

# Lowell Davis Collectors Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 4

July – September 2010



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In this issue of my collector’s newsletter you will find the latest updates on Red Oak II, an article on the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Farm Girl Fest at Red Oak II, an article on the 2010 Midwest Gathering of the Artists and several articles for collectors of my art.

My new art book, “The Dalton Gang, up to their old antics again” is completed. The book will be available for purchase in e-Book format via download or on CD. We have chosen this format to be able to offer the book at a reasonable price and in the highest quality. This also appears to be the way publishing is going being made possible by low cost computers, e-Book readers and high speed internet access. We will send more details when the e-Book is available. My Snow Folks book will be also be made available an e-Book.

Alan Denton is the winner of the 2010 Q3 Collectors Quiz. Alan’s prize is my Border Fine Arts figurine “Proud Papa”.

If you or someone else that you know are not on the list to receive my newsletter and, please send us an email: [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net). You can view and download all issues of my newsletter at: [www.redoakiimissouri.com](http://www.redoakiimissouri.com).

Remember you are always welcome to visit Red Oak II.

Your friend,

*Lowell Davis*

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**Red Oak II Updates**

**Greetings from Lowell**



Lowell and his new dog Kip

Hello my friends!

I hope you all had a nice summer and are in the best of health.

As you can see from the above photo, I have a new dog. We named him Kip. He is a great little guy and gets along with Oggie, Fido and Geisha as well as all the other dogs and cats at Red Oak II. He also has no interest in chasing my chickens and other farm animals!!

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Like much of the Midwest, it was very hot and dry at Red Oak II this summer. The lawns are still green but the ponds are almost dried up.



Red Oak II pond with very low water level

It was a very good summer for tourists at Red Oak II, with the majority being from Europe, Asia and Australia. Many of these are following historic Route 66 across America. Before coming to the USA they do their homework on places to visit along Route 66, one of those being Red Oak II.



There was a lot of restoration work going on at Red Oak II this summer. Lowell provided the following updates:

### Plumber's Nightmare

A new addition to Red Oak II, actually not so much new but reconstructed, is Lowell's junk sculpture which he calls the Plumber's Nightmare. The original location of Lowell's Plumber's Nightmare was in front of the restaurant



Plumber's Nightmare originally in front of restaurant

but this summer Lowell moved it to the front yard of his Belle Starr House.



Plumber's Nightmare now by Lowell's Belle Starr House

Lowell says that the problem with it being by the restaurant was the kids climbing on it and adjusting the faucets. This resulted in some of the faucets pouring out full force while others just kind of dribbling. Now that it's setting in Lowell's front yard he says that he can

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sit on his front porch with his BB gun and pop the little buggers if they try tampering with it (just kidding of course).

### Port-A-Privy

Over the past few years, Lowell's "Port-A-Privy", a privy on wheels, had deteriorated significantly. Lowell sold his Port-A-Privy to Lois and Larry Frickenschmidt and Lois has had it restored and painted in John Deere green and yellow. Now it proudly sits at the front gate at the entrance to Red Oak II along with a John Deere tractor, like a happy face greeting tourists. European visitors to Red Oak II love to have their photos taken riding the John Deere tractor. Thanks to Lois and Larry for restoring this little beauty.



Lowell's Port-A-Privy

### Acorns

Back in the 30's and 40's, times were hard and farmers that lived on the old Route 66 would sit on their porches watching the cars as they passed by. Pa would turn to Ma and say "Ma, what can we do to get all these cars passing by to stop and give us some extra income?" Some decided to set up cafés and others set up automobile garages or gas stations. There was one such gas station along old Route 66 just a mile or so from Red Oak II and the owners

thought that they could earn a little extra income by putting up a tourist cabin. A year or two later they added a second cabin for additional income. These cabins were little more than shelters from the storm with an outdoor privy located close by.

In the late 1980's, Lowell moved these two little cabins, the Acorns, and privy to Red Oak II along with a Phillips 66 gas station and restored them. This summer, Lois and Larry Frickenschmidt acquired the Phillips 66 gas station and Acorns. They have been working on repairing the siding and trim and giving a fresh coat of paint to the Acorns, bringing them back to their original state of grandeur. They are now fit for a king.



The Acorns sign



Acorn Unit 1 after renovations

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Acorn Unit 2 after renovations



Parsonage after summer 2010 renovations

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**Frank Yant House**

Red Oak II residents Jack and Judy Knudsen have been working hard to renovate their Frank Yant House. As you can see in the below photo, they have done an outstanding job. It's a real beauty.



Frank Yant House

**Parsonage**

The Parsonage which is just south of the Salem Church also had a face lift this summer. This included repairs to the sliding and trim and a fresh coat of paint. Doesn't she look great!!

**Farm Girl Fest 2010**

The third annual Farm Girl Fest was held at Red Oak II on Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19. The weather was great and Rose estimates there were more than 300 individuals who attended over the 2 days. There were 40 vendors selling all sorts of homemade crafts, art and home cooked food. Demonstrations included spinning, weaving, a corn mill and a Dutch Oven. There was music outside the Salem Church and wagon rides around Red Oak II. For the kids, there were games to play such as toss the can. And of course, Lowell was proudly showing off his newly restored Plumber's Nightmare.



Lowell being interviewed before the Farm Girl Fest

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Arts and crafts vendor tent



Fresh lemonade stand



Food vendor tent



Lowell autographing his books

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## Midwest Gathering of the Artists

This year's Midwest Gathering of the Artists was a great success. It was held at Memorial Hall in Carthage MO on Friday, September 10 and Saturday, September 11. There was some concern going into the event because of the weak economy and the new schedule for the event. This year the art show and sale was held all day Friday and on Saturday morning and then the art auction followed on Saturday evening. Having the artists' auction pieces on display during the art show allowed potential buyers to have a good look at them in advance of the auction.



Music by Salem Church



Spinning demonstration

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MGA art show and sale

Lowell said that in general the artists did well at the sale and auction and went home happy. Lowell's auction painting was entitled "Motherhood".



Lowell with his MGA auction painting "Motherhood"

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### Grandma's Old but She's Slow

John Miller has been a collector of Lowell's art for many years and has been coming to Carthage for the Midwest Gathering of the Artists for 25 years. John bought many of Lowell's auction pieces at the MGA over the years. This September when John was visiting Red Oak II after the MGA, he wanted to buy one of the paintings that Lowell had hanging in his house. He tried to get Lowell to put a price on it but Lowell said he wouldn't sell the painting that John wanted. However Lowell offered to trade it for a painting that John had purchased from Lowell at the MGA in 1997. Lowell had reluctantly

sold that painting at the auction and had never forgotten it and had always longed to get it back. John agreed to trade and now the painting proudly hangs in Lowell's studio.

This awesome painting which Lowell painted in 1997 is of four crows (rooks) sitting around a table playing the card game Rook. Lowell entitled the painting "Grandma's Slow but She's Old" because three of the crows are getting impatient waiting for grandma to play her card.



Grandma's Slow but She's Old  
by Lowell Davis (1997)

Be sure to ask Lowell to show this painting to you next time you are at Red Oak II and maybe play a game of Rook with Lowell.



We will scan this painting so that we can make Giclée prints of it available.

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## Lowell Davis Egg Holders

Schmid did a series of six Lowell Davis Egg Holders featuring different birds: African goose, chicken, duck, guinea pigeon, and turkey. Originally they came with porcelain eggs but these often got separated from the holders or were broken. They are affordable and come up for sale occasionally. They make a nice addition to any Lowell Davis collection.



African Goose Egg Holder



Chicken Egg Holder



Duck Egg Holder



Guinea Egg Holder



Pigeon Egg Holder



Turkey Egg Holder

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## Nasty Stuff

Lowell can make the most simple things into works of art. An example of this is a wooden tissue box entitled "Nasty Stuff" which Lowell custom painted and inscribed following along the theme of the figurine by that same name.

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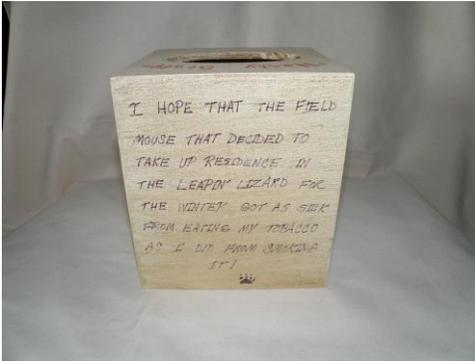
Custom built and painted "Nasty Stuff" tissue box



Corn Cob Pipe signed by Lowell Davis in 1995

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Recent Lowell Davis Sightings



"Nasty Stuff" figurine

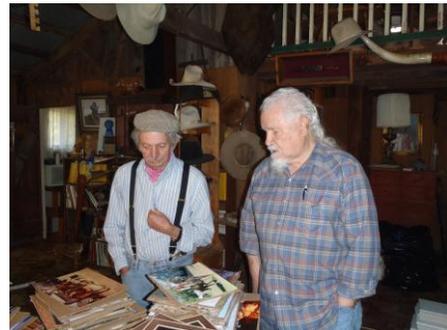
Lowell often signed his used corn cob pipes for his collectors.



Lowell in front of Red Oak II General Store



Lowell with his sister Evelyn and brother Ivan



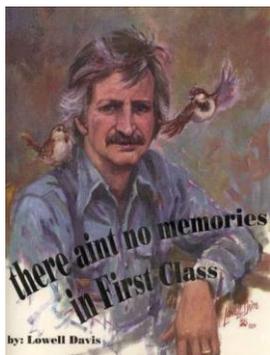
Lowell visiting artist friend Bob Tommey in his studio

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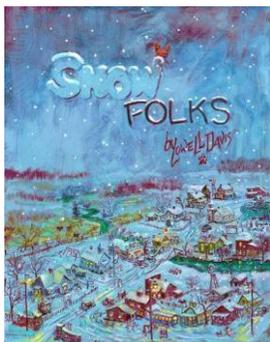
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## Lowell Davis Books

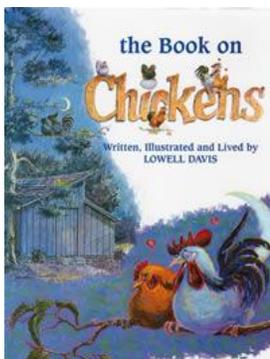
Lowell's autobiography and art story books are a must have for Lowell Davis collectors.



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](mailto:redoakrose@redoakii.com).

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## 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 via email to:

[lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net). Attach photos too. We will put your story in a future edition of the newsletter.

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

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## Collectors Exchange

Here's a link to the new Lowell Davis Collectors Exchange: <http://www.redoakiimissouri.com/index/collectors-resources/lowell-davis-collectors-exchange.html>

We have had a good response to the Collectors Exchange so far. A number of individuals have listed pieces that they want to sell including one listing of a complete collection. 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,

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buy or swap in our Collectors Exchange,  
just email: [lowelldaviscollectors@att.net](mailto:lowelldaviscollectors@att.net).

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## **Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz**

### ***Winner of Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q3***

The winner of the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q2 was Alan Denton of CA. Alan's prize is the beautiful Border Fine Arts cold cast porcelain figurine entitled "Proud Papa":



Congratulations Alan!!

### ***Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q4***

For the 2010 Q4 Lowell Davis Collectors quiz, the winner will receive a Lowell Davis Pigeon Egg Holder produced by Schmid:



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 ET on December 31, 2010. The winner will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter.

Lowell provided the following questions for the 2010 Q4 Lowell Davis Collectors quiz:

- 1) What is the name of Lowell's truck?
- 2) Where is Lowell's tombstone located?
- 3) What is the name of motor home that Lowell used to drive around the country in?
- 4) What are the names of Lowell's current dogs?
- 5) What was the name that Lowell used during his cartooning years?

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

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## Contact Us

**Lowell and Rose Davis, Red Oak II:**

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

[lowelldavis@redoakii.com](mailto:lowelldavis@redoakii.com)  
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**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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Thanks to Rose Davis for a number of  
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