



*A Newsletter for Members and Friends of the Lenexa Historical Society*

# LHS News

January/February 2008

Volume 26, Number 1

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## A Presidential Letter

*A letter from Alan Uhl*



Here it is 2008! Does that seem possible?

Your Society had a very good 2007. One example of this is that, for the first time in a while, our membership is on the rise having increased by a total of eight new members. Lets all see what we can do to bring in more new members in 2008.

We had a very successful Soup Luncheon last February. Walt McKenzie was Chairman and has agreed to run it again this year. That's good news. Last year, for the first time, we got away from volunteers making soup in small batches, instead several of us made the soups in bulk using the facilities of the Lenexa Masonic Lodge. Results were very favorable so this year we're again making Arrowhead Steak Soup, Ham and Bean Soup and Vegetarian Vegetable Soup. My friend from Salem Lutheran Church, retired Chef Pat Sweeney, will again donate the stocks used to make these soups and we'll use the recipes he gave us last year. You'll be hearing more about this event from Walt.

Also in 2007 we participated in The Great Lenexa Barbeque Battle by running the parking concession, had an award winning entry in the Lenexa 4th of July Parade, conducted an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social at Water Fest, operated Spinach Garden Cafe, World's Largest Spinach Salad and Wimpy Burgers at Lenexa's Spinach Festival, helped Sharon win another Championship at Lenexa's Chili Challenge and had a very successful First Annual Smoked Pork Chop Dinner. We also had 6 interesting and informative General Membership Meetings with good fellowship for all.

All in all, quite a year!

Planning continues for the celebration of the Legler Barn 25th Anniversary in May.

Your Board of Directors for 2008 consists of Sharon Hammontree, Alan Uhl, Ed Bowman, Connie Andrews, Terry Clark, Sonny Miller, Van Rose, Tom Gryska and Marc Lassalle. Sue Cunningham has left the board but has pledged to continue with the important projects she has going. Officers for 2008 will be elected at the January 3rd board meeting.

We're looking ahead to a great 2008.

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Thursday, January 24, 2007  
Lenexa United Methodist Church  
Schneeberger Hall  
91<sup>st</sup> and Caenen Lake Road  
Call for reservations 913-498-8117

**Naismith**

Presented by Bill Nicks

*See inside flyer*

ALL ARE WELCOME

**LHS Board of Directors**

Alan Uhl  
President  
913-856-8205

Connie Andrews  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
913-894-1376

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 Gryska  
913-888-4445

Marc Lassalle  
913-310-0949

# Former Director Lands Her "Dream Job"

by Katie Evans

Former LBM director Kiersten Latham has a new job. She is the Coordinator of the Museum Studies Program at the University of Kansas. This is the graduate program in which she was enrolled while at our museum. She graduated in 1999.

Her job is to run the program, advise students, organize curriculum, hire instructors, maintain the budget, and oversee the future of the program. She also teaches Collections Management. Next year, she will likely teach an introductory course called The Nature of Museums.

Kiersten said, "We haven't decided what to do about moving. It's just too expensive and we have a fabulous house/property out here (in Lindsborg, KS). I'm commuting for now. In Lawrence 2-3 days, stay at friends', drive back."

Everyone in LHS wishes Kiersten the best for her new responsibilities. We know she'll do an excellent job.

## Schedule for the January LHS Membership Meeting



At the January Meeting, we will be serving LHS' Award Winning Chili with all the condiments, relishes, dessert with ice cream and drinks.

Reservations appreciated.



# *Lenexa Historical Society*

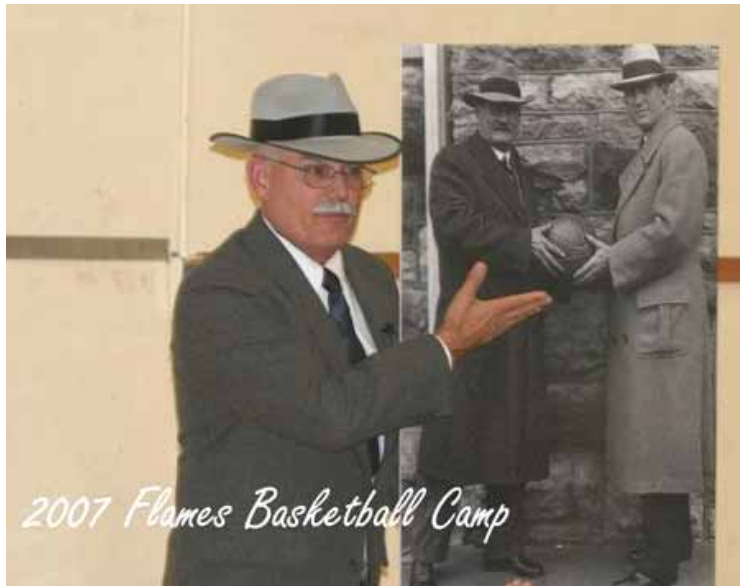
## *Membership Meeting*

Thursday, January 24, 2008  
Lenexa United Methodist Church  
Schneeberger Hall  
91<sup>st</sup> and Caenen Lake Road

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.  
Program: 7:30 p.m.

**JAMES NAISMITH**

Presented by: Bill Nicks



Call for reservations:  
913-498-8117

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

# VOLUNTEER CORNER

## Biography of Clarissa Haynes

I was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas. My parents, George and Jane Mears, were florists for many years. I graduated from Baker University, which led to a teaching position at Washington High School for four years. After that I stayed home with two girls enjoying Girl Scouting, PTA, and all the other activities two growing girls get Mom involved in. I volunteered in the grade school library where my girls attended. This grew into a paid position which eventually led me to get a Master's Degree in Library Science. From there it was on to Schlagle High School and eventually to Coronado Middle School where I was the Certified Librarian in the building. What fun it was to work with energetic Middle School students.



My Lenexa connection goes back to my grandmother, Ella Clarissa Allen. Her family had a house about 98<sup>th</sup> and Pflumm. Her father, George Allen, was a mail carrier. She taught school in Lenexa in the early 1900's. There was a young principal, Clifford C. Nesselrode, working his way through medical school who became interested in Ella. They were married January 1, 1908 at the home of her parent's, George and Adda Allen. C. C. and Ella took a horse and buggy to their new home in Kansas City, Kansas. At that time George Allen told his daughter there was no need to move to the city. Just stay in Lenexa and the city would come to Lenexa.

Involvement with the Legler Barn Museum began with a couple of donations. In dealing with Beryl she mentioned the Barn needed someone to help in the library. Who can say no to Beryl? This was right up my alley. I have enjoyed the last three years at Legler Barn and hope to continue for a long time.

Ann Childers won first place in the recipe contest for Spinach Quiche at the Spinach Festival. Ann won \$50 for her own delicious variation of the recipe. Good for you, Ann!



### Rotary Honors Van Rose

by Katie Evans

LHS board member Van Rose has been named The Rotary Club of Johnson County Outstanding Master Teacher for 2007. The award is given annually to outstanding teachers in Johnson County. Van is a teacher and cross country track coach at Shawnee Mission Northwest.

Congratulations, Van, from your friends in LHS!

# QUILTING NEWS

by Wava Stoker



The news from the quilters' corner is sparse this newsletter. The quilters hope that your Holidays were as you wished them to be and that the New Year be one to remember.

We have finished almost four quilts this year. As you know, those funds go to the Historical Society for many different projects.

Please stop in, go up to the loft, take a look at the antique quilts in the bedroom. Linda Mooney is the owner of these quilts. She has some really good friends.

"God Bless Your Year, thy coming in, thy going out, God Bless Your Year."

# Community Service Award



The Community Service Award was presented to Bob Wilson, Jennifer Bryan and Mandy Stuke by Mayor Boehm at the City Council Meeting in November. They were inducted into the Lenexa Volunteer Hall of Fame for a substantial contribution of time, talent and energy over a period of years for the betterment of all those in Lenexa.

Bob Wilson is very active with the boy scouts.

Jennifer Bryan and Mandy Stuke were involved with the 100th Year Celebration of Lenexa.

## Vision 2030



Vision 2030 – Help Shape Lenexa's Future Tuesday and Thursday evening several members of the community participated in the Vision 2030 Forum at the Lenexa Community Center. These forums are open to everyone. This community-driven process will help us identify Lenexa's vision for the future and will result in a document to help guide the Governing Body in decisions regarding the city's growth and planning. For more information check [www.ci.lenexa.ks.us](http://www.ci.lenexa.ks.us)

# Photo Gallery

by Sharon Hammontree



At the November 2007 Lenexa Historical Society General Meeting, Deborah Buckner portrayed Elizabeth Bacon Custer. Libby Custer shared her stories of the special challenges frontier Army wives faced in trying to create a festive holiday on remote outposts far from shops and resources.

## 2008 Officers Masonic Lodge #135



Saturday, December 15, 2007, was the Installation of Officers at the Lenexa Masonic Lodge No. 135 for the year 2008. The lodge will be celebrating their 135th anniversary in 2008. Historically speaking, Frank Legler, son of Adam Legler, made the furniture used in the installation ceremony. The sound block that will be used at their meetings was found in a garage sale by Angelo Mino, the new Worshipful Master of the Lodge. E. M. Switzer, a member of the Lenexa Masonic Lodge, was the first mayor of Lenexa and there are several masons of the lodge that belong to the Lenexa Historical Society.

New officers for the lodge, from left to right in the back row: Donald Dyer, Chaplain, W. Robert E. Anderson, Treasurer, Jon Robbins, Tyler, Edward Shoemaker, Senior Deacon, Brian Baker, Junior Steward. Front row: W. Clifford Wade, Secretary, Greg Keffer, Senior Warden, Angelo Mino, Worshipful Master, Blake Breeden, Junior Warden, Michael Ryan, Junior Deacon.

# FIRST LHS PORK CHOP DINNER

by Rita DeBrabander



Wrapping potatoes for the Pork Chop Dinner.

I want to thank those pictured and Donna McClure for her special help in cleaning up afterwards and also thanks to Tom Gryska's kids.

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## OLD FASHIONED ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Katie Evans conceived the idea for this charming event and has chaired it for the three years of its existence. Katie and Dennis will be doing a lot of traveling this year so she will not be able to run it.

Therefore, if we are to continue with it we will need a new chairperson. Katie's records are very complete and she will be able to give thorough guidance to whoever takes it on.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for this assignment, please contact any Board Member or Becky at the Barn.

Thank you very much.

## Annual Homemade SOUP LUNCHEON

February 13, 2008

11:00 to 1:00

at the

Community Center  
13420 Oak St.  
Lenexa, KS 66215

Tickets: \$7 in advance  
\$7.50 at the door



## GENEVIEVE HASKIN WILLIAMS 1903-2000

by Connie Andrews

Genevieve was born to Maud and E. Harley Haskin in 1903. She grew up in Lenexa receiving her education from local public schools in Lenexa and Olathe. Genevieve graduated from Baker University with a Bachelor of Music degree. At Baker she met her husband L. Dwight Williams. They were married for 65 years. Genevieve and Dwight were very active in city activities, civic and religious organizations in Lenexa. They were part of the founding group of people who organized the Lenexa Historical Society. Genevieve played the piano and organ for the Lenexa United Methodist Church for 46 years before retiring. She always had an inquisitive mind concerning biblical subjects. She turned this interest into collections and speeches for civic and religious organizations in the greater Kansas City area.

The Nativity is only one of those interests and collections. She purchased many of the nativities in her travels as well as using her artistic ability to create others. Not having the room to store the extensive collection she gave it to her Granddaughter, Jocelyn Ervin, before her death.

Currently on display at the Legler Barn Museum – until approximately mid-January.



## LHS 2007 Directory Updates

### New Members

George & Diana Arnold 913-631-0335  
 13213 W. 76<sup>th</sup> St.  
[george.arnold@sprint.com](mailto:george.arnold@sprint.com)  
 Shawnee, KS 66216-3009

C. Timothy Connor 402-493-0365  
 14463 Grant St.  
 Omaha, NE 68116  
[timconnor@earthlink.net](mailto:timconnor@earthlink.net)

John J. Connor 913-894-2016  
 8572 Hauser Ct.  
 Lenexa, KS 66215 [connorjj@msn.com](mailto:connorjj@msn.com)

Marc & Allison Lassalle 913-310-0949  
 9111 Pflumm Road 913-626-0187  
 Lenexa, KS 66215  
[mlassalleusa@netscape.net](mailto:mlassalleusa@netscape.net)

### New Address

Phil & Gail Acuff  
 4901 W. 133<sup>rd</sup> St. #301  
 Leawood, KS 66209-7808

Allison Elliott  
 13205 Winchester Ave  
 Grandview, MO 64030-3221

Jean & Art Seifert  
 9150 Shady Bend Road  
 Shawnee, KS 66227-7245

### Deceased

Bill Lierly  
 13105 Logan Lane  
 Lenexa, KS 66215

## City of Lenexa – City Profile

City Size: 34.4 sq miles

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
2000	40,238
2007	46,000 (estimated)
2030	67,579 (projected)

Household Information:

2000	Number of Housing Units:	16,378
2000	Average Household Size:	2.54 persons
2007	Number of Housing Units:	19,676 <i>(includes permits issued through Oct. 2007)</i>
2007	Household Size:	2.45 (staff estimate)
2030	Number of Housing Units:	29,124

Type of Housing Units:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2030</u>
Single-family:	11,196	17,924
Duplex & Multi-Family:	8,080	11,200

2000 Owner-occupied housing units: 63%  
 2000 Renter-occupied housing units: 37%

1999 Median Household Income: \$61,990

2006 Lenexa Average Appraised Home Value: \$238,210

2006 Lenexa Average Home Selling Price: \$281,697

Median Age (2000): 35.1 years

Education: 49.8% of Lenexa adults 25 years old or older had a bachelor's degree or higher.

Sources: US Census  
 Lenexa Planning and Development Department  
 Johnson County Appraisers Office

# *HAPPY NEW YEAR*

and

# *Happy Valentine's Day*



### 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. 87<sup>th</sup> 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, 87<sup>th</sup> and Pflumm  
 Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 When: the second Saturday of each month

2008  
 January 12  
 February 9  
 March 8  
 April 12  
 May 10

2008  
 June 14  
 July 12  
 August 9  
 September 13  
 October 11

**DEADLINE**

for next issue

March/April

*LHS News* articles

is 2 p.m.

February 26th

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Sharon Hammontree, Mary Kay Smith,  
Wava Stoker and Alan Uhl

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

The gala opening of the  
**Legler Barn Museum**

at

**Sar-Ko-Par Park**

will celebrate its

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

on

**May 3, 2008**



# LHS News

*Return Service Requested*

Lenexa Historical Society  
14907 W. 87<sup>th</sup> Street Parkway  
Lenexa, KS 66215-4135  
[www.lenexahistory.org](http://www.lenexahistory.org)

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