



"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."
Matthew 5:16



SEPTEMBER 2026

Frank Hinton & Son
Jabetown Mill
May's Lick Mill
Fleming County Farm Supply
Hinton Mills Cynthiana
Hinton Mills Mt. Sterling

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All six Hinton Mills locations are open Mon. - Fri. 7:30-5:00, Saturday, 7:30-12:30

"From Orphan to Entrepreneur: The Story of Frank L. Hinton"

Frank L. Hinton was born September 1, 1891. He was nine when his mother passed away in October 1900. At that time, he, his older brother Ed, and younger sister Nell went to live with their maternal grandmother, Carrie Yazell (Grandma Yazell). Her husband, George, passed away in 1901, leaving her a water-powered gristmill where cornmeal and flour were produced. The stone mill wheels are now at Frank L. Hinton's home in Plummers Landing.

After her husband's death, Grandma Yazell and her son-in-law, John, owned a store in Plummers Mill. In January 1904, tragedy struck once again when John died. This left Ed, Frank, and Nell orphans under Grandma Yazell's care. When she passed in 1928, she left the Plummers Mill property to Frank, and the Goddard property to his siblings, Ed and Nell.

Ed was fifteen when he moved to Colorado following the death of their father. There, he worked on a large ranch. Soon he returned home and worked for O.L. Hinton. He also worked for his brother Frank before later working for Bert Sparks.

Around 1910, Ed founded Pioneer Bus Line, which ran from Morehead to Maysville. In the 1920's, he owned and operated Ed's Super Service. Frank's son-in-law, John Miller, would be a future owner of Ed's Super Service. A relentless enterpriser, he opened Ed Hinton Furniture (located where Total Tax Service is now) in the 1940's.

Nell was also inclined to business. She and her husband Riley (Maurice Newman's parents) owned Newmans Grocery at Plummers Mill for roughly 40 years.

Frank, armed with a fourth-grade education and a passion for entrepreneurship, was already trading cattle, roots, fur, and growing feed for livestock when he married Ellora Helphinstine on Christmas Eve 1913.

Over the next five years, they farmed in Plummers Mill. In 1918, Frank purchased a store from Bert Sparks in Goddard. As store owner, Frank also inherited the position of Goddard Postmaster on March 2, 1918.

His commitment to operating a successful business caused him to work tirelessly. As a result, he forfeited his health. Under a doctor's orders, he sold the store back to Bert Sparks. In addition, Bert resumed the postmaster responsibilities.

In late 1922, Frank recovered and was ready to jump back into retail and purchased the former O.L. Hinton store from Jim Muse at Plummers Landing. As before, ownership of this business was coupled with the task of postmaster. Frank served as Plummers Landing Postmaster for over 35 years.

January 1, 1923, marked his opening day. Cash sales for the day were \$25.50, and the month's sales totaled \$1,501.89.

Soon after starting the business, Fox Creek flooded the store. Pressure on the business mounted with the Great Depression and another flood. The weight of the depression took a toll on Eastern KY farmers, and in 1931 Frank found himself owing suppliers for inventory that was losing value while it sat on his shelves.

Frank took a risk with his make-or-break decision and hired a promotion company out of Cincinnati. The result was a week-long circus at Plummers Landing for a "Big Sale." He had resolved that the event would either serve as a going-out-of-business sale or enough income would be generated to stay afloat amidst the troubled economy.

A key part of Frank's success was his inclination to plan further ahead than most and his willingness to go any distance. At one point, he traveled to New York City to order clothing that would be sent via train to Flemingsburg.

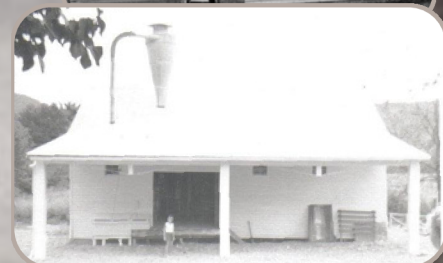
Fortunate to own a truck, he could travel to Cincinnati with products like chicken, eggs, furs, ginseng, yellow root, and hams that he had taken on trade and buy produce and canned goods to restock the store.

On one trip during WWII, he had found a deal on socks. Prone to taking a chance, he returned home with the socks instead of supplies for the store. He went out on his established "Clover Leaf Route" with socks in hand. In a few days, he had doubled his money and had groceries to resupply the store.

It was in 1935 when he and seven other local leaders were selected to help start Fleming Mason REA (RECC). The first customers were promised rate reductions after the construction phase of the RECC. Frank resigned when the company used early profits to expand into new territory rather than lower rates, as had been promised to the original customers.

He later became an early Director of People's Bank, and in 1965 President. In 1971 he served as Chairman of the Board until his retirement.

Frank L. Hinton's five children followed in his footsteps as family merchants. Ruby Hinton and husband, Pete, owned a Deli and Grocery in Covington. Gene Hinton owned an electric contracting business in Florence. Euleen Hinton ran a baby clothes shop also located in Florence. Golda Hinton worked as an apprentice at The Home Store under W.A. Hinton and owned the New Home Store on Courthouse Hill. Frank O. Hinton took over the family business from his father, Frank L. and his son and grandchildren run it today.



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO THESE TEAM MEMBERS!



Tom Davenport
Hinton Mills Operations



Trace Hodges
Frank L. Hinton & Son



Daniele Peacock
Hinton Mills Facilities



Harrison Flora
Jabetown Mill



A Look Back at What the Hinton Mills Team Did in August 2026

 See more pictures of what the Hinton Mills team did this past month on Facebook

FAITH • FAMILY • FRIENDS • FARMING



We finished off our annual summer learning series joined by our friends from Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife and Teach Me Outdoors Inc. with a perfect morning of fishing, friends, fellowship & fun! We learned essential angling skills like knot tying, bait selection and casting techniques. Teammate Doug Reeves shared a devotional reminding us to always be "fishers of men". Special thanks to teammate Stacey Vice for allowing us to use his pond for this event.



After postponing our team's summer picnic in June due to weather, we finally got to gather together. It was an absolutely beautiful evening at the May's Lick Mill farm. Our team ate, fished, played cornhole & wiffle ball. The kid's team took home the trophy for most fish caught, Justin Patton and the Plummers Landing team caught the biggest bass & Haylee (Sarah McKenzie's daughter) caught the biggest catfish. Patrick Davis and his wife, Amanda, won our cornhole tournament.



Since joining our team, Dr. Phil Prater has wasted no time coordinating educational opportunities for our team. Staff from all locations were able to participate in two-day cattle health & nutrition training. The training included cattle behavior & husbandry, vaccine protocols, deworming schedules along with an overview of handling equipment. Participants received BQCA training certifications allowing our team to better serve you. Nearly all our sales team are now BQCA certified!



Adam attended the Kentucky Farm Bureau Ham Breakfast at the Kentucky State Fair. This breakfast is a tremendous way to celebrate agriculture. The sell of the Grand Champion Country Ham resulted in \$10 million for KY charities.



Patrick Davis, Jim Brock, Jeremy Wood & Tim Collins attended Mason County Extension Office's Fertilizer Plot Field Day. They walked through demonstration plots, learned about fertilizer rates, timing & treatments. Thank you to Audrey Wright for hosting.



Adam had the opportunity to advocate for the beef industry thanks to Representative Andy Barr. US Secretary of Commerce, Howard Lutnick, held a round table discussion to talk about the impact of international trade on various Kentucky industries.



The 23rd Annual Fleming County FFA Tractor Parade takes place on October 9th!

We hope you'll bring your tractor and join in on the fun or be a spectator from the parade route in downtown Flemingsburg. Stay tuned to our social media accounts for all the details about this event and for your opportunity to purchase this year's tractor parade t-shirt!

(NOTE: pictured is a DRAFT version of the shirt and is subject to change before final design is released.)



SAVE THE DATES

October 5th - 9th • Fleming County Schools Agricultural Education Week
October 9th • Fleming County FFA Tractor Parade
October 9th - 17th • Hinton Mills Feed Days Sale
October 12th • Barn Quilt Paint Party (Flemingsburg)
October 13th • Fall Cattlemen's Meeting (Flemingsburg)
November 28th • Old Time Christmas Event (Flemingsburg)



BARN QUILT PAINT PARTY



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH 9AM - 6PM

SAVE THE DATE: More details coming soon over on our social media accounts!