

The Land Between the Lakes Heritage Geocache Challenge 2025 Grocery Stores in LBL

In each geocache box, you should find a sign in sheet, date logbook and 150 aluminum tree tags. We have stamped each tag with numbering specific to that cache location. Collect 1 tree tag per geocache from each of the 7 locations.

- Bring your 7 different tree tags to the Golden Pond Visitor Center.
- Exchange them for a special Challenge Coin created just for this event.
- For extra bragging rights, each Challenge Coin is individually numbered from 1-150.
- Once participants have redeemed all tree tags and collected all Challenge Coins, this years geocache challenge ends.
- After closing the challenge, we collect the boxes to prepare for next years event.

Contact Chris Thornock with any suggestions and comments 270-924-2015 or christopher.thornock@usda.gov



GEOCACHING

Congratulations, you've found it! (Intentionally or not)

It's part of a worldwide game loved by GPS (Global Positioning System) users who are on the internet. It's like a scavenger hunt—its called geocaching. A GPS user hides a "treasure" (this container) and publishes the exact coordinates so other GPS users can go on a "treasure hunt" to find it.

IF YOU FOUND THIS CONTAINER BY ACCIDENT

Great! You can join us! We only ask:

- Please don't move or vandalize the container. The real fun is just finding it and recording the visit.
- Go ahead and take something if you like. But also leave something too.

www.geocaching.com

Please respect and protect our local heritage by leaving all the cultural material in its current location. Do not remove or disturb the artifacts.



A Series of Stores

The operation of businesses in the BTR seems to be very fluid. Some stores, had to move locations all over a community while other stores were owned by several different families. The building pictured below is one example of the latter. In the early 1900s, in the Golden Pond community, this store was Bogard & Co., then it became E.W. Rhodes, then W.P. Williams, then W.G. Ahart & Sons, and lastly H.B. Leneave & Son.



It is appropriate that the last owners of this building had ties to one of the first owners. Homer Blane's wife, Irene came from the Bogard family. H.B. was also renown as not just a merchant but also a farmer. Many people would come to his store to get advice about farming and Homer likely stocked supplies locals would have needed. Because of Homer's expertise people trusted and relied on him.



Homer Leneave and unidentified man preparing
to plant corn

Leneave & Son

Homer and Irene had 2 children, Vance Bogard and Mildren. Vance joined the Navy in 1938 at the age of 17. After World War II, Vance returned to Golden Pond. Like his father he pursued multiple careers, running the store, farming, and working as a mail carrier. He describes the challenges of delivering mail in an area with poor roads, including utilizing boats during floods and following bulldozers after snowstorms.



Vance Leneave and Era Lane inside the Leneave & Son Store.

Ahart and Son's

When the Ahart's ran the store, it was open six days a week, from sun up to sundown, or sometimes until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. These long hours suggest that the store was a central part of the community. It is possible that because of its continuous operation the people who frequented the store during Ahart's time continued into the Leneave era.



Conley Wallace and Bernard Riggins inside W.G. Ahart and Son's Store.



Irene Leneave and Pete Lane on the last Day Leneave's store operated in Golden Pond KY

There is a pattern of similarity between grocery store owners no matter where they are in the BTR. Many of these individuals are those who have been able to earn enough money to invest in their community by opening a grocery store. Many times these individuals took on multiple responsibilities to support their families and their communities such as delivering mail or supplying farm goods to their neighbors and friends. In a sense these people and their families created a support network for the community as a whole. So that when times got tough they knew their neighbors would be there to help them get back up.

While the postal service was vital to connecting Golden Pond with the outside world, oral histories indicate that residents also relied heavily on local networks and resources. The grocery stores, hucksters, and mailmen were likely the ones who helped create safe spaces to share information or helped to facilitate the networks of local communication.

There are many more grocery stores that existed in the BTR and each one of them were integral to the creation and maintenance of the culture of family and mutual support that is uniquely expressed in BTR history.



H.C. Jones store in Pleasant Hill. This was the photo that was used as inspiration for the Challenge coin.