

**On the Trail Again** Tennessee - Lawrenceburg, Linden, Jackson March 2011

Our destination was west Tennessee; we thought we would make it to Memphis for the night. We went through Lawrenceburg upon someone's suggestion that there was an antique store there. Going toward the center of town (we usually want to see the County Courthouse if there is one), we saw a period home with pots of geraniums already blooming. Ray noted that there was a sign for an antique store: **Mable's Antiques**. We rang the bell thinking we would find a variety of Tennessee furniture. Little did we know that we would find an incredible Victorian heaven. The rooms were filled with Meissen, Dresden, lamps, settees, etc. One cannot grasp the numbers of items unless you actually go there. Photos do not do it justice. More than that, Mable and her husband are delightful! Ray and I feel we have new best friends!



We spent all afternoon with Mable learning about her wonderful collection. Mable has local customers as well as customers from all over the nation; some of those customers are famous! We stayed the night in Lawrenceburg.

The next morning, we found Steve, the owner of **New Moon Antique Mall** on the square.



He was the Lawrenceburg welcoming committee. He shared the local history and other items of interest about Lawrenceburg. While I was in the New Moon Mall, Gary Powell came in and bought a \$5 bill; he had been looking for one of those for seven or eight years! He was sooo excited that it was a 1963 series; apparently it is very important as to whether it is a "United States Note" or a "Federal Reserve Note".

**Candy's Memories** captured my attention because her memories were many of mine! You will love her collections.



Candy had two children's cabinets that were charming! The one on the right is a Hoosier!

We had a WONDERFUL lunch at **Shirley Clark's Square Forty Restaurant** which is also on the square in Lawrenceburg. I have not eaten over 2 bites of turnip greens in 30 years; however, I asked for a second bowl of greens! I can see why the governor and other dignitaries have visited this restaurant for 35 years. See the photo of Shirley on the left in the red suit. Also, see the photos below of the cooks and some of the many local "satisfied customers".





As much as we loved Lawrenceburg, we had to leave. I really wanted to take the train, but it didn't go to the next antique store!

The next whistle stop was in Hohenwald at Memory Junction Antique Co. Here's my favorite item in the store:



Memory Junction recommended the Commodore Hotel and Café. We stayed at the vintage 1939, restored hotel in Linden, Tennessee. The County Courthouse is in the foreground with the hotel in the background. Linden is a very nice town with recreation opportunities on the Buffalo River.



We had a great breakfast in the hotel and met a new set of friends! Linden has a yearly Blooming Arts Festival in the spring. The artist who created the banner with the iris in the above picture is in the picture below.



Early in the morning, we were on our way to Jackson...that Johnny Cash song would not leave my mind! “We got married in a fever, hotter than a pepper sprout, We’ve been talkin’ ‘bout Jackson...” Ray knew the words; the only part I could remember was “bout Jackson”!

We found **three** large antique malls in Jackson: find these military items at Yarbros Mall, eat popcorn while you shop at Butler’s Mall, stop for lunch at Carriage House Café at Carriage House Mall. Brays Antique Mall was at nearby Pinson; go to the back of the store for rooms full of antiques! Don’t miss the shop that looks like something out of a movie (inside and out) at Yesterdays in downtown Jackson.



Find all these shops on [TennesseeAntiqueTrail.com](http://TennesseeAntiqueTrail.com)  
Happy Trails, *Marcia*