

Adam Legler Barn 1864

BARN TALK

LENEXA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Lackman -Thompson House

Can it be saved?

There has been considerable media activity recently about the status of this historic 100 year old farm house located adjacent to Lackman Ave and College Blvd. The property was initially donated to the Johnson County Community College. The College recently indicated that they do not have the funds to renovate the building but they are interested in seeing it restored and maintained as an historic property.

The Lackman- Thompson House is one of the few Johnson County historic houses that is on the Kansas Register of Historic Places. LHS President Bob Lillie in expressing the strong interest of the Historical Society in preserving this property said "This is one of the most, if not the most, architecturally significant houses in Lenexa."

The Lenexa Chamber of Commerce is looking into the feasibility of relocating their offices to the Lackman -Thompson House. This would be a way to maintain the property and provide an interesting work space for the Chamber.

This approach of combining a historic building with a commercial enterprise also provides a way to financially provide for the maintenance of a historic building. Hopefully the current proposal or a similar venture will result in the preservation of this landmark building.

1996 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- March 28** - LHS Membership Meeting -
Note: Thursday at the Senior Center,
Downtown Lenexa
Pot luck dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Program 7:30 p.m. Frank Dusselier on
his Model Wagon Collection with Mary Allison
Haynie, Curator Old Shawnee Town
- May 3 - 5** - Annual Plant Sale -Legler Barn
Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park
- May 23** - LHS Membership Meeting -
Note:Thursday at the Senior Center
- July 1-4 Community Days** - Miss Lenexa -
Parade Activities
- July 23** - General Membership Picnic Meeting
at the Park
- July 26-28** - Great Heritage Trails Festival
- Sept 7 - Spinach Festival** - Craft Fair
- Sept 26 Thur** -General Membership Meeting at
the Senior Center
- Nov 19** General Membership Meeting
Legler Barn Museum
- Dec. 7,Sat.** Children's Old Fashioned
Christmas Party

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, March 28, 1996 - 6:30 p.m. at the Lenexa Senior Center, Downtown Lenexa at Walnut and Pflumm.

"The Covered Wagon Collection"

Frank Dusselier, Presenter, in collaboration with Mary Allison Haynie, Curator and Town Manager of Old Shawnee Town Museum and Center.

The Legler Barn Museum has eleven of Mr. Dusselier's model wagons on display and they are an interesting collection to see. There will be several of the models at the program for the viewing pleasure of the members.

Mary Allison Haynie will discuss "Model Wagons, Unique Hobbies and the Evolution of Volunteers in a Changing Museum Environment".

The dinner will be pot luck so please call the Legler Barn at 492-0038 to indicate the item you will bring (salad, main dish or dessert).

Flat Rock Dedication Reenactment

A special reenactment of the survey techniques used at the turn of the century and today will be held in the area of Pflumm and 103rd Street on **Saturday, April 27th at 9:30 a.m.**

Members of the KC Metro Survey Reenactors will dress in period costume and use 1890's type survey equipment to locate the survey marker at the Rock Creek Crossing area of the Santa Fe Trail. They will then use modern satellite locating equipment to also locate the same area marker. This demonstration will be very interesting to watch and to compare the old and the new techniques of surveying.

Plans are for the Lenexa Historical Society and the Lenexa Park and Rec Dept. to participate in the activities. The LHS membership is invited to attend.

Spring Plant Sale

The annual LHS Spring Plant Sale has been set for the weekend of May 3rd through 5th. Flowers, herbs and larger plants and shrubs will be available as in the past.

Hours of the sale will be:

Friday, May 3, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 4, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 5, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Bernie McNichols and Irv Hoffmann are overseeing the plant sale this year and will be looking for about 18 people to assist them for 2 hour periods. If you would like to help, please call Bernie or Irv or call the Museum and leave your name to be called.

This year Bernie and Irv are planning to have daily drawings and other give-aways during the sale. Free coffee will also be available. It will be a great place to do your plant shopping and of course you will also be helping the Lenexa Historical Society. A win-win situation!!

Bendorf Memorial

With the advent of Spring, plans are being finalized to place a birdbath/fountain in the area adjacent to the Herb Garden in memory of Amber Bendorf, LHS member and past president .

For those members who still wish to contribute to the memorial for Amber, you may do so by contacting the LHS at the Legler Barn Museum or by sending your gift to the Museum.

Written History

Compiled by LHS Staff

Excerpts from the October 28, 1904 edition of the **Spring Hill New Era** newspaper is an interesting glimpse into the writing style of turn of the century papers as well as a sketch of an early Lenexa resident. The article begins with the heading -

S.B. HASKIN, THE COMING MAN.

"The comparatively limited acquaintance of the people of Johnson county with S.B. Haskin, the Republican nominee for representative of this county, excuses us for giving a brief word picture of him and his attainments at this time. In personal appearance he is of medium height and will weigh about 150 pounds. His manners are simple and cordial. In conversation he is peculiarly agreeable. He does not gamble or drink, and has an aversion to deceit and corruption no matter where it is found. With frankness, heartiness, human sympathies and sanguine hopefulness, he has strong personal influence over those who come in contact with him. This is S. B. Haskin as you will find him throughout the campaign and while performing his duties as representative."

The article continues with family history -
"...son of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Haskin, of Lenexa, was born in Johnson county in 1872...."

and his education- "...rudiments of an education at the Mt.Zion school...[completed]...at the early age of fourteen years. The next year he went to Baker University, where he completed the classical course in 1893, and was soon after assigned to the chair of mathematics in the Marmaduke Military Institute in Sweet Springs, Mo., where he did efficient work for three years, reading law during his vacations. He was admitted to the bar in Saline county, Missouri, in 1896, and went at once to Ann Arbor to take a two year's course, graduating from the law department of that noted school in 1898, and in November of that same year came to his home in Johnson county. In the spring of 1895 he received the Master's degree pro merito in Political Science from Baker University. January 8, 1901, he married to Miss Maud Vigour, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Vigour."

The final paragraph concludes with an endorsement most politicians today would welcome! "...Our legislature needs timber like Mr. Haskin. Johnson county will be ably and honestly represented by him and we predict that when he has served his first term his constituents will say 'it is enough, go up higher.' There are none better than Haskin for county representative."

Note: The spelling is as written in the original article.

Strang Pictures

Eight new William B. Strang Electric Line pictures associated with his early Johnson County transportation efforts will be placed in the Wiedenmann (Strang Waiting Station) building. They are currently on display in the Legler Barn Museum. A note of thanks to Vance Carns who constructed the frames and mounted the pictures.

Thanks also to Bob Rose and Norm Keech who together with Vance Carns have been the prime "reconstructors" of the waiting station; taking it from a dilapidated building to its present pristine state. The building and picture exhibit to be displayed within the building makes an interesting addition to the Museum complex and the Park.

1890's News Clips

(reprinted by the Lenexa News,
circa 1900 - 1910)

1890 - Census of Lenexa - 185 souls
(1990's there are over 37,000 people!)

1891 - There are 40 pupils enrolled in the Lenexa
School District #46.
(Today, there over 3000 students attending
seven schools in Lenexa.)

1892 - Lenexa townsman, Henry Caenen,
possesses an old horse pistol found on
the battlefield of Waterloo.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist-
Episcoal Church will serve a supper
Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs.
H.D. Gillette, 9344 Second Street.
Come one, Come all! Supper is 10 cents.

1893 - Every true Kansan and especially farmers
of Johnson County will take pride in
the fact that our county took first premium
on corn at the Chicago World's Fair.

1894 - Ross Allen, 98th and Fourth Street, early
settler related he came through Kansas
City and Fort Leavenworth in 1847.....
Kansas City had one house and
Leavenworth was a wilderness.

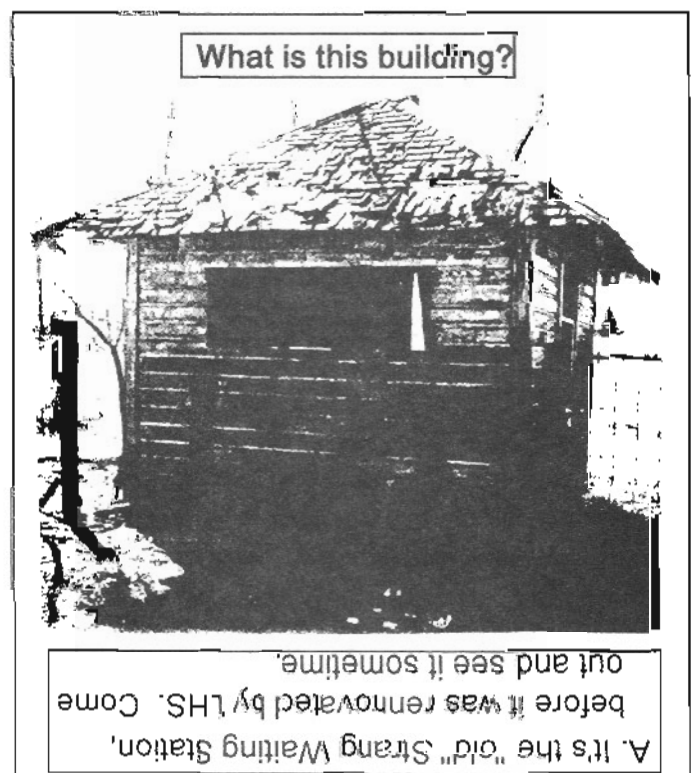
Circa **1900** - Three young women were killed at
the railroad crossing at 87th Street.
This made a total of 9 deaths at this
crossing following which the railroad
constructed the first viaduct in Lenexa.

1895 - Allen's Wood's (98th Street south to
103rd Street on the east side of Fourth
Street - now Pflumm Rd) was the site of
a 35-tent Camp Meeting. 800 people
attended the Sunday Service.

Squire Moore's bees produced more
than half a ton of honey this season. (It
is believed that he was the owner of a
portion of the current Sar-Ko-Par Trails
Park site.)

The Mohawk Indian Medicine Co. is here
for a 2-week engagement. Try a
bottle, it won't hurt you.

If you have any articles or "old" tidbits that you
would like to share with the members in future
Barn Talks, bring them to the Museum or mail
them to the attention of Jim Peterson.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

LIFE MEMBERS

Don & Katie Morris
9401 Noland Rd.
Lenexa, KS 66215 492-7158

Fred & Julia Ryckert
15458 Red Feather Rd.
Livermore, CO80536 (907) 493-6931

Annual Members

Ruth E. Hemphill
8911 Cottonwood, #3
Lenexa, KS 66215 888-2601

Robert & Jeanne Kobler
17819 157th Terrace
Bonner Springs, KS 66012 724-3807

Richard & Mickie Mettee
7055 Clare Road
Shawnee, KS 66226 441-4715

Truman L. Page
1380 1/2 W. 90th Dr. #4
Lenexa, KS 66215 599-3226

Norma J. Rochelle
14035 W. 90th Terrace, #3
Lenexa, KS 66215 438-5574

**A Special Thank You to All the Annual
Members who have Renewed their
Membership for 1996**

SOUP LUNCHEON

The Annual Soup & Homemade Bread Luncheon was held on Wednesday, February 7, 1996 and was considered a great success.

Almost 500 people were served during the two and a half hour event. There was plenty of soup for every one and all seemed to have left with a smile on their face and a full stomach!

Many participants bought the delicious home made bakery goods and items from the LHS Gift Shop. **Thanks** to every one who attended and/or sent in their donations. Your support is appreciated.

QUILTERS STITCHES

The Legler Barn Quilters have been working feverishly like busy bees on their various quilting projects. Not the least of which is the quilt they are readying for the spinach Festival. Even with all their work at the Barn, they still had time to demonstrate their skills at the Johnson County Museum's recent Quilt Show on Saturday, March 9th. Much interest was expressed by the visitors about quilting and their skills.

Remember if you wish to see our expert quilters in action, they are always working on their quilts at the Barn on Wednesdays. Stop in and spend some time with them, you will enjoy it!

Thelma Moyer, co-chairman

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THINK SPRING !!
LHS PLANT SALE
MAY 3, 4 & 5
LEGLER BARN MUSEUM
Sponsored by the Lenexa Historical Society