

# The Coffee Table Gazette

Finally some good news!



Issue 3. Page 1 of 2. Publication Date: 03-15-21. Order additional copies at <https://coffeetablegazette.com>

---

## Dreaming Big In 1957.

We laugh about it now more than 60 years later, but in the summer of 1957, when we three farm kids were getting \$1.00 each a week in allowances, we dreamed big. My sister Linda, twin brother Lincoln and I figured we each wanted our own cameras. It was the summer when we would take our first road-trip vacation, and we all wanted control over of our own photos. So, we saved our money and poured through catalogs for what would suit us. I, instead, chose to buy a Brownie Star Flash at the drugstore in town. I followed the instructions on how to put a roll of Kodak Verichrome Pan film into place, seated it against the rollers with cogs, then closed the back and advanced it for photo No. 1. I then inserted a flash bulb into the socket. Now it was ready to go and I decided the first photo to be taken had to be very special. Yet, I was unable to decide what that should be, So I admired my new possession and waited until the perfect opportunity came along. In the meantime word had traveled across the gravel road to our 10-year-old neighbor friend Mervan that I had an camera and my siblings and I invited him to come see it. When Mervin arrived the camera was sitting in its box on a chair on the front lawn, so I lifted the lid in order for Mervan to behold my handsome new toy. Then without warning or hesitation, Mervan reached down and pushed the shutter lever, bathing our two faces in a burst of light. I was stunned, shocked and furious! My first picture was wasted! I then proceeded to walk in the house, pouted about the whole situation and left Mervan to figure out for himself to go home. Later when the roll of film was processed, the first picture just held partial faces without expressions. It truly was a poor example of my very first "Kodak Moment" with my very first camera.

Lawn ~ Arizona

---

## Sodas And Kisses.

When I was 14 my older brother and I were on a road trip and noticed an all female road crew working really hard in the sweltering heat, so my brother mentioned that we should stop and get them something to drink. Then, on the way back we stopped at the store and purchased a couple of really cold six packs of Pepsi. As we approached the flagger my brother stopped and told her that we had cold sodas for everybody. The flagger then radioed to the crew and motioned us to pull over in a little roadside pull out. So we did.

One by one the workers came over and we handed out the sodas, to our delight we had just enough for everybody to get one and they were all grateful for something to drink.

Later, I told my brother, that I was glad we did that, and he replied, "That's because it was my idea and you are the one who got all the kisses on the cheek."

David ~ Rhode Island

---



## What are these?

Seems we have a bit of a mystery on our hands and a reader has asked for our help to solve it. They have this set of, well we don't know what. If you know what these are and their use, please let us know by sending an email to [info@coffeetablegazette.com](mailto:info@coffeetablegazette.com), so that we can let our reader know and we will know as well.

# The Coffee Table Gazette

Issue 3. Page 2 of 2. Publication Date: 03-15-21  
Order additional copies at <https://coffetablegazette.com>

---

## The Watchman.

One fall night in 1966 around 10:00 PM, I walked out the front door of our house to check on the piles of leaves burning in the ditch, they were just a bright orange mat in the darkness, still smoldering. My parents were inside watching the late news, the Northwest breeze captured the wisps of smoke and carried them hostage toward the ballpark and beyond. The street in front of me was called a highway, but the only traffic of any significance was on Sunday mornings, when people were on their way to and from church services at the town's four churches. There were no cars that night, so I walked out into the middle of the street and stood in the darkness. I looked East and then West. Just standing and watching.

The big oak trees that hugged both sides of the main street had limbs that hung low enough to make a soft tunnel from one end of town to the other. The tree closest to our two-story house was big enough to shade a good half of the house, and the closeness of the trees hid the night sky.

As I was standing there looking at the trees, I could hear Mr. Anderson's voice in my head, (with his shaky, thick Swedish accent), telling me how sixty years ago he and some other townsmen went into the surrounding woods and dug up the oaks by hand to plant in town. And how they hauled them in on a horse drawn wagon.

I then walked down to the nearest intersection and stood under the round ruffle-shaped, green street light suspended over the center of the road. It was lit with a single, large, clear incandescent glass light bulb. The circle it drew on the black velvet night faded quickly just beyond the intersection. Above it the dimly lit limb canopy, resembled a huge floating octopus.

I looked both ways and could see the town limits to my left and right, and every cross street punctuated with a soft, warm incandescent circle of light. I counted twelve trees connected by the dark, gray slag pavement. I stood there for a long time, just enjoying the breeze, the night silence of a small town, and the slowly fading orange embers of the raked up leaves fallen from the canopy above. When the late news was over, it was time to go back to the house for a bowl of cereal and watch Johnny Carson.

Soon it will be time for coffee on the porch.

Peace.

David ~ Alabama

---

## A Few Events On This Day In History.

0044: Julius Caesar is assassinated by high-ranking Roman Senators.

1820: Maine is admitted as the 23rd state.

1934: Henry Ford restores the \$5-a-day wage.

1939: Germany occupies Bohemia and Moravia, Czechoslovakia.

1968: The U.S. mint halts the practice of buying and selling gold.

---

## The Humorous Side Of Life.

"I ordered a chicken and an egg online. I'll let you know."

I don't get paypal and ebay buyer feedback. In my day when you ordered something you payed for it and expected to receive the item. It's just the way it was. Nobody had to give us praise for completing a transaction that we initiated.

One time I was really scared and my knees were knocking so loud, I had to look in my pants to see who was there.

In life there winners and losers, I hope y'all are one of them.

---

## A note from the editor.

We rely on stories from readers to spread the word far and wide. If you are interested in submitting a story, or a joke you can do so at <https://coffetablegazette.com>. I personally want to thank you for taking the time to read this publication and kindly pass it on, who knows it may just brighten someones day.

If you submitted a story or joke and it didn't make it in the current issue, that doesn't mean it won't be published. We only have so much room per issue. Be sure to look for it in future issues and keep the submissions coming.