

TROUTVILLE Tidbits



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The Wedding Dress

by Granville Grant

Fourteen years had passed, and I found myself looking at that wedding dress for the second time; the first was in the sanctuary of Locus Grove United Methodist Church. I could not believe that 14 years had passed and that she was going to part with the dress. The dress that took so many hours to select; the one that cost hundreds of dollars that we really did not have.

The event was the 2008 Troutville Annual Yard Sale at the Town Park, and this year was our first. It was a beautiful day – the sun was coming up over the mountain, the air was cool, and there were vehicles, people and wares from one end of the park to the other. The grass was green, the flowers were red and yellow, and the dress was a brilliant white in all its glory. The dress with poofy shoulders, the veil with intricate detail and finally, the train...that long white garment that follows the dress, the veil and the beautiful bride.

My wife and son had not arrived at the sale yet, allowing me to set up and display all of our valuables to the public. So, there I stood with all our stuff, including the dress. I was a little uncomfortable opening the box and displaying the dress for all to see; I wasn't sure how to do it. Thankfully my wife arrived and displayed the dress appropriately.

Then it happened. I saw them coming up the path, and knew right away that it was a future bride and groom. You could see all the excitement in their faces. The bride's mother was present too, and she walked up and picked up the dress. I could feel my heart pounding in my chest. This was one of those moments of a lifetime!

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Field Trip to Town Hall

Frankie Doyle's second grade class from Troutville Elementary School made their annual visit to the Town Hall on Monday, June 9th. Mayor Rader talked to the group about the town's history and answered questions. The group also looked at Troutville history scrapbooks and posters compiled by Len Miller. After leaving the Town Hall, the group toured the Fire Station and Rescue Squad building, and then went to the Town Park for a picnic.

Senior Swing Dinner Dance

By Dottie Henry

The Troutville Town Hall was the place to be for Seniors over 70 on May 24th. Guests were greeted by valet parkers Mayor Bill Rader, Cecil Bingham and Colin Walthall for a free dinner dance. As folks arrived through a balloon arch, they received name tags from greeters Jan Smith and Thelma Stephens, who ushered them to an interesting memorial display by Len Miller, the town historian.

The formal tables were beautiful with blue place mats decorated by students from Troutville Elementary School; a floral centerpiece was provided by Len Miller. Candles and ceiling tree lights created a romantic atmosphere.

A delicious roast pork dinner, smothered in curried fruit, was served to 52 people by waitresses Sybille Nelson, Melissa and Stephanie Martin, Peggy Combs, Lee Minnix and Mary Jane Newcomb wearing vintage aprons, and waiters Mayor Bill, Cecil and Colin sporting bow ties. The ladies in the kitchen were Dottie Henry, Brenda Myers, Alta Cole, and Vickie & Ashley Clark.

After a dessert of assorted trays of cakes and pies, the program began with solos by Dottie Henry and Connie Francis (a.k.a. Lee Minnix). Other singers who jumped out of their seats to form a quartette were Mary Jane Newcomb, Bob Young and Judy Krough. The veterans present were recognized, and everyone sang "God Bless America" with Rose Young on the piano. As the evening progressed, several folks danced the line dance, step dance and jitterbug; Will and Shirley Stinnett also called the square dance.

The evening was a smashing success! Many thanks to all the volunteers and the clean up crew – Mayor Bill & Pam Rader, Mary Jane Newcomb, Len Miller, the Martin girls and Kountry Katering.

Happy July 4th!!!

As you celebrate America's freedom and independence by attending picnics and enjoying fireworks, please also take time to remember our men and women in the military who continue to fight for freedom in other parts of the world.

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