



BARN TALK

LENEXA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 14 Number 3

May - June 1997

Lackman-Thompson House

by Pat Lierly, Project Chair.

The restoration of the house will be completed soon and the Chamber of Commerce will be moving in by July 1. We sincerely hope each LHS member will have an opportunity to tour this wonderful historic home. You will be proud to have had a part in adding a few beautiful antiques to show off the exquisite wood and plaster detail master crafted in this house 112 years ago.

At this time we are obligated for two antique mahogany side boards and a conference table at a cost of \$6770. We are still optimistic that after seeing this wonderful home there will be more donations of round tables to be used in the house.

We are grateful for the donations we have received and to those who wanted to contribute but did not have the particular items needed.

A special "Thank You" to Shawnee Mission Belles Questers for a perfect oval walnut table with marble top (the Belles Questers have been generous donors to the LHS before). Also, to Joe and Bernice Ryckert for the "meat block table" which was in the "Ryckert Grocery" for so many years. Of course it will go in the kitchen area.

There will be some special fund raisers in the future to put money back into our Barn Improvement fund. Your Furniture Acquisition Committee and the LHS Board members appreciate the hard work and continued effort to maintain our Museum by our members. We also appreciate the support of our City.

If you have an item you would like to contribute to LHS for the L-T House call the Barn, 492-0038

1997

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

May 27 General Meeting*

6:30 p.m. Dinner- Potluck

7:30 p.m. Program-

"Santa Fe Trail/Mahaffee House"

At the Lenexa United Methodist Church

RSVP - at the Barn -492-0038

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

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 - noon to 5 p.m.

October 19 or 26 Monticello Tour/Nelson Island Park Picnic

October 22 & 23 Enchanted Forest

November 18 General Meeting - Native American Perspectives

December 28 Proposed Sleigh Rides in the Park

GIFT CERTIFICATES

The Legler Barn Gift Shop has a lot of new items filling the shelves. Be sure to stop in and look around when ever you need to give someone a special gift. And if you can't choose between the many different items we also have -

Gift Certificates.

From the President

The final figures are in for the **Annual Plant Sale**. We made \$1689! It was the most successful Plant Sale ever! Thanks to Bernie McNichols for all of her efforts and leadership in making this a record year. A thank you to all of our members who worked at the sale and contributed to its success.

Many of us think of the **LHS Quilters** as fund raisers through their magnificent quilts at the Spinach Festival each year, but they also make periodic money contributions throughout the year. This week they donated \$160 to the Building expansion fund. Thank you Quilters.

DeVry Institute is moving ahead with their analysis and recommendations to automate all of our records and artifacts and to make the information easily accessible by the public. We expect to have their initial report in June. They have informed us that this may take another 6 months to complete the entire project. Hopefully we will have a final report prior to the end of the year. This is an ambitious project but one that will make us one of the first historical societies to have a completely computerized system. We couldn't have undertaken this project without DeVry.

On Tuesday, May 13th, Jim Peterson, Pat Lierly and myself met with Tom Schaefer, Assistant City Administrator, and Dennis Howard, City Budget Officer to discuss our future plans and our budget for 1998. We have requested an additional \$5,000 in City funding for 1998 to partially cover our anticipated computer and payroll costs. We also told them that we planned to have an expansion project plan by years end and would request additional funding for that project in the 1999 budget.

In this newsletter you'll also find a report by Pat Lierly on the status of our participation in the Thompson House. Pat is the chairperson in charge of coordinating the Thompson House project.

At the next General Meeting we will pass out survey forms to solicit your opinion on the direction you'd like the Society to pursue for the next few years.

Our busy **fund raising time** is upon us. In June we have the **BBQ**, which means the parking lot, Miss Lenexa Silent Auction, and concession booth. The **Wassers** have volunteered to chair the Parking Lot Committee; the Miss Lenexa Candidates will sell hamburgers at the BBQ concession area, and we will have a concession on the North side of the Barn, where the City's Children's area is being relocated. The Board has decided to forego a concession stand at the Street Fair on July 4th. The last weekend of July is the **Heartland Trails Festival** and we will have a concession stand along with exhibits. These efforts will require a lot of **People Power** so you can expect a call from one of the Committee Chairs. If you'd like to volunteer for any of these projects, please give Jim a call at 492-0038.

We were forced to cancel the Leavenworth trip because we had only 10 persons who had expressed an interest. We needed a minimum of 25 to meet the expenses. Hopefully our next trip will bring a better response.

I welcome any comments or suggestions that you might have on any subject so feel free to call me anytime at 894-5379.

LHS General Meeting Tuesday, May 27

The General Membership meeting will be held at Schneeberger Hall of the Lenexa United Methodist Church, 9138 Caenen Lake Road in downtown Lenexa. The Potluck Supper will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. following dinner. Mr Jack Tinnell, Site Administrator for the Mahaffie Farmstead and Stage Coach Stop, will speak on the Santa Fe Trail activity in Johnson County, the Mahaffie Family and Farmstead, and the history of Olathe where the trails divided.

Members, guests and friends are welcome.
Reservations are required, call 492-0038.

CONFERENCE NOTES

LHS Staff, **Beryl Hennigh**, and LHS member, **Ernestine Johnson** attended the **Kansas Preservation Alliance Benefit** on May 13. It was held in the Waddell Reed Auditorium of the United Investors Park, 6300 Lamar, in Overland Park.

Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. Was the keynote speaker. He discussed renewal and revitalization of the city core versus urban sprawl, and the benefit enjoyed by those cities who have placed special emphasis on the inner city areas. Some communities have drawn circles around their perimeters that indicate just how far they will permit urban sprawl to take place.

This special benefit will allow the Kansas Preservation Alliance to be eligible for a challenge grant of \$35,000 from the National Trust's state wide initiative program for 1997-98.

If the grant is funded it would allow KPA to assist local and state wide preservation efforts and enable the hiring of full time professional staff to carry out those services.

A tour of the 115 year old Nall-Patterson House, 5301 W. 67th St., Prairie Village, was held following Pres. Moe's presentation. This historic residence was heavily damaged by fire in 1993 and despite extensive damage, its owners Craig and Ann Patterson restored it to its original condition as far as was possible. Dave Graves was the architect for the project and McQuaid Bros. Remodeling Co. was in charge of the restoration.

FUTURE LHS TOURS

There are a number of interesting tours being planned this year by LHS. At the next General Membership Meeting (May 27) you will have an opportunity to hear about and indicate your interest for each. In August, (Sunday the 17 or 24) we have a tour of Lenexa's Historic Homes. September 28 a tour of Ghost Towns of Johnson County is scheduled and in October (Sunday the 19 or 26) a Monticell/Nelson Island Tour and Picnic is proposed. Each tour will give us new insights into the history of the area and should be very interesting.

Shawnee Indian Mission Classes

Historic Paper Making Classes will be held on June 21 and July 12 at the Shawnee Indian Mission state Historical Site. Nancy Beam if the Osage Spinners will instruct the classes. Students will work with two or three fibers from gathered plants, cook, process and turn into paper. Cost of the class is \$35.00. For more info and to register, call 262-0867.

A Nantucket Baskets workshop is planned for June 12 and June 13. Jim Rutherford of Loudonville, Ohio will be the guest instructor. He has taught at national conventions in several states and is the editor of a basketry magazine. Workshops begin at 10:00 a.m. Call 373-3175 for info and to register.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - SOMETIMES!!!

By Jim Peterson, Business Manager

Every so often, actually quite often, well really almost all the time, we can use some help!! Different days require different talents and skills but the fact is; the needs of the Legler Barn Museum Complex are ongoing and varied.

Sometimes we need help folding and labeling a mailing piece, **sometimes** we need help cooking hamburgers, **sometimes** we need help cleaning up after an event and **sometimes** we need help building or fixing something around the buildings or the grounds. You see - **SOMETIMES** we need help!

We have volunteers that sort and file historical papers and photos, set up and take down displays, quilt, work on scanning documents for computer input, serve as host or hostess for Sundays, and other events, planting and weeding the herb garden and the list goes on and on.

BUT, we don't always know who will do a certain job **sometimes**. We would like to know who to call when we need someone special for an upcoming project or event or to just lend a hand when we need a few more good hands! Frankly, we often get in the habit of calling the same people for everything and that isn't fair to those that may not be known to us and that would like to lend their talents to help the Historical Society **sometimes**.

SO, since most people are too bashful to call us to ask if they can help with anything, I would appreciate it if you would tell us in advance what kinds of things you would like to help with. THEN when we need someone **sometimes**, WE will call the appropriate, select and special person for the job!!

Please put your name and phone number on the coupon below and indicate where you can apply your special skills, talents and time and mail or bring it to the Barn.

For Example

Sometimes: I can – call members from home, work on a computer - word processing, graphics, help sort and file these volunteer forms, fix a fence, wash windows, paint, fix the BN Caboose, pull weeds, work in a food booth, cook, wash spinach, make soup, direct traffic, be involved in a living history presentation, be a host or hostess, dress up in period clothing, fix period clothing, sort and file stuff, be available to help where ever I can, fetch a pail of water! Whatever!!

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

I would like to volunteer my time and talents sometime to _____

CRAFT ITEMS NEEDED

Mrs. William F. "Bud" Thompson has asked if any LHS members or friends have any of the following items, buttons, scrap ribbons, and beads. Elcia volunteers each Tuesday and Wednesday at the Lakemary Center for Handicapped Children in Paola, where she holds art classes for these children.

You can drop off any of these items at the Legler Barn and we will see that they are given to Mrs. Thompson.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
ARE PAST DUE
A96 A96 A96 A96 A96**

Thank you to all the annual members that have renewed their membership for 1997. IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YET, this will be your last Newsletter and your name will not be in the updated Membership Directory.

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.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Harley & Geraldine Haskin
9006 Mullen Dr.

Lenexa, KS 66215 541-1549

Cathleen L. Green-Hodge
ON344 Willow Rd.

Wheaton, IL 60187 (630) 653-0036

Gail Mathews & Peter Wydeven
15031 W. 76th St.

Lenexa, KS 66216 (913) 248-0906

Kansas Travel Information

The Kansas Travel Information Center, located at 119th and I-35, is an excellent spot to begin your vacation planning. You can select from a wide variety of brochures, maps and information about historical sites in Johnson County and all the other 104 counties in the state.

**NEW FLYLEAF DISPLAY
Haskin Families Featured**

A new large Flyleaf Display has just been completed for the Wm P. Haskin and sons Samuel Bruce and Elkanah Haskin families of early Lenexa by the LHS Display Committee and family decendant, Connie Williams Andrews. Mrs. Andrews is the granddaughter of Elkanah Haskin, Lenexa's first banker. Haskin chartered the Farmers State Bank of Lenexa in April of 1904 in Downtown Lenexa. Wm P. Haskin and his wife Diana Brush Haskins came to Lenexa from Indiana in the 1865-1869 period.

**How did Sar-Ko-Par
Trails Park get its name?**

This Lenexa park, home of the LHS Museum Complex, honors a Creek Indian warrior, who died in 1849. He and some fellow tribesmen volunteered to assist the U.S. military, and he served as a captain with Tuscoaner Mayo. Their efforts successfully ended the Creek hostilities of 1836.

As a reward, President Abraham Lincoln gave 160 acres of land to the warrior's son in 1862. The Lenexa City Council voted to combine Sar-Ko-Par Park with Indian Trails Park in 1989 to create the present 53 acre preserve.

Stone Post

In the years after the Civil War, the early settlers came to Kansas and found the prairies nearly treeless. As they broke the sod, they found limestone, which they called greenhorn. This was a ready made building material.

As time prevailed the settlers cleaned off the stone and quarried it into building materials. They used these to build homes, barns, corrals and fence posts. The posts were used with the invention of barbed wire, as the earliest form of fencing livestock.

Have you seen the "stone post" outside of the Legler Barn Museum?

Tuesday thru Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Museum Gift Shop

Stop in and bring your Summer Visitors.
A great Place to Shop too!

LEGLER BARN MUSEUM SAR-KO-PAR TRAILS PARK

LENEXA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lenexa Historical Society
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Lenexa, KS 66215

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