

REMINISCENCE

ON THE ROAD IN 1949

Walter Walker
Andover High School '49
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Sunday, September 11, found us staying in bed until 8:15. After breakfast and the dishes, we cleaned out the car, did some repair work, and put some decals on the rear windows, which were just about full by now. After the mid-day meal, the Conants took us to Moundville, which used to be an old Indian village. The museum had been built over an old burial ground, and there were skeletons and pottery all around, as well as other artifacts. Back at the Conant's, we had supper and the usual routine and went to bed around 11 PM.

On Monday, the 12th, we got up real early and, after breakfast and the dishes, we went looking for work; again and again no luck. But back at the Conant's later, we learn that the carload of lumber is in, and we can work unloading it. We drive to the plant and find a bigger train car than we had expected, with about 19,000 board feet in it. The owner of the plant, which made furniture, will pay us \$3 a thousand to unload that lumber. We rented a U-Haul truck, and after lunch went to work and kept at it until 7 PM. We took much needed baths, had supper, and hit the sack at 10:30 PM.

We were up early again on the 13th and after breakfast went and rented the truck again and worked on the lumber 'til noon. After a lunch of two hamburgers and a quart of milk each, we went back to work and finished the job at 1:45 PM. We got paid, took the truck back, and got cleaned up. I wrote some letters, then did some washing, and we helped get supper. "Did the dishes, then played double solitaire. What a game, especially when five people play," says my diary.

Wednesday, the 14th, found us up at 6:30 AM helping get breakfast and then the dishes, and next I did some laundry. Next, we went and cut some more brush

for the lady friend of the Conants and went for a swim after. Poor Skip lost his ring in the pool.

After lunch at the Conant's, we went to see a man about tarring his roof, but he was not home, so we gassed up the Olds and returned to our home-away-from-home and mowed some of their lawns. We also washed our car, took



This is how the Conant Family looked nine months before the Andover boys showed up.

baths, and had supper. This was followed by another game of cards and then bed at 10 PM.

I should step away from my diary a minute and talk about the two Conant girls. I cannot recall their ages, but I remember the oldest, Mary Lou, had breasts when we were there and was entertaining her younger sister, Harriet, one evening by jumping up and down in front of a mirror in their bedroom, and Harold caught a glimpse of this as he came back from the upstairs bathroom. This involved a lot of laughter on the girls' part, and before Skip and I could enjoy the show, their mother Georgie called up and put an end to the fun.

Louis was the father's name, and he was a rock. He was the one who got us the lumber job. The family had been there for a long time, so the girls and their friends had that beautiful old-time southern accent, and we used to have a lot of fun comparing our "talk" with all those young girls.

We loved every minute we spent with them, and I think they enjoyed our company as much as we enjoyed theirs.

Sadly, our Great Adventure ends with the next installment.

Tuttle from page 12

three sons: John, Jerry, and James.

In 1995, the Homestead was sold to Patrick and Christine Frost after being in the Tuttle and Thompson families for 165 years. Today, it is owned by Frank and Justine Puliafico.

Fun Notes of Interest

Weare Drake Tuttle's name is written on a stained glass window in the East Andover church.

It has been told that Weare and Ellen

attended Lincoln's second inauguration in 1865.

It has been said that Lincoln visited the Tuttle family farm in Effingham.

Issa taught at the Tucker Mountain School for one year in 1887. She and Stella are present in the photo published in Ralph Chaffee's book.

It has been said that Stella was the first woman in Andover to cast a vote, in 1920.

Stella was a prolific artist and crafter.

Historical Society Buildings in Potter Place Opening for the Season

Weekends, Memorial Day to Columbus Day

Judy Perreault
Andover Historical Society

Spring is just around the corner, and so is the opening of the Andover Historical Society museum buildings in Potter Place. The railroad station, the JC Emons Store, and the caboose will be open on Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29, from 10 PM to 3 PM and will continue every weekend until Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9. Watch for the sign on Route 11.

The windows in the general store have been redecorated, as well as a new exhibit inside. The caboose has its new coat of paint and is very eye-catching. Railroad enthusiasts will especially enjoy the large collection of items in the railroad station. The Station Master will be happy to show you around.

Andover is very fortunate to have these historical buildings as well as dedicated volunteers to maintain and

staff them. Don't miss a chance to look back on Andover's history. Bring your family and friends. I am sure they will find it interesting.

The freight shed will also be open on Saturdays from 10 AM to 2 PM from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend. We have a wide assortment of items for sale in the freight shed including tools, furniture, dishes, toys, jewelry, lamps, and other odds and ends. New items are arriving all the time.

We do accept items that are in good condition. It is best to check ahead of time.

This is a good fundraiser for the Society and a good way to furnish homes, camps, apartments, and dorm rooms at bargain prices.

To keep all of this staffed, we need more volunteers. Please consider giving a couple of hours on a weekend to help us keep these unique buildings open.

For more information or to volunteer, call Gail Richards at 603 498-6439.

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