



BARN TALK

LENEXA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 14 Number 2

March - April 1997

MY OPINION

by Elaine Pegram, LHS Quilter

In reaching my decision to oppose the request for \$21,200.00, I asked myself several questions. First - Is the request a neat idea? Yes. Second - Can the Historical Society do it? Yes, if we want to spend the nest egg that has accumulated through the sale of hot dogs, hamburgers, bowls of soup, stitches in quilts, plant sales, rummage sales, etc., and in spending this amount leaves LHS almost broke. Third - Can we actually afford to buy furniture, that we will have to insure year after year, and at the same time plan for the Museum expansion? My opinion is No.

The Thompson home is a beautiful home. Beryl (Hennigh) and I had the pleasure of visiting Mr. Thompson there and we captured on tape his voice telling about the home. I can visualize the Thompson home being a tourist attraction some day, but to put first things first we should understand that the Historical Society has acquired numerous items that need to be displayed. In my opinion, the accumulated money should be held as a down payment on additional space for the Museum, which is Lenexa's only tourist attraction.

Since the LHS Quilters organized ten years ago, we, with great support from you Historical Society members, have donated approximately the amount required for the Thompson Home. Our theme song was "lower the mortgage on the Barn". I'm proud of our contribution and my hope is that some day the quaint Moore Home, which stood on this property can be restored and used for Museum expansion. I would urge every member of the Historical Society to visit the Barn, ask questions about our need for space and then form your opinion as to how the \$21,200 should be spent.

1997

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

March 25 - General Meeting

6:30 Chili/Steak Soup Supper

7:30 Anecdotes of Famous People

Stationed at Ft. Leavenworth

by John Reichley, Tour Director

At Schneeberger Hall, Lenexa

United Methodist Church

April 13 or 20 Tour of Fort Leavenworth

Bus tour being planned.

May 2, 3 & 4 LHS Plant Sale and

Bendorf Fountain Dedication

May 27 General Meeting - Roots of the Santa Fe Trail *

June 28 Lenexa BBQ at SAr-Ko-Par Park

July 4 Community Days/Miss Lenexa

July 26 & 27 Heartland Trails Festival

July 29 Picnic in the Park DAR Program

August 17 or 24 Tour of Lenexa's Historic Homes (Sunday bus tour)

September 6 Spinach Festival

September 28 Tour of Ghost Towns of Johnson County

October 19 or 26 Monticello Tour/Nelson Island Park Picnic - Alternate Quilters

October 22 & 23 Enchanted Forest

November 18 General Meeting - Native American Perspectives

December 28 Proposed Sleigh Rides in the Park

From the President

Don't forget to vote! I hope that we will have a 90% participation in the Thompson House issue. We will devote an hour after the program at the General Meeting, March 25, to answer your questions. YOU will decide if we spend the money for antique furnishings for the Thompson House. The Board will not spend the money without your approval.

The Chamber has issued a news release last week and the *Star* ran an article to publicize our request for public participation. As of March 18, we had received an offer for a sewing machine, a person who wanted to sell us reproductions and the loan of a painting of the Haskins House.

I am excited about our efforts to automate all of our historical documents. Norman Keech and Katie Evans have been working to scan and convert many of our documents. There's more good news! DeVry Institute will meet with us the week of March 18th to begin their project to show us how to automate all of our documents and to develop a system to maximize the use of our computers. The Group plans to complete their project in mid June. They will write programs, identify software and hardware needs, and write a plan for us to follow. Believe it or not -- it's free!

Oh, yes -- we're going to still have our books! The new system will make it easier for anyone to research all of our information even from the Internet. We will have a Home Page through the City of Lenexa. This project will take nearly two years to complete but we will be one of the first to have our historical data available through the Internet and computers. It will spark renewed interest by people of all ages of our roots and I'm sure it will be very popular with students.

(cont.)

Regardless, of the outcome of the vote, we must move forward. The need for storage and archival space is reaching the critical point. We must expand our facilities. We have waited too long. One of the more interesting plans is the one developed when Nancy Klunder was Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee of LHS. The Board and the Membership need to approve a plan -- we must get started. Hopefully, within the next two months the Board can bring a plan forward for discussion and approval.

Don't forget the Plant Sale will be coming the first weekend in May. Thanks to Bernie McNichols it's going to be bigger and better. There will be garden stones for sale and a person who wants to form a local garden club. If you have some special kind of plants you would like to see offered -- call Bernie McNichols. Mark your calendars!

LHS General Meeting March 25

The Chili and Steak Soup dinner meeting will include all the "fixings" this month; however, a Donation will be accepted to defray expenses for the meal and the hall rental.

The meeting will be held at the Schneeberger Hall at the Lenexa Methodist Church, 9138 Caenen Lake Road in downtown Lenexa. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. with the Program to follow at 7:30 p.m. Following the program a question and answer period will be held on the Thompson House proposal (see President's column).

The program will feature John Reichley, Tour Director for Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Mr. Reichley will present: Anecdotes About Famous Persons Stationed at Fort Leavenworth - 1820's through the 1990's. Can you guess who some of the people are that served at the Fort? Come and check your answers. There may be some surprises.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

ARE DUE

A96 A96 A96 A96 A96

Thank you to all the annual members that have renewed their membership for 1997. Your early response is appreciated.

We are still looking for a renewal from you if you see an "A96" or a "C96" on your label. It means that your membership for 1997 has not been paid as of the mailing date of the newsletter. Annual dues are \$15 per Individual and \$25 per Family membership and \$30 for a Contributing membership.

This is also a good time to let us know of any changes or corrections to your name and/or address. We try to keep our list up-to-date and correct but we need your help to keep us informed of changes.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ANNUAL MEMBERS

Sharla Gattshall 7328 Charles Ct. Shawnee, KS 66216	962-1477 w 881-8200
Millie Hogins & Albert Gumbs 14076 W. 88th Terrace Lenexa, KS 66215	888-4614
Bob & Mary Jo Jones 14903 W. 84th Terrace Lenexa, KS 66215	541-1465
Jan Peters 10209 Lowell Ovreland Park, KS 66212	888-1414
Thomas & Gladys Poulsen 7705 Acuff Lane Lenexa, KS 66216	631-8474
Daron B. Sinkler 9252 Noland Rd. Lenexa, KS 66215	624- 6116

NEW DISPLAY

Caenen/Schlagel/Rosner Family Items
on Display

Pat Lierly and Gladys Carns of the LHS Display Committee have completed a display of hats, clothing and a camel back trunk in the Center Display case on the main floor of the Legler Barn Museum.

Items include hats and clothing worn by Sylvia Caenen Schlagel (Mrs. Frank) and her daughter Katherine Schlagel Rosner(Mrs. John).

Descendants of the Carl Rosner estate, 9450 Lackman Road, Lenexa, made the donation in the Fall of 1996.

AROUND THE COUNTY

"A STITCH IN TIME" Exhibit of Quilts from the Johnson County Museum of History Collection has been extended from March 31 to June 1, 1997. The exhibit includes 22 quilts owned by the county museum. Quilts date from 1850's through the 1930's and include a rare design called the "Garden of Eden".

The County Museum is located at 6309 Lackman Road and may be reached from 63rd and Pflumm Road due to the bridge construction at Shawnee Mission Parkway and Lackman.

Used Book Sale

A Used Book Sale will be held at the Alexander Majors Barn at 8201 State Line Road on Friday March 21 and Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and also on Saturday, March 23 from 12 Noon to 5 p.m. Proceeds of the sale will be used to benefit the Alexander Majors House.

The House is a restored 1856 Kansas City Landmark set in the middle of 5 acres of park grounds. Alexander Majors was a partner in Russell, Majors and Waddell who owned the Pony Express and the Western Trails Freightng business consisting of 3400 wagons and 40,000 oxen in the 1850's.

LEGLER BARN MUSEUM
SAR-KO-PAR TRAILS PARK

MAY 2, 3, 4, 1997

PLANT SALE

LENEXA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lenexa Historical Society
14907 W. 87th St. Pkwy
Lenexa, KS 66215

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.57
Shawnee Mission, KS