tried to quiet me from speaking,
But my youthful pride never heeding.
I had barely begun to breathe my words,
When impish Will yelled loud a slur.
He pulled his gun from beneath his vest,
And fired a bullet into my chest.
Then instantly death did find its path,
As I fell down dead from William's wrath.

They heard the thunder; They saw the light,
When a Union man was killed that night.
It was in the courthouse near the stairs,
The smoke and tobacco filled the air.
I'll ne'er forget that horrible scene,
And the sound of many gasps and screams.

I still walk the path 'tween door and stair,
Where frock-coated men still gather there,
Still mulling 'round in their ghostly gaunt,
Commiserating their wicked wants.
At night the living can hear them talk,
Just stand silent on the old stone walk.
Then spy the shadows across the square
And experience a chilling nighttime scare.
In 1861 I became lore,
To forever stand guard at the courthouse door.

NO LID ON IN WARRENSBURG



*A Jury in Judge Brown's Court Lift it and
Throws it in the Well.*

There was a hot time in Judge Brown's court Tuesday afternoon over whether or not candy selling is a legitimate business in Warrensburg on Sundays. A jury of six good citizens decided in the affirmative.

The defendant was George Santhuly, proprietor of the Boston Candy Kitchen, one of the swellest sweet stores ever conducted anywhere. Santhuly was defended by J. A. Kemper, while Prosecuting Attorney Cockrell represented the state. The information charged Santhuly with selling candy April 20 and several witnesses supported the charge with their testimony.

During the examination as to qualification for jurors, several who were retained on the jury expressed themselves in a way that indicated to the spectators that they were against putting any lid on the candy store.

The defense put Prosecuting Attorney Cockrell on the stand as a witness against himself and attempted to get from him an admission that he knew others were selling candy and eat stuff and that cigars and tobacco are being sold at will in Warrensburg on Sundays.

Cockrell stated that he had ordered all candy selling to cease on Sundays and if there has been any sold since that order he does not know of it except the case in trial. He admitted that tobacco and cigar merchandising is going on and that ice cream is prohibited in the statue.

JOIN US ON OUR MISSION

The objective of the JCHS, organized as a nonprofit corporation shall be:

- 1 To collect, organize and make available for public use documents, records, and published materials pertaining to the history of Johnson County, Missouri and its people.
- 2 To collect, preserve and exhibit historical artifacts and objects related to the county's history.
- 3 To maintain and preserve the Society's buildings and historic properties on the Old Town Square.
- 4 To encourage and promote educational activities designed to interpret and explain the county's rich and diverse historical past.
- 5 To oversee the staffing and operation of the Mary Miller

Smiser Heritage Library and Museum

jocomohistory.org

Several of the jurors privately informed the *Journal Democrat* that a lid big enough to cover all unnecessary trade on Sunday would cause them to respect the statutes, but if candy is to be singled out, they see nothing in it. "Women and children like candy; men like cigars;" said one juror, "and if I can buy cigars on Sunday I am not going to vote to prevent my wife from buying candy if she wants to."

From *The Journal-Democrat*
May 10, 1907





Board of Directors Nominations: Seeking Your Support

As autumn approaches, we face the important task of filling vacant positions on the Johnson County Historical Society Board of Directors (BOD). We are looking for dedicated individuals who are committed to supporting our cause through volunteer work and innovative efforts to enhance our outreach and fundraising.

The nomination committee has put forward three exceptional candidates for the open positions: Lisa Irle, Ross Frailey, and Gregory Bontz. Each of these individuals has demonstrated a strong commitment to the Society, actively contributing their skills, time, and expertise to advance our mission.

Lisa, Ross, and Gregory have been deeply involved in the day-to-day operations of the Society, bringing valuable experience and enthusiasm to their roles. We believe their continued service on the Board will greatly benefit our organization.

We encourage you to support their nominations as they step into these roles and further contribute to our mission. Your endorsement will help ensure the continued success and growth of the Johnson County Historical Society.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS DEFINED

If you bought an individual membership in 2023, and you want to continue receiving our newsletter, be sure to update your membership. The 2024 memberships **will expire** soon.

Also, as a reminder, Family Memberships are meant for the purchaser for their lifetime and the residents in their home. They are not inherited, nor do they carry over to a new family once one has grown up and moved on from that residence. If you are unsure of your membership status, contact us at curator@jocomohistory.org

MEMBERSHIPS

DAILY for non-members—\$5 One-person, one-day access to our research library

GOODALL YEARLY—\$30 Good for all persons at one address for the year.

BLIND BOONE BUSINESS—\$100 This is for one year. It comes with advertisement in our bi-yearly publication "The Bulletin" and as supporters in all our events for that year.

OLD DRUM LIFETIME—\$500 Lifetime membership.

Old-Fashioned Ghost Story Session

This is an exciting event to swap ghost stories. If you have a favorite ghost story to share, we want to hear it!



Come to the Old Courthouse on the Johnson County Historical Society campus on October 25th at 6 p.m.

We encourage you to come share your stories. We will tell some of ours. All invited.

This is a **Free** Event.

Be A PART OF HISTORY DONATE COLLECTIONS

The JCHS is the repository for documents, photographs and memorabilia relating to the history of our county from its founding through today. Nearly everything that we have on display in the museum and on the shelves in the library were donations.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN BYLAWS (See full By-Laws in supplement)

The following are changes to the bylaws:

Article III.

Section 1 clarifies the membership year, since that was a matter of concern in the recent dispute; it has become too difficult to track the actual anniversary date and send individual notices. It also makes clear that family members do not inherit life memberships.

Sections 2 & 3 clarifies the rights of members and their duty to protect the collections and assets of the JCHS.

Article V

Section 1 establishes a procedure similar to that used by the Trails-Regional Library to identify potential board members well in advance of an election.

Section 2 allows members to declare their candidacy and to be reviewed prior to the election.

Section 3 ensures that members know the identified candidates.

Section 4 prevents surprises and requires a secret ballot for contested elections.

Article VI

Section 1 ensures that a board member who is delinquent in dues has fair notice prior to removal (Article III, Section 1 should make this easier).

Section 3 ensures that all board members know their duties and limitations.

Article VII

Section 6 requires specific pre-approval of all expenditures with certain exceptions, whatever the method and restricts removal of financial records.

Old Drum Day Poetry Winner

Alexis McKinney

Old Drum Immortalized

A gunshot, a yelp and then silence.

Old Drum. Your life was taken with violence.

Your fur is gone and your bark is missed,
but when I walk across Big Creek
I know you exist.

The laws have changed and justice has awoken.

It is now no good dog should die
because a human was mistaken.

I look to my companion at my heel,
in her eyes the spirit of Old Drum I feel.

And when I hear the dogs at the shelter and not the ground,
I look to them and that old hunting dog is found.



SUNDAY BASEBALL BANNED
Among the recent decisions of the Kansas City Court of Appeals was the case of W. F. Williams, who was tried, convicted and fined \$50 for playing baseball at Moberly on Sunday. He appealed from the decision of the lower court on the ground that playing at a game of baseball is not forbidden by the laws of this State. The section of the law under which Williams was convicted prohibits the playing at cards, horse-racing, cock-fighting or games of any kind on Sunday. The appellant declared that the statute not specifically mentioning baseball did not prohibit it. The court decided that the words "games of any kind" included baseball.



From *The Standard-Herald*,
April 25, 1889

JOIN US ON OUR MISSION

The objective of the JCHS, organized as a nonprofit corporation shall be:

1. To collect, organize and make available for public use documents, records, and published materials pertaining to the history of Johnson County, Missouri and its people.
2. To collect, preserve and exhibit historical artifacts and objects related to the county's history.
3. To maintain and preserve the Society's buildings and historic properties on the Old Town Square.
4. To encourage and promote educational activities designed to interpret and explain the county's rich and diverse historical past.
5. To oversee the staffing and operation of the Mary Miller Smiser Library.

The Schoolhouse Jammers

The Jammers will provide music before and after the Annual Meeting. Magical music in a historic setting.



Concerts in The Courthouse

October 5: Luehrman Shaffer and Check
October 26: The Brothers Kennedy
Music starts at 6 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Too often people forget the importance of keeping collections together for its providence. We are looking for volunteers who understand the importance of our mission. History is something to learn from, not to be thrown away.



OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

WE WILL...

1. Be tolerant and respectful of diverse stories from multiple perspectives.
2. Respect property rights.
3. Focus on authentic and engaging experiences.
4. Honor the region's peoples, past and present.
5. Appreciate unique cultural and historical assets within the nationally important landscape.
6. Invest in community engagement, education and empowerment.
7. Sustain and grow a sense of place.
8. Value and protect the natural environment.
9. Consider future generations in everything we do.

Writer's Workshop Held at JCHS

On August 24, 2024, a writer's workshop called "Writing History 101" was held at the Mary Miller Smiser Heritage Library.

The three-hour course concentrated on selecting topics, defining audience and purpose, research and writer perspective and bias.

As an example the Marsh Foster murder in the Old Courthouse was used to determine writer perspective and bias. The 1861 murder was the event called the first shot fired in Missouri at the beginning of the Civil War.

In the area of compiling and coordinating research, the importance of primary and secondary sources, like newspapers, census data and court documents, was emphasized. It was stressed how consulting sources from different newspapers and eras helps readers to understand how perspectives are different both in a contemporary setting and also in looking back at the past. Styles of writing were highlighted and a few ways to get your work published was discussed.

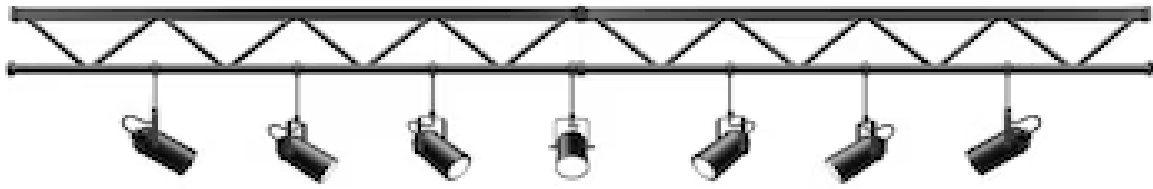
One attendee had a specific story from the KC area she had already been studying, and she shared some good anecdotes. **Board Member Anne Mallinson** shared an information sheet which explained the modern names of old diseases like dropsy, consumption and various edemas used throughout history. She also presented a section on finding historical sources.

"Writing History 101" will be repeated again in case you were unable to attend or did not see the announcement on Facebook. Watch for details, or contact us to get on a wait list.

Gregory D. Bontz is a freelance writer, researcher and journalist who worked on the UCM *Muleskinner* and other publications. He is providing stories about Johnson County History on the JCHS and Facebook websites. He is presently researching and writing a book on "The Lovinger Years at the University of Central Missouri: 1956-1979." He is also accepting personal recollections from the community about there CMSC/CMSU experiences under Warren C. Lovinger's presidency at doughbontz@gmail.com or 660-864-1846.

The collections at the JCHS in the Mary Miller Smiser Heritage Library are overflowing with stories about many families, perhaps your own. Please start recording the ones that you or your family experienced personally. And visit us to delve into others as you explore the files that have been carefully curated over many years by members who wanted our collective history to survive.





Volunteer Spotlight: Donna Holt**

We are thrilled to highlight the incredible contributions of Donna Holt, a lifelong resident of Johnson County, Missouri, who has been an active volunteer at the Historical Society since the 1980s. Over the years, Donna has held several pivotal roles, including Secretary, Treasurer, and most recently, Vice President on our Board of Directors. Her expertise in research has proven invaluable, often leading her to dig deep into the history of families in our community.

If you've ever asked for assistance in uncovering your family history, there's a good chance Donna was the one who took on the challenge. She approaches every inquiry with enthusiasm and a smile, driven by her passion for solving historical mysteries.

As her term on the board comes to an end, Donna remains committed to volunteering, eager to continue her vital work at the Historical Society.

Donna invites you to join her in this rewarding journey. If you have a knack for solving mysteries and a love for history, come volunteer alongside her and uncover your own historic discoveries!

Johnson County Newspapers of the Past and Their Slogans

Johnson Weekly Democrat—Men perish: Principles are Indestructible and Eternal.

Warrensburg Weekly Press—The Protection of Capital can Only be Secured Through the Protection of Labor.

The Western Missourian—Let All the Ends Thou Aimest at be Thy Country's Thy God's and Truth's.

The Weekly Union—A Political, Literary, and News Journal.

Warrensburg Journal—Error Ceases to be Dangerous when Reason is Left Free to Combat it.—*Jefferson*

The Warrensburg Standard—A Weekly Journal Devoted to Politics, Local and Current News of the Day.

The Holden Advance—Do the Right as God Gives You to See the Right.

The Leeton Times—When this Marked with an X Your Time is Out.

The Centerview Record—It Stands for the Best: It Dares to do Right.

La Monte, Chilhowee and other Warrensburg newspapers existed but no slogan was noted.

Mourning Old Drum

By Lisa Irle

1869-2024

The idea for this poem came from a letter I discovered years ago. It was to Mary Miller Smiser in the late 1950s from a relative conveying a first person memory of the family stories.



**Two Union vets at Big Creek did reside.
For the Union they had fought the good fight side by side.
Their heavy hearts still swelled with pride,
The tragic night that Old Drum died.**

**Charles Burden hunted with his gun and faithful hound
Lon Hornsby had some fine-bred sheep. Lying from a cruel attack,
Lying on cold autumn ground. His threats to punish that damned dog
were known throughout the town.**

**Another most intriguing fact that not so many know,
is Burden lost at least three wives, a crushing aching blow.
Each wife in turn a Hornsby, whose sister had passed on
Left Charlie and the little ones to bravely soldier on.**

**Each wife in turn a Hornsby, a sister to that Lon.
Each one had died in childbirth, next, sisterly duty done.
One child would often wander, away from hearth and home,
Into the apple orchard, the seeds of sadness sown.**

**And always when they found her, safe and not alone.
Curled in the warmth of her best friend beside a little stone
Golden haired and lovely, asleep on her Drum's side.
The ribs that took the buckshot the night that Old Drum died.**

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Don't forget to attend the ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING on October 13 at 2 p.m. at the Old Courthouse on the Johnson County Historical Society campus.

Come enjoy the *Schoolhouse Jammers* perform before and after the meeting.

Discovering Bowmansville: A Glimpse into a Historical Gem

by Joyce Dorell, Director

Tucked away off S Division Road, just three miles south of Warrensburg and a stone's throw from Fletcher Creek, lies the charming community of Bowmansville. This quaint settlement first emerged in 1880, founded by a German Baptist congregation that included the notable deacon, John Bowman.

John Bowman, a local merchant with a keen sense of community pride, was instrumental in naming the area "Bowmansville." By 1916, his efforts to have Bowmansville officially recognized on maps began to take shape, though the community at that time was modest, featuring just a store, a blacksmith and wagon shop, and a single residence. By 1927, Bowman had expanded his operations to include not only the store and blacksmith shop but also a mill. However, a 1929 business report still listed Bowmansville as home to a single merchant.

The heart of Bowmansville's history is intertwined with the German Baptist Church of Dunkards, which was established on August 3, 1880. Located just two miles south of Warrensburg, the original congregation included a diverse group of dedicated individuals: A. W. Reese, minister; John Bowman, deacon; and other founding members such as Joseph E. Lightner, William Mohler, and Nancy J. Roop, among others. Bowmansville's story reflects a close-knit community where early settlers worked together to build a thriving small settlement. Today, it stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of its founders and their commitment to their shared values and vision.

In Memoriam: David Bowman's Generous Legacy

David Bowman, born on October 22, 1936, in Warrensburg, was the beloved son of James F. and Laura (Krasse) Bowman and the grandson of the esteemed John Bowman. David's deep connection to his family's history and his appreciation for local heritage are

exemplified by his generous donation to the Johnson County Historical Society. In a heartfelt gesture, David donated a collection of cherished items and the remaining \$750 from his estate to the Historical Society, an organization he held in high regard and often visited. His contributions will help preserve the rich history of our community for future generations to enjoy.



Upper-right: Blacksmith Shop—J.W. Bowman J.F. Bowman and Jim Burford (1896).

Center-right: Bowmansville Grocery had all the staples a settler needed.

Lower-right: Bowmanville Gas Station (1955).

Lower-left: Two-year old David Bowman stands by his wagon

RENEWALS

Renew your memberships. Pay at the library or email at curator@jocomohistory.org

