



A Newsletter for Members and Friends of the Lenexa Historical Society

LHS News

March/April 2007

Volume 25, Number 2

A Presidential Letter

A letter from Alan Uhl



NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR LHS

One of the toughest and most persistent problems facing any museum is keeping track of its collections including artifacts, photographs, research resources etc. This has been a particular thorn in our side because our 8-10 year old Macintosh computer is filled to capacity and will accept no more information. For that reason your Board of Directors decided we must have dramatically increased capacity. The only way to do this is with a new computer system.

So.....we have purchased a Hewlett Packard Media Center 7690 Desktop Computer. It includes a 1 GIG Random Access Memory, 400 GB 7200 RPM Hard Drive, 300 GB Personal Media Drive for backup, DVD Burner and Recorder, 256 Video Card, 19" Monitor and Windows XP Operating System.

Folks, this is all so foreign to me. But directors Sonny Miller, Terry Clark and Connie Andrews are very computer literate and they put this package together with great help from Barn Coordinator, Becky Emmerich.

But we're not finished. We've purchased a program called File Pro 8.5 which will transfer the 30,000 items in the old Mac system to the new one with no physical inputting required. The old computer contained 50% to 70% of what we own. The new system will absorb that and the rest of our holdings with more than enough capacity for the foreseeable future.

But that's not all. On the recommendation of the Johnson County Museum we've purchased a program called Past Perfect 4.0. This will connect us with all the museums in the area PLUS about 15,000 more across the country. We will be able to access their collections as they will ours. Is this not incredible? My friends, we are taking our place in the big leagues of the American museum scene.

In addition to all of this we have a new HP 7410 all in one printer, scanner, fax and copier. It's capable of reading camera cards from digital cameras and prints two sides on both letter and legal size.

This beautiful system and the new copier described elsewhere in this newsletter were made possible by a \$5,000 gift from the Legler Barn Quilters a few years ago. The use to which this gift was devoted was paying outside contract help to get our materials into the system. But, as pointed out, the system filled up so we were stymied. And there was about \$4,300 left in the account. The addition of about \$1,200 of Society funds enabled us to do all this. The Lenexa Historical Society expresses tremendous gratitude to our beloved quilters.

Saturday, March 17, 2007
Lenexa United Methodist Church
Schneeberger Hall
91st and Caenen Lake Road
Call for reservations 913-498-8117

Daniel Boone
Presented by Herbert F. Ziegler, Jr.
Pancake breakfast including sausage,
orange juice and coffee at 9:00 a.m.
See the inside flyer

ALL ARE WELCOME

LHS Board of Directors

Alan Uhl
President
913-856-8205

Connie Andrews
1st Vice President
913-894-1376

Sue Cunningham
2nd Vice President
913-492-8735

Ed Bowman
Secretary
913-888-1147

Wilbert (Sonny) Miller, Jr.
Treasurer
913-888-3762

Sharon Hammontree
913-498-8117

Terry Clark
913-894-1211

Van Rose
913-631-8661

Tom Gyska
913-888-4445

Waxing Furniture



A small grant to help with costs will be ours if I can get help waxing items such as organs, piano and bedroom set.

We need 1 or 2 volunteers to help preserve by waxing furniture at the Legler Barn Museum. The Johnson County Museum has given me the name of a wax to use.

Set your own schedule during museum hours:

Tuesday through Friday	10-4
Saturday and Sunday	1-4

If you can help please call:

Connie Andrews	913-894-1376
or	
Legler Barn Museum	913-492-0038

NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM CREATES NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

Nothing comes without a price. Although we will be able to transfer 30,000 items automatically into our new HP computer system, as I pointed out in my letter that represents 50% to 70% of what we own. That means there are thousands of items needing to be entered. These are both at the Barn AND in our underground storage in the cave. We will need to photograph each and every one of those artifacts in those containers in the cave.

This is a huge job and we can't afford to pay to have it done. It presents a wonderful opportunity to get involved in an important aspect of our Society's activity. Any one who would like to help with this project please call me or any other director or tell Becky at the Barn. We'll all learn a lot before we're done.

Alan Uhl

NEW COPIER

Our antiquated copier has been replaced. We have purchased the Savin 2522 copier. We are now self-sufficient and this LHS newsletter is the first using our new copier.

Lenexa Historical Society

General Meeting

Saturday, March 17, 2007
Lenexa United Methodist Church
Schneeberger Hall
91st and Caenen Lake Road

Breakfast: 9:00 a.m.
Program: 10:00 a.m.

Daniel Boone

Presented by Herbert Frederick Ziegler, Jr.



Herbert Frederick Ziegler, Jr. will present a program on Daniel Boone. Mr. Ziegler is a member of the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society, Westport Historical Society, and Native Sons of Kansas City.

Call for reservations:
913-498-8117

Free Will Donation
Everybody is Welcome!
Bring a guest and receive a gift.

Pancake breakfast including sausage, orange juice and coffee at 9:00 a.m.

THANK YOU

to all who have
given generously of their
time and help in getting this
LHS News publication out in
a timely manner.



March - when daylight savings time begins, 11th,
we celebrate St. Patrick's day, 17th, and the
first day of spring, 21st.

April – when many celebrate Easter, 8th,
and Secretary's Day on the 25th.

May blessings abound for all in the months ahead.

MARY KAY SMITH IS AWARDED SPIRIT TROPHY

Mary Kay Smith, a lady whose importance to the Lenexa Historical Society over the years cannot be overstated, is the inaugural recipient of the Haskin Williams Andrews Spirit Award. Because Mary Kay slipped on the ice, she was unable to attend the January membership meeting to receive the trophy. Her daughter, Peggy Hughes, was present and accepted the award on behalf of her mother. LHS President Alan Uhl made the presentation with 1st Vice President Connie Andrews, donor of the trophy, standing by. Mary Kay, who will keep the trophy for a year, was also presented with a floral bouquet as well as a certificate as a permanent memento.



WAVA STOKER ON THE MEND

Wava Stoker, of the Legler Barn Quilters, expresses her appreciation for all the prayers, love and encouragement she received from everyone during her recent bout with breast cancer. She has completed radiation, is gaining strength rapidly and has been told her prognosis is excellent. We wish you God's blessings in your continuing recovery, Wava.

“Round Up” of Volunteers
for Lenexa’s
100th Year Celebration.



Photo Gallery

by Sharon and Marvin Hammontree



A meeting for the Lenexa 100th Celebration was scheduled for all volunteers, January 17, 2007 at the Lenexa Conference Center. This meeting was for all people who had expressed interest in volunteering for this event. If you are interested in volunteering contact Craig Denny at ckdenny@terracon.com or Bill Nicks at bnicks@ci.lenexa.ks.us.

Ecumenical Camp Meeting

At our January membership meeting we were presented with a very interesting presentation of how an old fashioned Ecumenical Camp Meeting was held. Jennifer Bryan, a minister for the Lenexa United Methodist Church, has taken on the project of an Old Fashioned Ecumenical Camp Meeting for the 100th Anniversary of the chartering of Lenexa. She explained how people met for these camp meetings after the fall harvests were put up for the winter. This was a major social event of the year for the communities and surrounding area.

Jennifer is hoping to involve as many churches within the city as possible. She has worked very hard to make this event as authentic as possible. The Lenexa Historical Society will have a tent at the Camp Meeting. Participants within the tents will be dressed in authentic dress. Come join us on May 6th for services and stay for the day -- since the events in Sar-Ko-Par Park will continue on into the evening with an Old Fashioned Field Day, Ice Cream Social and a Combined Choir.



Wilbert (Sonny) Miller, Jr. is treasurer for the Lenexa Historical Society.

Hi, my name is Wilbert W. "Sonny" Miller, Jr. My life began and probably will finish on 87th Street. I was born and raised in our old home place on 87th in Overland Park and we now have returned to my wife Judy's old home place (the bog stone house on the hill) in Lenexa. My great, great grandfather was Lemuel Nall, a brother to John Nall, Jr. who was early settlers in Johnson County. The Nall family is buried along with the Wash White Indian family at the Highland Cemetery at 5000 W. 65th St. in Prairie Village, KS.



I grew up working in my father's sheet metal shop and continued on in the mechanical construction industry—moving to West Des Moines, Tampa, Florida and New Orleans, Louisiana for 30 years of my career. I attended Overland Park Grade School and Shawnee Mission Rural High School.

One of my childhood memories was my grandmother's grape vineyards that I had to hoe and where I had to pick many, many grapes. I also helped my grandmother cut and gather the peonies she would sell to her many customers for Memorial Day. My brother and I practiced baseball in the cow pasture at 95th and Antioch. Ed Bowman's dad was our American Legion baseball coach and we played at Segner Field at 87th and Grant. I would go on many coon hunts with my Dad. My favorite old Uncle Marvin would take me fishing to the Lake of the Ozarks where we would fish for hours not noticing that the mosquitoes were eating us alive and sometimes we'd get lost in the fog. We'd survive on Spam and Vienna sausages – but what an adventure for a 12 yr. old boy.

My wife and I were high school sweethearts. We have 3 grown children – a married daughter in West Des Moines, a son in Mainz, Germany and our youngest son in Gardner who married a German girl from Mainz. We have 5 grandchildren, three girls and two boys, ages 19, 16, 6, 4, and 1. Our oldest granddaughter just began her first year at Iowa University.

I've "come home" to Lenexa. I have so many fond memories of watching movies on a Friday night in Old Town Lenexa. They were projected on the wall of the old fire station. My mother would drive us across the 87th street bridge to visit the Belgian truck farmer stands along old Kansas City Road (Quivira) where we would buy our onion, tomato and pepper sets to start our home garden each Spring. I could hear the old steam engines and the clickity-clack of their wheels and the train's steam whistles echoed in the night. A few hobos would get off the trains and stop by homesteads to ask for a meal. My grandmother knew one certain hobo who she would hire to prune her grape vines because she was very particular how it had to be done. Then she would furnish him a good meal for his labor.

Congratulations Lenexa! I'm so proud of our city and so proud of our history. I want to wish you a very happy 100th Birthday!!



LHS 2007 Membership Directories are now available. If you have not received your new directory please come in to the Legler Barn Museum and pick one up. If unable to get out please call the Legler Barn Museum, 492-0038, to arrange to get your new directory.

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For those who have already received the LHS 2007 Membership Directories please update with the following changes, additions and deletions.

(address) Cailler, Barbara J.
Winston Tower 1133
5 Tudor City Place
New York, NY 10017-6869

(phone #) Cunningham, Rose Ann Sue 913-492-8735
 10222 Edelweiss Circle rcunni@kc.rr.com
 Shawnee, KS 66203

(all) **Gaul, Brant & Mary Ellen** 913-642-1671
21635 W. 98th St.
Lenexa, KS 66220-2680

(email) Lillie, Bob & Karen 913-888-1476
 17008 W. 84th Street bkilillie2@sbcglobal.net
 Lenexa, KS 66219

(phone #) McKenzie, Walt 913-888-0666
 10200 Haskins cell: 816-985-4719
 Lenexa, KS 66215

(all) **Mino, Angelo H. & Maria** 913-888-3762
8926 Summit work: 816-322-0562
Lenexa, KS 66215 maria48@excite.com

(zip code) Peterson, Jim & Erika 913-648-2043
 15332 W. 83rd Terrace
 Lenexa, KS **66219-1551**

(name) Spaith, James & Nancey 913-631-9541
 12300 W. 65th Terrace cell: 913-220-4787
 Shawnee, KS 66216 jmspaith@yahoo.com
auntnancy1@yahoo.com

Delete from your directory:

Mildred Hunt (Deceased May 2006)
 13215 Logan Lane
 Lenexa, KS 66215

Frances Vandever (Deceased)
 c/o Sweet Life

Beverly Zavadil (not a member)
 9801 Walmer
 Overland Park, KS



Join the Lenexa Historical Society or Renew Your Membership

Lenexa Historical Society Membership Application for Renewals or New Members

- Single \$20
- Single Life \$200
- Family \$30
- Family Life \$300
- Corporate \$250
- Corporate Life \$2,500

Name _____

Authorized person, if corporation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Please mail to: LHS, 14907 W. 87th St. Parkway, Lenexa, KS 66215

Make checks payable to: Lenexa Historical Society. Thank you!



Enjoy Breakfast with LHS

Join us for FOOD and FUN conversation

Where: Hy-Vee, 87th and Plumm

Time: 9:00 a.m.

When: the second Saturday of each month

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 3*

December 8

*This is the first Saturday of the month.

Hy-Vee provides a free breakfast for all veterans on the Saturday nearest Veteran's Day, which should be November 10th, our usual meeting day when seating is scarce.

The Lenexa Historical Society's Annual Homemade Soup Luncheon held on Wednesday, February 14, 2007, at the Lenexa Community Center was so delicious -- not a drop of soup was left.



Compliments to the chefs and all who helped make it such a savory success.

Look for pictures in our next issue of the *LHS News*.

LHS News is published six times a year by the Lenexa Historical Society.

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The Lenexa Historical Society is dedicated to the appreciation, preservation and promotion of Lenexa's Historical heritage.



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LHS News

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