

RENDVILLE READS  
**DIVING INTO THE MINE**

RHPS Treasurer and Ohio University Professor Frans Doppen to dive into the life and journey of Labor Organizer Richard L. Davis in biography 'Richard L. Davis and the Color Line in Ohio Coal'.

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RENDVILLE SPOTLIGHT  
**A SIT WITH THE PRES.**

Hometown hero and RHPS President **Jerry Jackson** takes us on a ride down memory lane in interview with Little Cities of Black Diamonds' Jim Workman.

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RENDVILLE UPDATE  
**THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE**

Efforts to preserve **The Little White House** on Main Street to continue through upcoming fundraiser and help from in-kind contributions.

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**EMANCIPATION DAY CELEBRATION**

This year's annual Emancipation Day celebration to honor former RHPS members and current Rendville residents Corlyn & Theodore "Ted" Altier.

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# A SIT WITH THE PRES.

Rendville's very own **Jerry Jackson** sits down with Little Cities of Black Diamonds interviewer Jim Workman to discuss his early years as a high school All-American turned powerhouse who would eventually earn his shot at a scholarship to Ohio University.

Article by Troi Staples



## Humble Beginnings

It's no secret that the town of Rendville is a history maker all in itself; yet the small village located inside of the Wayne National Forrest has also produced quite a few historical figures also. **Sophia Mitchell**, the first African American female Mayor in Ohio, and **Dr. Isaiah Tuppins**, the first African American to receive a medical degree in Ohio just to name a few. Needless to say, Corning high school All-American turned pro basketball player **Jerry Jackson** is in pretty good company.

Jackson who currently serves as president of The Rendville Historical Preservation Society sat down with Jim Workman to give readers a glimpse into his humble beginnings playing one-on-one ball to leading the O.U. Bobcats to victory in the 1964 NCAA tournament.

**Jim Workman:** Well congratulations. A high school all-American is a pretty rare feat. Jerry, tell us about how you ended up where you did instead of at a Big 10 school.

**Jerry Jackson:** Well, my grandmother has a lot to do with that, okay. You know I was around cause I liked to eat, and she liked to cook. So, I was grandma's boy. But anyway, the coaches from OU would come up and they weren't actually allowed to talk to you, they would sit back in their cars out in the middle of the road and watch us play one-on-one, two-on-two and what not. And my grandmother really liked Coach Snider and Coach Blosser. She would tell me that they were really interested in you and they're looking out for your betterment and plus OU is only down the road.

**“four of the five players had double figures”**

*-Jerry Jackson on the success of the 1964 Ohio Univ. team*

**JW:** Now Jerry, out of curiosity, what Big 10 teams did express an interest in you?

**JJ:** Ohio State, Indiana, and Michigan and uh Wisconsin.

**JW:** Are you telling me that you would have had a chance to play with Jerry Jackson Lucas and John Haber, Melvin Knoll something, and Bobby Knight?

**JJ:** Yeah, I would have had a chance if I would have went.

**JW:** So, you played a total of three years on the varsity?

**JJ:** Yes, three years on the varsity.

**JJ:** I played mostly shooting guard and forward. And I also played a little bit of center, depending on who we were playing. But I played practically every position depending on the type of ball team that we were playing and where their weaknesses were.

**JW:** Now Jerry when did you realize that your team had something special that you collectively could do something special with them?

**JJ:** Probably about my junior year. My Freshman year the Freshman recruiting class was one of the best in the state.

**“OU had out-recruited all other Colleges with the class in 1960”**

*-Jerry Jackson on his recruitment to Ohio University*

**JW:** Well, tell us who the starting five was or the starting six maybe, name your teammates.

**JJ:** Well that would be, my senior year, myself, Charlie Gill. Charlie Gill and I played guard. And Don Hilt, Mike Haley were the forwards and then Paul Storey at center, probably the sixth man was Tom Davis.

**JW:** Now Jerry Jackson you were playing in the mid America conference back then. And what were your statistics then? Your shooting and rebound statistics?

**JJ:** Approximately well my junior year I had 14 a game and then my junior year was like 15. And my senior year I had 17 a game.

**JW:** So anyway, that senior year, 1964, that was a pretty special year for Ohio University and Jerry Jackson and so I want to ask you, in fact I’ve got some notes here that says you won 21 games that year.

**JJ:** Yeah, we won 21 games that year.

**JW:** That’s the most in OU’s history?

**JJ:** At that time that was the most in OU’s history.

**JW:** Wow.

**JW:** Then, the real accomplishment OU reached the final four of the NCAA basketball that year. Is that right, Jerry? Tell us about that.

**JJ:** That year we were one of the final teams left in the nation. So that was the farthest that they’ve gone. That set a record and it hasn’t been beaten yet. It was tied by Princeton or Kent state, I think, in the later ‘90s. That’s one of the records that we still hold the 1964 team.

**JW:** What do you think the secret to that team was?

**JJ:** Knowing each other. Just not only on the court but off the court. To this day we still meet at least once or twice a year in Athens. Have a little reunion. If we don’t meet in Athens, we will meet on the golf course somewhere. We stay in contact with each other.

**JW:** That’s good to hear, Jerry. Now, Jerry, when you graduated from Ohio University, tell us a little bit about your honors.

**JJ:** The last year I was the leading scorer. I set a record for the most points and we had set about 17 records that year, my senior year. When we got back from the NCAA tournament, we had about 17 records. Of course, they have all disappeared by now. Except for the one of the NCAA Elite Eight

**JW:** Alright. Now one of the things that I wanted to ask you. Did you make All-American that year?

**JJ:** Yes, I made All-American that year, third team. I was drafted by the Detroit Pistons and had letters from the St Louis Hawks and the Baltimore Bullets. But back then whoever drafted you first you went there. There was no negotiation back then.

Click [HERE](#) to read Jerry’s FULL INTERVIEW on RendvilleHistory.org

## EMANCIPATION DAY CELEBRATION 2019

It's **that** time of the year again Rendville! Our annual **Emancipation Day Celebration** is on the way! This year, the Rendville Historical Preservation Society will be honoring Rendville residents **Corlyn and Ted Altier**. Don't forget to **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and **BRING A DISH** to the **POTLUCK**. Emancipation Day 2019 has been scheduled for **Saturday September 21 from 12:00pm - 4:00pm.**

### RENDVILLE UPDATE

## THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE

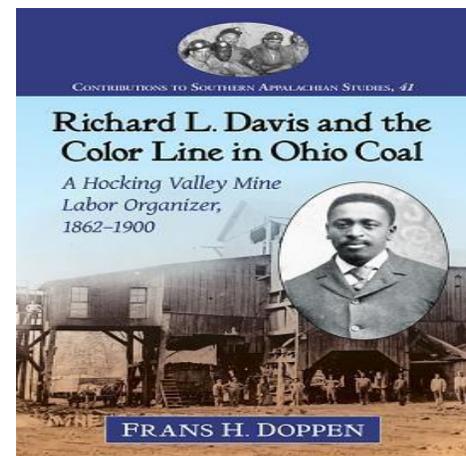
Efforts to preserve one of Rendville's **most recognizable** and **historic structures** will continue with the help of in-kind donations of labor from volunteers and an upcoming **Fundraiser** hosted by The Rendville Historical Preservation Society.

The fundraiser which will be geared toward the repair of the structure will be just one of the ways that the organization plans to help with the **revitalization of the village**. More details and updates regarding the fundraiser can be found via the organization's Social Media pages such as **Facebook** and YouTube, as well as through the RHPS official website [RendvilleHistory.org](http://RendvilleHistory.org).

Thanks to Lorraine McCosker and the Sierra Club, we have a \$250 starting donation for landscaping the Memorial Yard next to the Little White House. Harry Ivory heads the project and will consult with Scott Moore of the Corning-Monroe Historical Society and with the Perry County Masters Gardening Group on designing a plan. Initial plans use the bricks from the old schoolhouse as pavers for a patio requiring little on-site maintenance. Donations of materials, time and cash are welcome. Harry can be contacted at [harry.ivory@gmail.com](mailto:harry.ivory@gmail.com) or **614-371-1988**. Direct donations for this project may be made through the [rendvillehistory.org](http://rendvillehistory.org) website.

## DIVING INTO THE MINE

### RENDVILLE READS



Rendville Historical Preservation Society treasurer and Ohio University professor Frans Doppen continues to promote and propel Rendville forward through his biography on the life and journey of Labor Union Organizer **Richard L. Davis**. *'Richard L. Davis and the Color Line in Ohio Coal'* takes readers on an exploration of life as a miner and Rendville resident during its peak period.

-Now available on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)

### OUR FELLOW PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- The Fairfield County Heritage Association
- Corning-Monroe Historical Society
- Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
- Appalachian Ohio Sierra Club

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