

President's Corner: Dear BUCC members and friends of the club, January was a dreary month here in West Virginia not offering many photography opportunities, except maybe for old and abandoned shots, which is our newsletter theme for February. We again thank all those who sent in their photos for this edition. It is fantastic to have great friends who share their work.

Some accumulating snow is finally in the forecast for us. So club members are looking forward to capturing the beauty it creates. Our club is planning a Valentine's snow photo trip, if you would like to join us just send Al Tucker an email. See details on the next page. We have begun planning for this year's Strawberry Festival Photo Contest. We'll provide detailed contest information in our March edition, and we hope several of you will participate this year.

To our members, we have some excellent programs scheduled for the year. We encourage you to bring a friend who might be interested in photography as we are focusing on practical learning presentations. We are pleased that Dennis Govoni from Vienna, Virginia will be joining us in April and will teach us how to take quality macro photos. Until next time, be focused! Carrie

Newsletter Features: This month's edition includes two major photo features plus our regular update on club activities and our monthly piece of one of our WV150 book contributors. The first major photo gallery includes our members and friends' individual 2014 favorite photos. Then we showcase the "old and abandoned" photos submitted by our readers. We hope you enjoy their photos and they inspire you to send one or two for future editions.

Cover Photo: Below is our "Old and Abandoned" cover photo. It was chosen because of the story associated with the image. As you travel the back roads of this country, you often see abandoned vehicles and equipment in a field, in the woods, in front of homes and farms or at an old work site. How did the get there? Why were they left there? These are questions that often come to mind when you see these eye sores. Here is the story behind one such vehicle.

The photo was taken by Jess Clark, who lives in Nallen, an unincorporated community in Fayette and Nicholas Counties, WV (about 12 miles from Summersville). It was taken at the Old Haynes farm, which is adjacent to Jess' farm. Here is the story: *"In 1942 a young soldier bought this old car and only drove it a short time before he was called off to war. The car was parked in front of the old home place (long ago torn down) where he lived with his elderly parents. The young man was killed in battle, and the car was never moved again."* A sad story that reminds us that "freedom is never free." It was won by heroes like the one that once drove this car.



Fallen Soldier's Legacy – Jess Clark

Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club

c/o John Simons, PO Box 5, Adrian, WV 26210

Upcoming Club Activities & News

Next Meeting

February 26 @ 6:30 p.m. – Nathan Symons – Know Your Camera

Remainder 2104 Program Schedule

March – Laura Meese – Hands on portrait shooting
April – Dennis Govoni – Macro-photography
May – Al Tucker – Photoshop Elements
June – TBD – Know your camera for sunrise/sunset shooting
July – Picnic @ Mary Hull's with sunset shooting
August – Shooting & Processing RAW
September – Lightroom
October – Nighttime & low light photography
November – Member showcase & 2016 planning
December – Christmas party

2015 Photo of the Month Topics

February – Snow scenes
March – Doors/doorways
April – Portraits
May – Macro
June – Bridges
July – Fireworks
August – Sunrises/sunsets
September – Water
October – Barns
November – Spooky stuff
December – Pets

Upcoming Photo Trips

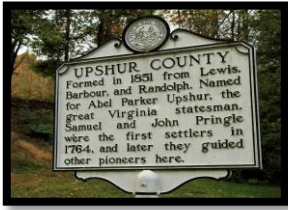
Early-Mid February – Winter/snow scene shoot – Seneca Rocks & Germany Valley
April – Macro shoot – Holly River or Canaan Valley
June – Golden Palace, Grave Creek Mound & Old State Penitentiary in Marshall County
August – Summer wildflowers, location TBD
October – Babcock State Park & New River Gorge

Club Officers

President – Carrie Mills
Vice Presidents – Nathan Symons
Secretary – Mary Orndorff
Treasurer – Nancy Marks
Website/Facebook – John Simons
Newsletter Editor – Al Tucker

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bucameraclub.com



BUCC Activities Update

Club Meeting – Our monthly meeting was held on January 22. We had a smaller turnout than normal. Several members thought the meeting was on the last Thursday of the month, but it is on the fourth Thursday and there were five in January. We had a good meeting though with lots of good discussion. In addition to regular business items, here's a brief synopsis of issues discussed:

- **Strawberry Festival Photo Contest:** John Simons handed out the draft flyer/brochure. There were two major items and changes that we discussed and approved. Both changes were unanimously approved after a good discussion on them.
 - We decided to drop the "Creative" category as it rarely receives very many entries, and we replaced it with a "General" category.
 - The next item dealt with display of photos. We decided to **not** allow any special type of photo presentation, i.e., metal photos, gallery wraps, or any other type of presentation, other than regularly matted photos or photos mounted on poster board. We want to minimize the impact that more costly presentation formats can have on the final results and to ensure the quality of the photos is judged without being influenced by special mounting techniques.
 - One other item discussed was the selection of judges and we decided it best to select judges that are not members of the club to maximize the impartiality of judging. We will try to finalize our judges over the next 30-45 days and will aim for a total of three.
- **George W. Glennie Nature Salon Interclub Photo Competition:** John made a last call for photos for this year's competition. This will be our fourth entry in as many years. We have gone from 27th the first year, to 17th two years ago, and 12th last year. Our goal is to crack the top ten this year. We have had a good submittal of candidate photos from members this year. John and Al will select the ten finalists to meet the February 4th entry deadline. Thanks to all who submitted photos and keep your fingers crossed that we crack the top ten. We'll include this year's submittal in March's newsletter.
- **Club Winter Wonderland Photo Trip:** We decided to take our winter photo tour on February 14th, Valentine's Day, depending on the availability of snow. If there is no any snow, then we'll push the trip off a week. Our destination is also depends on where the snow is. If there is snow, we will go to Seneca Rocks and Champe Rocks, then travel through the Germany Valley via back roads stopping at scenic spots and along the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River. Depending upon visibility, we will see both the North Fork Mountain and Spruce Knob in the distance. We will also go to Judy Gap to shoot the parallel Tuscarora Sandstone formations. We can stop for hot coffee and a snack at The Gateway Restaurant rear Riverton. We have 9 folks so far who indicated they will go. Come and join us.
- **Monthly program:** This month we had a two-fold program: Photography Basics by John Simons and Snow Photography by Al Tucker. We had lots of good discussion, and Al and John will make their handouts available to club members. Al offered to provide coaching tips to Canon users who are planning on going on the Winter Photo Tour in February.
- **Photo of the Month:** Nancy Marks was the runaway winner of the POTM contest. Photo will be shown in March's edition. Congrats Nancy.

Friends of the Club: We picked up another dozen or so new friends this past month, keeping us in the low 600 number. With all 50 states on board, we added our first U.S. territory in **Guam** and our first South American country in **Guatemala**, which brings us back to seven countries: Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, and South Korea. We were in Afghanistan for a year when a few our heroes were stationed there. But, thank God, they are safely home. Our goal is to try to obtain friends in 20 or more countries this year. That is aggressive, but with your help we can reach it.

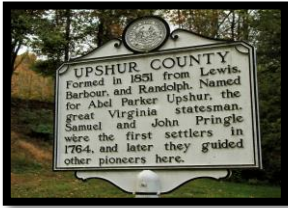
Club Donations: Our club was pleased to repay the kindness that a couple of local organizations extended to the club and its members over the years. President Carrie gave the Upshur County Senior Center a \$200 check for their great support in allowing us to use the facility for our monthly meetings and to host the annual Strawberry Festival photo exhibit. Carrie presented the check to Allen Cook, the Center Director. Carrie also presented a \$200 check to Laura Meese of the Buckhannon Community Theater group. For the past two years, the BCT has allowed our members to photograph dress rehearsals with very close access to the stage. We appreciate both group's strong support of our club.



Carrie with Allen Cook, Upshur County Senior Center Director

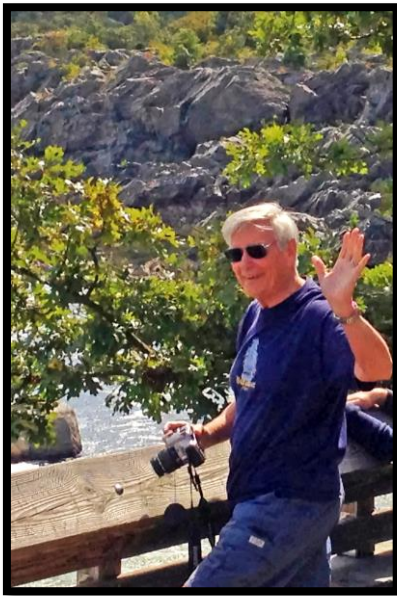


Carrie with Laura Meese of the Buckhannon Community Theater



WV150 Book Contributor of the Month

This month we introduce you to Dick Hepler from Morgantown. We appreciate Dick for his strong support these past few years and are proud to showcase him this month. Dick believes he may be the oldest of our WV150 book contributors, so while not abandoned, we felt it would be the right month for him to tell his story in his own words and through his photos. Here's Dick...



Hello everyone!



My first selfie, circa late 1940's

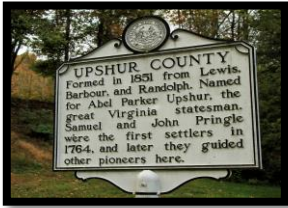
"I am the youngest of three children, born in 1935, during the "depression". What were my parents thinking? I grew up in Huntington, WV where I graduated from Huntington East High School in 1953. My wife, Linda, and I grew up within three blocks of each other and attended the same schools and church. Although she was two years younger than I, she tells me she had her eye on me from the first grade. I was a marked man! We tied the proverbial knot on August 23, 1958, the day after Linda graduated from Marshall College. The very next day we headed for Berkeley. No, not Berkeley, WV, but Berkeley, CA, where I enrolled in the seminary. After graduation, we traveled east where we lived in Hamtramck and Detroit, MI as well as Cleveland, OH for several years. By 1976, we were expatriates and I never dreamed of returning to West Virginia. Needless to say, God works in mysterious ways and we found ourselves in Morgantown cheering for the Mountaineers. I continue to cheer for the Mountaineers except when they play Marshall. From Morgantown, we moved to Philippi where we lived for 20 years before "retiring" in 2000. I (we) now live in Monongalia County and are delighted to be living in 'almost heaven' where there is no shortage of country roads to explore with camera in hand.



From West Virginia



To California



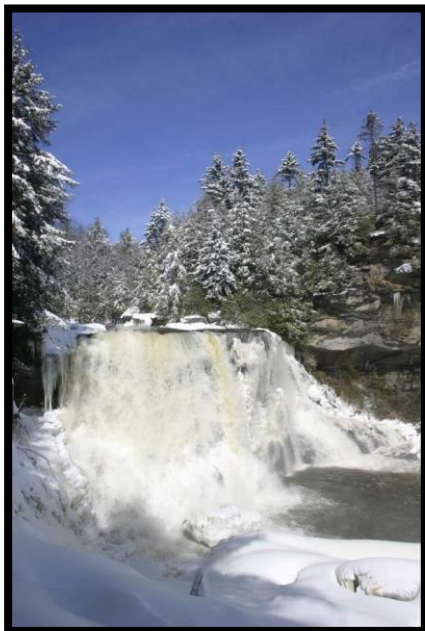
WV150 Book Contributor of the Month

My love affair with photography began at the age of 12 when I was given a Kodak box camera. Do you remember the old box cameras? It was a big deal in those days, like getting a Canon or Nikon today. In those days, like many of us, my photos were mostly of family and friends. Like folks today, I also took selfies, but before they were called that. As you saw on the previous page, I still have the selfie of my shadow on the sidewalk.



My beloved Marshall University!

When I was a freshman at Marshall, my parents gave me an Argus C3 camera. I was moving uptown (that's an expression of the 50's, the 1950's, that is). The Argus C3 was a 35mm and was manufactured from 1939 to 1957. It was nicknamed the "brick" and was quite an upgrade from my Kodak Box camera. It became my workhorse camera for the next 30 years as I enjoyed snapping pictures and lots of slides across the good old USA. Who didn't take lots of slides in those days?

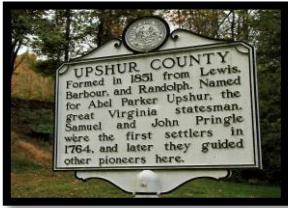


Blackwater Falls & the New River Gorge, a couple of my favorite places!

When digital cameras first appeared, I thought I would never desert my 35mm. Like most of you, I finally forsook my first love and fell deeply in love with digital. I currently use the Canon Rebel series and consider myself an amateur even after 68 years of shooting. However, I still love it! As I reviewed the photos I sent Alan, it occurred to me that I'm especially fond of birds and bridges, and fortunately, we have lots of those in West Virginia.

Buckhannon Upshur Camera Club

c/o John Simons, PO Box 5, Adrian, WV 26210



WV150 Book Contributor of the Month

I look forward to 2015 as another year in search of the elusive "perfect" image. My photography these days takes me all over north central West Virginia. I'm looking forward to a trip to the west coast this year and hope to revisit some "old" photo opportunities. If you should happen to see an old guy with a Canon Rebel in hand and a gleam in his eye, please say hello, I'd like to meet you.



Great White Egrets



Great Horned Owl



Great school: Mountaineer Statue & Woodburn Hall - Images of West Virginia University

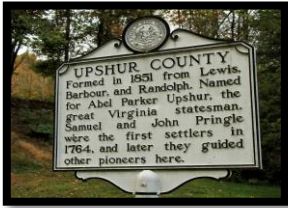


Great town - Caperton Rail Trail, Morgantown



Just the greatest: My darling granddaughter, Rileigh Lynn

Have a great year of photography and a special thanks to Alan and the Camera Club for this opportunity. I love getting the monthly newsletter and seeing the wonderful photography from all over the world!"



2014 Favorite Photos

During a year, most photographers capture that one or a few photos that make their year. It could be a photo of a child or grandchild, a pet, a special place visited, a scenic, a wildlife shot, etc. Here, we present that one photo that represents each individual photographer's favorite that he or she shot in 2014. There were a wonderful variety of shots submitted by our friends and club members. We hope you enjoy the quality of their photos and the diversity of subject matter.



Midtown New York City Panorama – Neil Zobler

Neil is one of our newest “friends” and he is from Connecticut. He has already sent a few really nice Civil War photos for the March edition. He joins a long list of excellent photographers who enhance our newsletter with their superb photos. Thanks and welcome Neil.



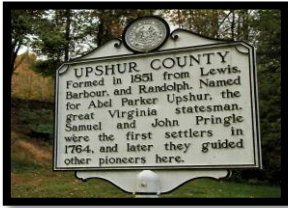
Reflections – Brenda Mobley



Yellowstone Falls – Dan Kohlhaas



Winter – Amanda Haddox



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Twilight Time – John Simons



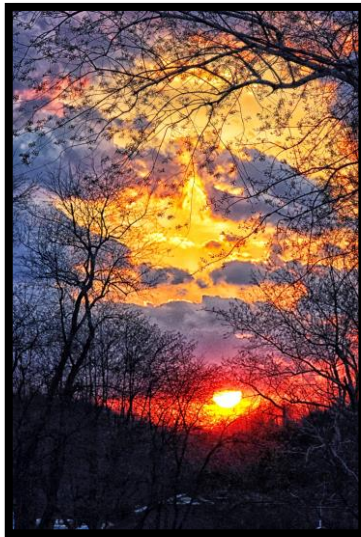
Cutting the cake! – Mary Orndorff



Barking up a tree! – Debbie Huber



Hoodoos of Bryce Canyon, Utah - Karen Kohlhaas



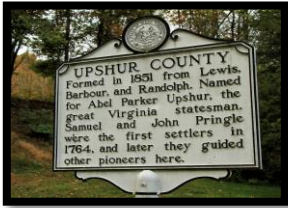
Upshur County Sunset – James Huber



Brant Point Light, MA – Susie Widdis



Myrtle Beach Sunset – John Mundy



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Sailboats on Summersville Lake, WV – Clayton Spangler



Jefferson and Ice at Dawn – Dennis Govoni



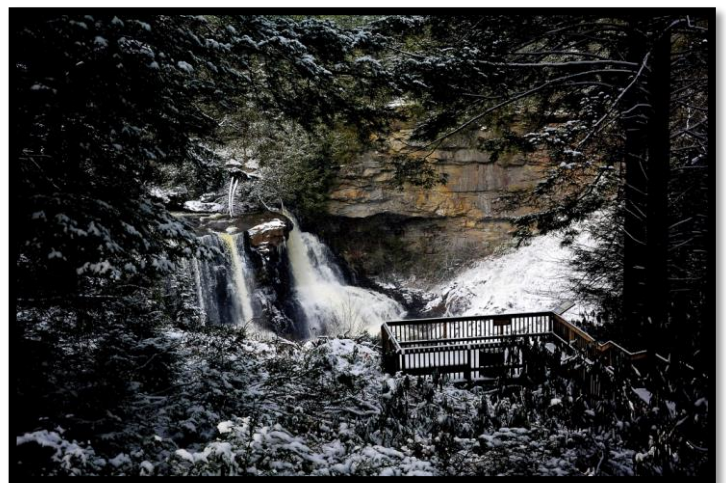
Lone Tree – Tony Maro



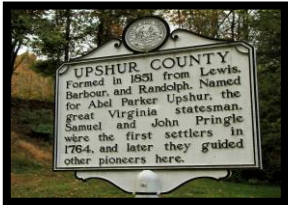
Chetzen Itza Sink Hole, MX – Mary Cameron



Taking Flight, Myrtle Beach Sunset – Al Bailey



God's voice, the sound of many waters – Carol Coffman



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Sitting Pretty - Sharon Boone



Angel - Kelley Logsdon



Nuthatch - Mike Juratovac



Sharing - Rich Schaffer



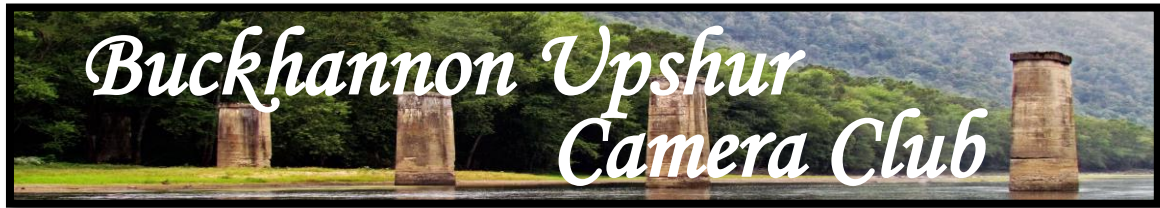
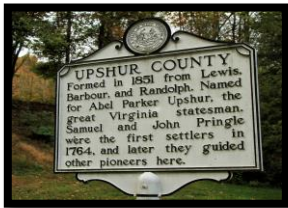
Spectacled Owl - Barry Taylor



Great Blue Heron Standing Tall - Alan Tucker



Camouflaged Ruffed Grouse - Kathy Barnhart



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Llenna, my granddaughter – Aretha Kees



Thirsty – Carol Meese



Francesca Battistelli in concert – Amanda Hayes



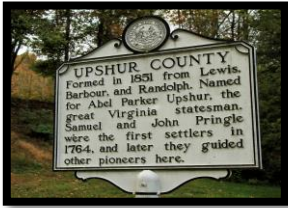
Dogfest 2014 - Nancy Moore



Holly River Fisherman – Tim Rock



No problem, I can reach it! – Dick Hepler



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Upshur County Pastoral Scene – Mary Hull



Randolph County Pastoral Scene – Larry Johns



Decker's Creek Falls – Gary McCoy



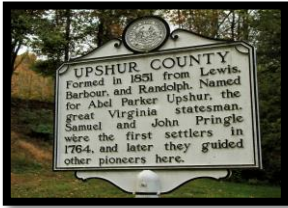
Valley Falls' Flowers – Janet Hutnik



Grazing – Carrie Mills



Post Sundown Beauty – Ginny Dixon



2014 Favorite Photos Continued



Anything Goes – Dave Orndorff



Self Portrait - Nathan Symons



On the firing line – Melissa Toothman



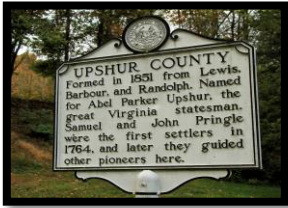
Angels in Heaven, Steinhausen Church, GE - Bonne Riffle



Papa Smallridge – Laura Meese



Window to our world – Liva Tucker



Special Feature – Old and Abandoned

Throughout America and other counties, landscapes are blighted by forgotten and neglected places and abandoned “stuff.” From urban decay to rural neglect, images of derelict homes, rusting industrial mills and plants, vacated hospitals, places of business, prisons, and schools, overgrown entertainment and sporting areas, neglected roads and bridges, and so many other forsaken places abound. In this special feature, we take just a glimpse of that decay by presenting primarily a collection of images of decaying rural America. Thank you to our friends and members who helped us create this snapshot of our “old and abandoned” surroundings.



Barb Home, Orkney, VA - Carol Coffman



Spanishburg Church, WV - Amanda Haddox



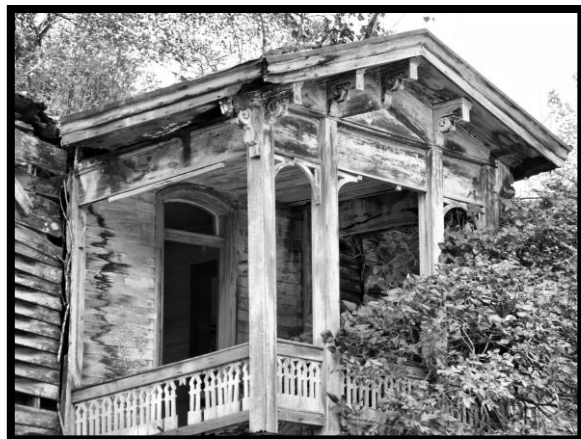
Small Town Blight - Tony Maro



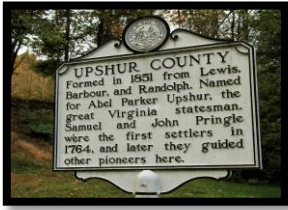
Left behind near Waynesburg, PA - Ann Newman



Forsaken Mountain Homestead, WV - Alan Tucker



Forsaken Rural Home - Bonne Riffle

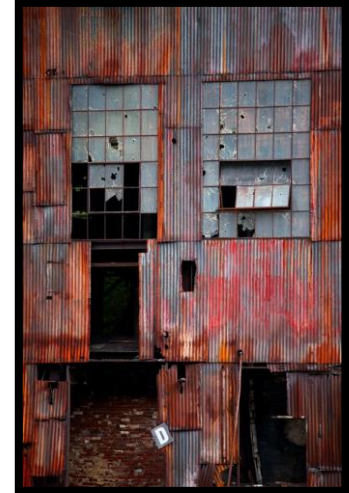


Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – Cass Railroad Sawmill, WV

The mill's "hey day" was from 1908-1935 when it ran two 11 hr. shifts 6 days/week producing a half million bd. ft. per week. They had drying kilns using 11 miles of steam pipe drying 360,000 bd. ft. of lumber per run. There was a 3-story planer mill with elevators capable of hauling 5000 bd. ft. of lumber to the different floors. Fires in 1978 and 1982 destroyed the mill. Today, it is a hotspot for photographers. (Source: Cass website)



Dennis Govoni



Clayton Spangler



John Mundy



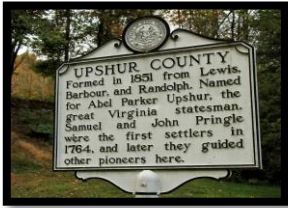
John Simons



Janet Hutnik



Monica Fleming



Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – Early 20th Century Rural Life



Wilfong Cabin, WV - John Simons



Sharp's Cabin, WV - Al Tucker



Derelict Cabin, WV - Tina Bulka



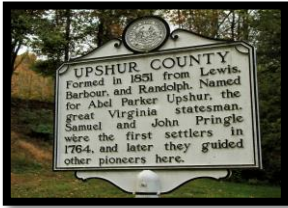
Jacob Prickett's Log Home, WV - Mary Orndorff



Mollohan's Mill, WV - Janet Hutnik



General Store, WV - Dennis Govoni



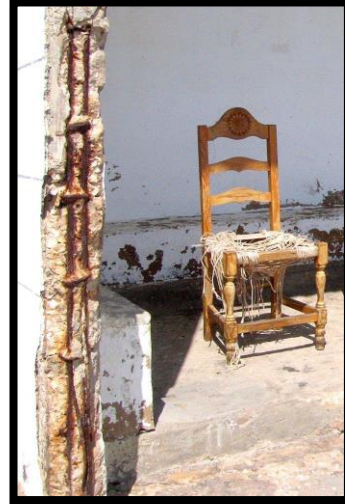
Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – Doors and Things



Take a seat! – Sandra Miller



The 'Hand'le – Sara Taylor



Sit at your own risk! – Sara Taylor



Where's the key? – Al Bailey



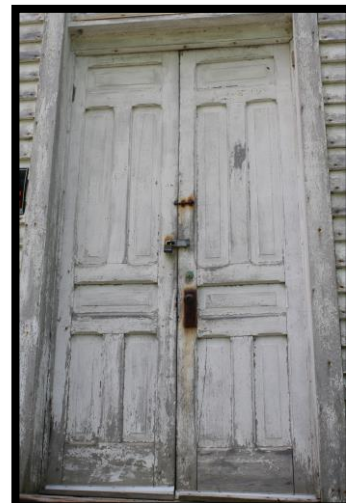
Who left the door open? – Bonne Riffle



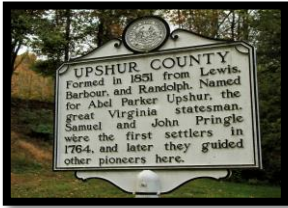
Patience – Carol Coffman



Filligree Door Plate – Diana Taylor



Well Secured – Sandra Miller



Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – Abandoned Vehicles



Needs water - Ron Buckton



Rusty Cyclops – John Simons



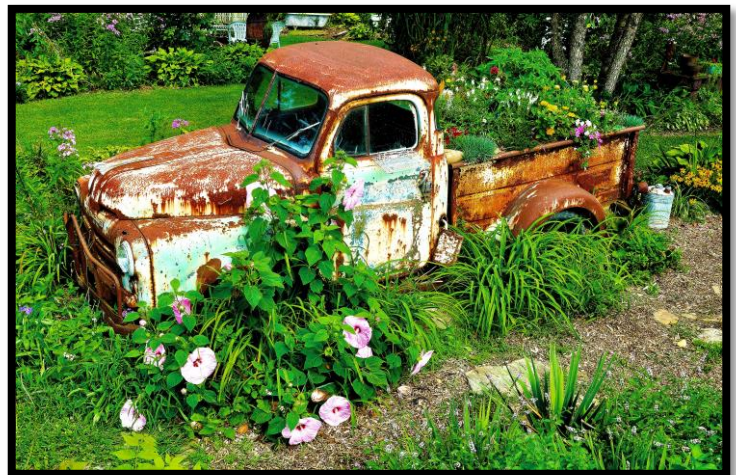
Seen better days – Bill and Linda Lane



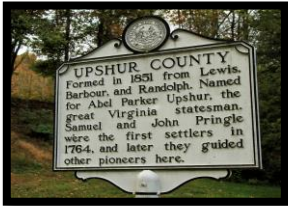
Stuck in the mud – Tina Bulka



Still treasured - Alan Tucker



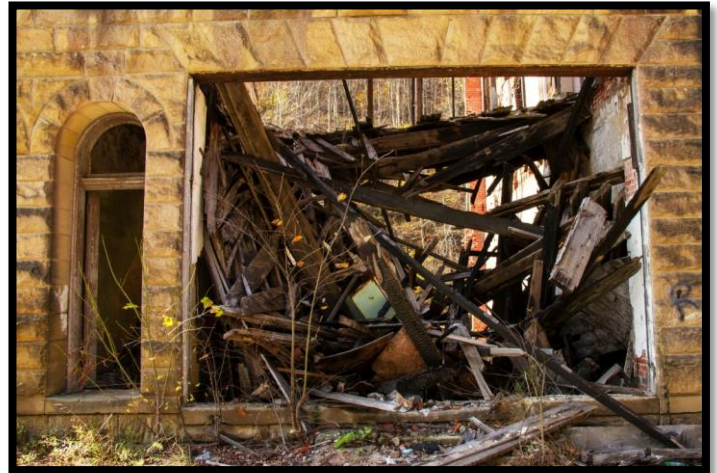
Old and useful - Carol Coffman



Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – Totally Abandoned Places



Episcopal Church in Harpers Ferry, WV – Dan Kohlhaas



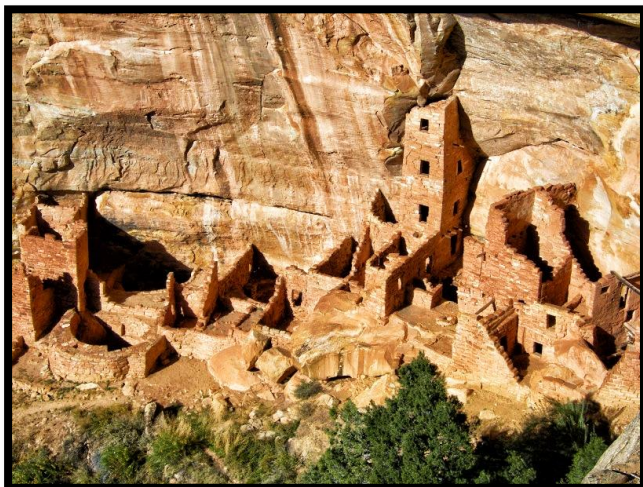
Littleton, WV Bank – Alan Tucker



Evans, WV Dairy Barn – Ron Gaskins



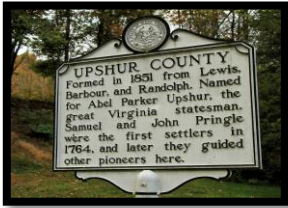
Man Appalachian Hospital, WV – Amanda Haddox



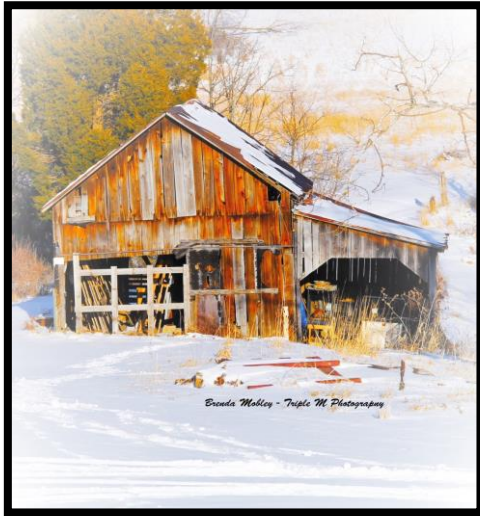
Square house ruins in Mesa Verde National Park, CO – Brooks Jones



Lake Shawnee, WV Amusement Park – Amanda Haddox



Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – On the Farm



Old but not totally gone – Brenda Mobley



Seen better days – Jozette Spacht



Old Hay Rake – Vickie Cutler



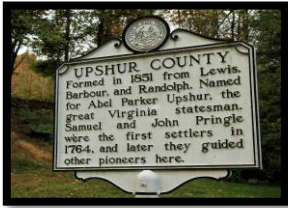
Idle Nebraskan Windmill – Dean Helmick



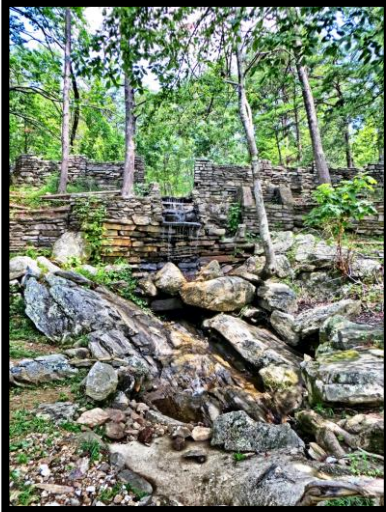
Still standing, barely – Melissa Toothman



Deserted Maryland Farm – Ron Buckton



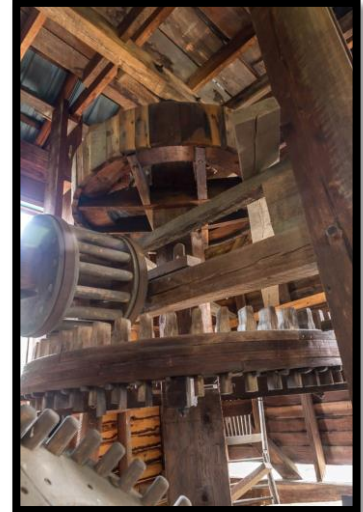
Special Feature – Old and Abandoned – A Diverse Collection



Frog Pond, AL built by CCC – Karen Kohlhaas



Long since forgotten – Sandra Miller



Mollohan's Mill Gears – Tony Maro



Old boat on Summersville Lake bed – Ron Gaskins



California main street store – Laurie Lewis



Old Portuguese Canon – Diana Taylor



Three's company? – Troy Helmick