

Calhoun's 2022 Autumn

Leaves are all on the ground now and temperatures tell us winter has arrived.

We would have chestnuts roasting on an open fire except we don't have chestnuts or a fireplace. The garden report mentions lots of blackberries, ample strawberries, many sweet green peppers, few tomatoes, and ... the deer ate the okra and the blackeyed peas. We must have had a "Southern" deer move into the neighborhood. We trapped and relocated 21 raccoons after one of them learned how to open a garage door with a lever handle instead of a round knob in order to access the "critter" feed directly from the sacks. We probably could have trapped more but the last big raccoon ruined our borrowed trap!

Myron is doing a good job of down-sizing. He has given away a lot of ham hobby items since he can no longer see well enough to solder and build things. His favorite things now are large-print books, computing (programming, reading news, surfing the internet), and sleeping on the sofa during the day. He does help Nancy with blackberry-jam production.

Nancy is still resisting down-sizing but is working on the 800-year-old Indian potsherds she has been thinking about trying to glue together for years. She played bassoon in the Manhattan Municipal Band (summer concerts), a regional band (one

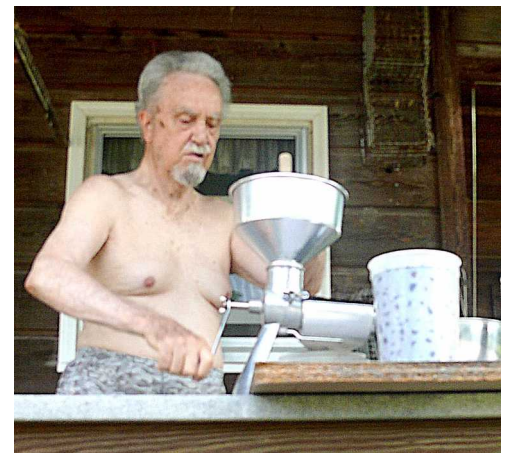
Autumn Leaves

*The falling leaves
Drift by the window
The autumn leaves
Of red and gold*

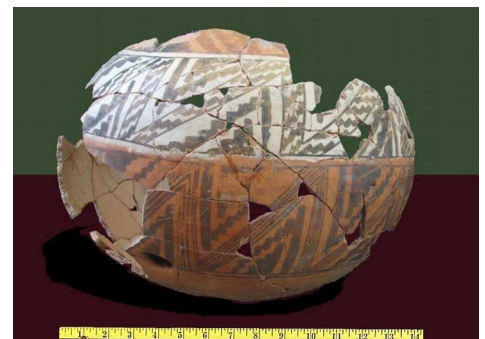
- Johnny Mercer et al.



Two caught at once



*Squeezing/de-seeding berries
on the porch on a hot day!*



So far so good (on this side)

concert in November), and a small (five players) musical group (weekly). She also continues to play hymns on the piano at church.

The 80's must be the decade of life when the **body** retires or breaks down. We are supporting some doctors; but on the whole we seem to be doing okay since, as Myron often says, "we're still ABOVE the daisies".



Sue & **Jimmy**, **Linda** & James, Nancy
(Wilda's siblings in bold)



Kelly (Wilda's daughter), Edith



Nancy, Michelle (Wilda's daughter)

Unfortunately, Nancy's cousins Robert and David Leathers and Wilda Britton (all siblings) died since our last letter. Nancy and Edith were able to attend Wilda's memorial service.

Our sons Omner and Aaron bought homes in Florida and South Dakota, respectively. Our daughter Edith retired in May from a career of grade-school teaching (K through 4th grades).



Andrew

Our grandsons keep busy: Andrew works with printing presses for a publishing company, Caleb is the head resident of two men's dorms at Graceland University, Brennen graduated from Western Missouri State University and is planning to move to California to intern in the film industry, and Forrest is a chef at a small residential school in North Dakota. Our one granddaughter, Laura, has moved to Vermont and is working in the University of Vermont's Human Resources department. Our great granddaughter, Arianna, is dancing, and our great grandson, Takota, is probably building a snowman right now.

We made two trips this year. In June we went to Nancy's 60th+2 class reunion in Roswell, NM ("alien" country!-). The organizer had



Bottomless Lake



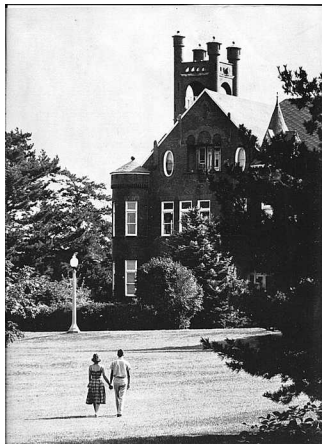
Roswell house pictures from Zillow



◀ 1st house ▲ 2nd house

to cancel two years in a row, but this year about 30 classmates gathered to reminisce. Nancy drove Myron around Roswell and tried to locate schools, houses, and parks she remembered. We went to the Bottomless Lakes and the Bitter Lakes Refuge which were “natural areas” not too far from Roswell.

In August we visited Graceland University campus in Iowa. While at Graceland, we spent time with Caleb, who had just become staff, and with Steve Anders, a long-time friend who teaches there.



In Fall 1961



In August 2022



Steve took a selfie of us.

We usually go for Homecoming, but, since Covid-19, Myron dislikes crowds. We have gotten all the vaccines and boosters, but after our June trip he came down with a mild case of it and doesn't want a repeat.

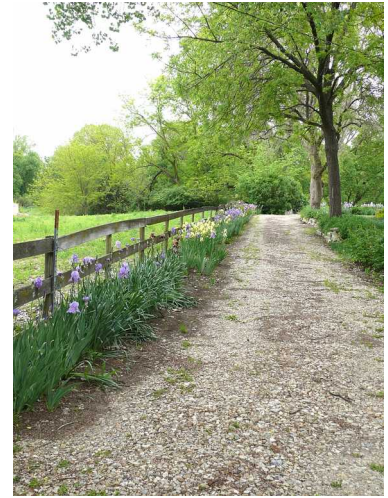
A new waterline was installed on our road and a small fire hydrant now stands proudly in our front yard. Our 50+-years-old wood fence on the east of our house is falling down so we and the neighbors are purchasing a nice vinyl fence to match the fencing they already have around their place and to keep his cattle and horses in their pasture. This brings to mind the poem

Mending Wall by Robert Frost.

Here is an appropriate excerpt:

*I let my neighbour know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line
And set the wall between us once again*

If you read the whole poem, you'll learn what Robert Frost really thought of fences, and it is NOT as the neighbor stated "*Good fences make good neighbours.*"



The old fence

We hope you think of us as friends and loved ones.

We send you our thoughts and love for the rest of 2022 and for 2023 to come.

You can see an internet version of this letter (the colors are prettier) at

< <http://ncalhoun.sdf.org/annual/2022Calhoun.pdf> >

Please keep in touch:

Myron & Nancy Calhoun
2001 Dunbar Rd
Manhattan, KS 66502-3907

785-539-4448
mcalhoun@sdf.org
ncalhoun@ksu.edu

*Nancy
& Myron*