

ESTABLISHED JULY, 1936

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Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

Burnsville will ever be an unceasing store of surprises for me. All of them pleasant, thank the Lord. You take this recent visit that Blanche and I made. I learned something. I learned that the Churches are friendly. You people may not be amazed by such a fact but we were. Born and raised and working in big cities like I have been for the first fifty-seven years of my life, I accepted the fact that a person either went to Church or else he didn't. I paid no mind to whether folks went or stayed at home. The people in the congregation felt the same way about me, I guess.

Burnsville is different.

I had the happy experience of visiting three different Churches for Services. All of them were truly soul-filling. However, I am not going to talk about any of them except the Baptist Service. My reason for so doing is that a good friend of mine mentioned that I had mentioned the Methodists, Lutherans, and Catholics recently but had neglected the Baptists. Therefore, with this article, I hope to make amends.

On a Friday evening, the opening of the second play at the Playhouse, my friend Dover Fouts introduced me to Brother McDonald, the Preacher at the Baptist Church. After expressing my happiness at meeting him, I just couldn't refrain from telling him about years ago, when the Playhouse was a new operation, how the various clergyman in Town didn't think or speak too highly of the place, or the people who conducted it and acted there. After a bit of conversation, Brother McDonald invited me to his Sunday Service.

I arrived at Church about two minutes before eight and took a seat in the back pew. To my amazement, several of my good friends and neighbors came over and shook my hand and made me feel real welcome. The Service commenced, as most of you doubtless know, when Phil Ray's wife came out and played the organ solo. She was surprised to see the stranger in their midst but she covered it real well and hardly anyone noticed the loud note she struck. Then the Choir came out. Well — now I have known Arney and Trena Fox for the 17 years we have been coming to Burnsville but I feel certain that they were a bit non-plussed to see me in the vineyard, albeit, they were pleased about it. True, Arney was two notes behind the rest of the Choir in getting started, but Trena gave him a hardly noticeable nudge with her elbow, and he caught up with them real quick.

Now I figure I must have attended over 3,000 Religious Services in my lifetime but in all seriousness I don't know any I

have enjoyed more. Brother McDonald preached a sermon on stealing. He presented some angles that the average man would not think about. He made you do a little soul-searching. As a result, you sort of convicted yourself. He made a splendid presentation. One example he gave, in the form of a story, I have to repeat to you. It had to do with a gentleman who was training his son to take over the business. He was explaining "business ethics" to the lad and he cited the example that a man made a quick purchase of a six dollar article, received four dollars in change, and then ran out of the store, boarded a bus and left town. "Now," said the father, "as you go to put the money in the cash register, you notice that it is a one hundred dollar bill instead of a ten dollar note you thought it was." He wagged his finger in the son's face and continued, "That brings up an ethical decision for you to make, my son. You have to decide whether you should mention this to your partner or not."

It was a fine sermon.

After Services, Mrs. Hamrick, who I have known ever since I came here, introduced me to several people. (I know when she sees her name here she will be worried about whether I am going to mention the fact that she came to Services a bit late. I am not going to do it, so she can stop worrying. She wasn't real late anyhow. We had just sung a couple of Hymns and had a few readings, and I am certain that under the theory of "Better late than never" everyone excused her. That is the reason I am not going to mention it.)

After Services, I stood in front and finally met Brother McDonald's family, along with other people, and felt I had spent a delightful Sunday evening. I look forward to the future years when Blanche and I take up our permanent residence here. We will visit all of the Congregations, in the spirit of ecumenism that prevails in Burnsville and, who knows, one day I may see what our great Baptist former-President Harry Truman, stated to look forward to seeing: "A Baptist who would take a drink in front of another Baptist."

'Everybody Loves Opal' A Reality

The plays being given at the Parkway Playhouse continue of high quality, well produced, and are drawing good audiences. "EVERYBODY LOVES OPAL"

last week's show, was one of the best yet. It was exceptionally well cast, with Blanche Kelly as Opal Kronkie, a warm hearted woman who might be called a "scavenger". She goes out each day with her little red wagon, and brings in all kinds of junk until her room is literally running over. One of the most amusing things is the ten bags which she hangs on a line to dry after each use. She is ably assisted by Mister Tanner, her cat; Sharon Boswell, as Gloria, Joe Coleman, Jr., as Bradford, Bill King as Solomon, James Kuntz as a police officer and Opal's very good friend, Lauren K. Woods turns in his usual fine performance as the Doctor.

Gloria, Bradford and Solomon are all involved in a fake perfume racket, and after being raided move in on Opal to set up their business. They get the idea of taking out a large life insurance policy on Opal, and knocking her off. However, their plot backfires when first Gloria becomes too fond of her to carry through. Next Solomon is overcome by Opal's kindness and backs down, and only Bradford, the intellectual of the group, is left, and after one vain attempt on her life, he, too repents, and in the end they are just one happy family.

Chicken Barbecue Growing Bigger Each Year

There are 1,200 less hungry people and 600 less chickens in this area since the chicken barbecue held at the Craftsmen Festival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce recently.

This method of feeding people was started here several years ago by the Extension Office as a method of promoting the increased consumption of poultry.

From the reports of satisfied customers it seems that the chicken was delicious and the demand has about doubled each year.

Many reports have been received for the sauce recipe. E. L. Dillingham, County Extension Chairman said that any individual or group wishing a copy of the sauce recipe and directions for barbecuing chicken can secure a copy by calling or writing the Yancey County Extension Office in the Courthouse. The office is room number 17, Box 266, or phone 682-2113.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edge, who headed the chicken barbecue dinner for the Chamber of Commerce's fund project during the Craft Festival and Fair, would like to express their appreciation to all who gave so generously of their time during the entire day.

This includes the cooks, waitresses, cleaner-uppers, and all who performed many other menial tasks that are necessary in putting over a project of this kind, and especially making it the great success that it was.

Without the assistance of so many kind people the sale would not have gone over as it did, and there would have been a lot of hungry people standing around on the square.

We are happy to report that the treasury of the Chamber of Commerce is in a much healthier condition because of the efforts of so many kind people.

Scenes From the Fair

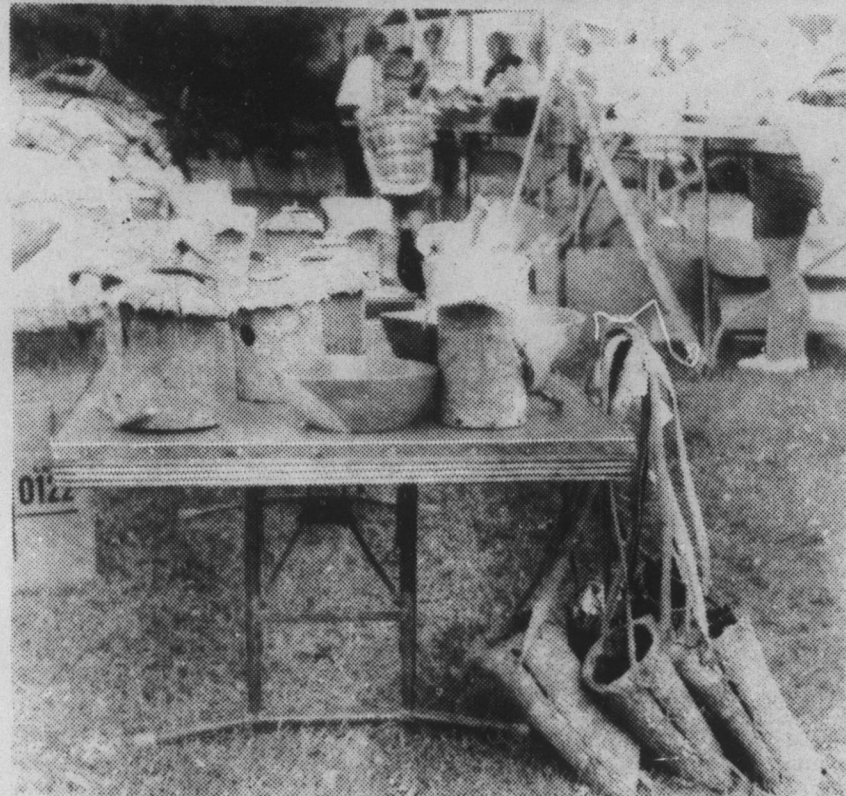


The App'e Cider Singers consisting of Jerry Clevenger, Margaret Riddle, Amelia Penland,

Ramona Penland and John Penland performing at the Crafts Fair.

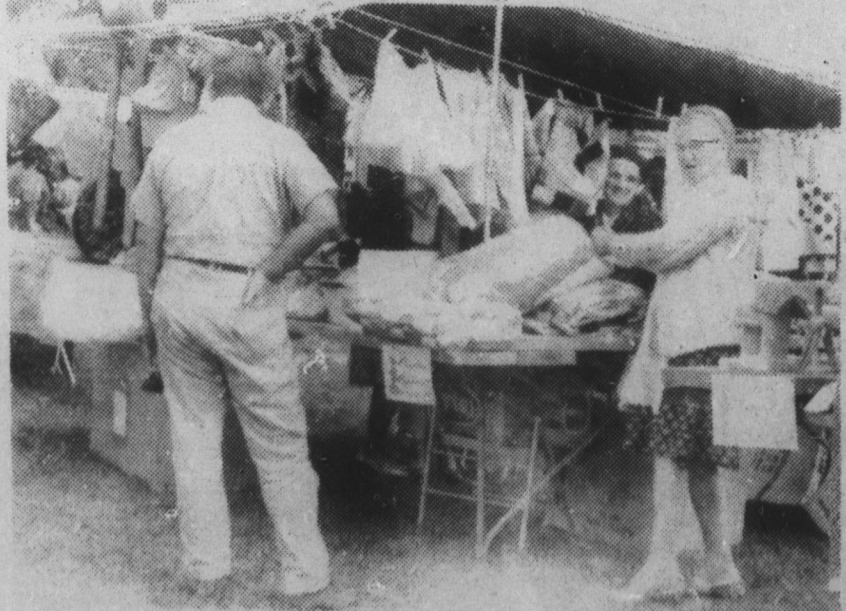


Mrs. Lela Howell, Mitchell Craft Specialist, manning a booth of WAMY crafts.



More crafts produced by WAMY. Bird houses of poplar bark by Floyd Gragg of Grandfather Mountain, wooden bowls by

Jessie Stines of Banner Elk, and mountain berry picking baskets by Chester Chrisawn of Mica-ville.



Mrs. Bertha Bennett displays her own home-crafted quilts, pillow tops, and various items