

Pioneer Press

Nemaha County Historical Society, Inc.

November, December, January

Volume 27, Issue 2

Cool weather and bank celebration bring nice crowds to museums and downtown Seneca

34th Nemaha County Heritage Festival

Seneca and Nemaha County have a strong German heritage, thanks to large numbers of German immigrants who came here in the 1800s.

That heritage is still present today, and it's shown not only in our love for food, speakers and authentic German entertainment at the Heritage Festival 2009.

In honor of this German heritage, Scott Seeger, Germanic Language expert shared his power-point research on Saturday at the Pony Express Museum.

Youthful dancers, vocalists and fiddlers entertained a large crowd on the Main Street Kiosk.



Nolan Sump, stone carver

The traveling exhibit, "From Far Away Russia: Russian-Germans in Kansas," produced by the Kansas State Historical Society and dis-

played at the Nemaha County Historical Museum drew a steady stream of visitors. Young and old enjoyed the cool weather, the petting zoo, Nolan Sump's stone carving at the Pony Express Museum and Resident Woodcarver Bob Ackerman at the Historical Museum.



Dates To Remember

November 10, 2009: 7 p.m.
Quarterly Board Meeting

February 9, 2010: 7 p.m.
Quarterly Meeting, 7 p.m.

March 18, 2010: 11-1:30
Soup & Chili Fundraiser

May 11, 2010: 7 p.m.
Quarterly Board Meeting

June 8, 2010: 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Annual Meeting

July 13, 2010: 7 p.m.
Reorganization Meeting

Saturday, October 2, 2010
Fundraiser

Sunday, October 3, 2010
Heritage Festival-Open House

Museum Boards Set Heritage "Day" 2010

Representatives of the Pony Express Preservation Society and the Nemaha County Historical Society, Inc. met on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 to evaluate the Seneca Heritage Festival 2009. The expense will be shared by both organiza-

tions with each paying \$312.80. The Travel and Tourism grant has paid \$2000 towards promotion and publicity.

The event activities were reviewed and evaluated. After a discussion of community support, staffing limitations and financial

needs, the boards decided to plan a one-day Heritage Day in 2010. The Sunday October 3rd event will be held at the Nemaha County Historical Museum from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the Pony Express Museum volunteers assisting with the event.



New To The Museum

Mary Sourk	Goff Extension Unit Homemaker Club program books, secretary books: 1949-1984
Alma & Bob Ackerman	Feed Sack tablecloth, patterns, baby safety pins – snaps, 1961 & 1965 Farmer's Almanacs; "The Private Mary Chesnut", History of Wetmore; Joe Jones bibliography & painting; Kentucky Confederate Vet and Widows Pension Index; photos (2) Seneca Fair 1920, Bern Postcard, double razor blade sharpener, razor, Blue Cross membership certificate 1951
Mary Jane Fleming	Ft. Markley, Amos Smith & Jim Markley scrapbooks, photos and clippings, genealogy
Carol Kohake	Pink vintage hair dryer
F.G. Holthaus	Newspaper clipping @ Dr. Hash
Greg Newlin, Sabetha	Research for Ancestor Trail, Coal Ck. St. Patrick's Parish
Dean Rial	1970's—80's Computer software & hardware
Carol Lueger	Kelly photos and archives
David Fangman	Photograph of Ft. Lewis and miniature of "Remember the Maine" milk glass
Nellie Beckwith	Photograph: Unidentified Centralia float
Grace Strathman	History of Kampler Switch (Vondenkamp, Tangeman)
Velven York	Original Harsh Drug photos, clippings, booklets; eight Indian made woven baskets
Jeanie Ziolkowski	Kelly photos, Joe Rottinghaus's store items, booklets: typewriter history, infant care and rules governing Country Safety
Kelly Brest van Kempen	PEO group photograph—1889
Jan & Ray Droge	Copies of photographs: Christine Kock, Christian Henry Steinmeir, Johann and Anna Wilbertz Koch, Clark and Donna Koch Beck family.
Will Scheier, Mission, KS	Copies of photographs: homestead & family 1887 wedding picture of Mathias F Scheier; Mathias Francis Scheier family 1904;
Steve Stallbaumer	Vintage Compass, Surveyor's – wood box; MERS asbestos slate cutter
Dr. Willis Starnes, TX.	Genealogy: Family Group Sheets: Armstrong, Walden, Fox, Cline
Dennis Rottinghaus	Vintage team halters, bridle, saddle, 4 horse collars, two CCC building boards
Louis Childers,, VA	Burger family: clamp meat grinder
Marilyn Ronnebaum	Vintage Baby Log booklet, Onaga Hotel paper fan
John Frey, Dubois, NE	1922 Nemaha County Atlas
Morris Werner, Tennessee	Summary: Central Overland & Pikes Peak Express & Pony Express routes, settlers, hotel , store owners, stage coach station masters, postmasters
Jan Bergman	Photographs & letters: Dr. Conrad Barnes
Albert "Butch" Clark	Sheriff-plaque and picture

HELP FOR MUSEUM IS NEEDED

Not everyone has the instinct to preserve history.

But in every community, there are a few people who are driven to collect and maintain the history of their world.

In Kansas, the people who care about history gravitate to their local historical society. Most Kansas counties have one, and most counties also have a historical museum.

Professional staff is rare. Most county museums operate entirely on volunteer help, but the intent is clear: Collect artifacts and records from "the old days" so our children and future generations will be able to see how their ancestors lived.

Financial support is provided through dues, fundraisers and contributions. Some museums are financed with a county or city mill levy or monthly support. The Nemaha County Museum receives water and electricity free from the city and \$950 annually from the county. Clearly that is not enough to meet monthly needs. NCHS is seeking sponsorships to meet these needs.

Museum's Monthly Needs

Gas Service.....	\$31.17
Internet Service.....	\$42.17
Website.....	\$50.00
Contract Labor.....	\$208.00
Telephone.....	\$39.02
Supplies.....	\$75.00
Maintenance.....	<u>\$100.00</u>
Monthly Total	\$545.36
Window Restoration	
Per window.....	\$1000.00
38 windows	

LLEWELLYN CASTLE, by John T. Bristow (1931), Part 3

Most of the English colonists at Llewellyn Castle were tradesmen, sent over in 1870 to establish an English Colony and to superintend fencing the lands. George Cox, a carpenter, was one of those tradesmen. And, very much to the merriment of the Kansas natives, he did that fencing in the dead of winter, when the ground was frozen. The postholes he and his countrymen dug that winter cost the English Company one dollar each. Such frozen assets were, of course, conducive to the downfall of the Company.

But George Cox was not the fool that his ice-bound fence would indicate. The real fault was on the other side of the big pond. The Company sent Cox over here in mid-winter to build a fence. He was without funds. The larder of Llewellyn Castle was low, distressingly low. And his brother Englishmen needed immediate succor. There was money for George Cox only when he worked. And he couldn't afford to put in all his time that blizzard, snowbound winter hanging onto the coat-tail of one of his brother countrymen while the bunch of them played ring-round-the-stove in that old Colony house to keep from freezing, as he once told me he was compelled to do. So, then, what was really wrong with George's congealed fence idea?

Like other Englishmen, after coming here, George Cox had a lot to learn. He was the complainant in a lawsuit involving the ownership of a cow. John J. Ingalls was attorney for Theodore Wolfley, the defendant. The illustrious John J. queried, "What color was your cow, Mr. Cox?"

"Bay," said George. The court laughed, and told Cox to try again.

"Well," said George, "I 'ave a bay 'orse, and my cow 's the same color as my bay 'orse."

And then it got worse, from over the seas, came the jovial Mr. Murray, clothed in authority and a super abundance of ego, English to the core. He had been sent over here to make an audit of the Company's estate. Murray stopped first at Wetmore and partook freely of Johnny Clifton's "alf-and-alf." He was a free spender and made friends here readily.

In pursuance of his duties, Mr. Murray said to those Colony delinquents, "Wots the jolly old idea of all this reticence? Hits most happallin! I want to see the books, by-jove."

One of those derelicts exclaimed with a little more mirth than was becoming, "I-si, just listen to 'im, fellow! Wants to see the books, 'e does! That's rich! Si, mister we don't keep henny books!"

Then in unison they shot words at Mr. Murray which were the same as "You get the hell out of here." Murray demurred, and not having read the storm signals quite right, bellowed, "Ave a care! Want that I should report you for this hincolence? Hits very hunwise for you to hact this vy!"

But when the old shotgun was brought out from the hiding place an awful doubt of his own wisdom assailed the jovial Mr. Murray. Those true sons of Briton actually chased the auditor away with a shotgun.

In employing the hit-and-miss English words here I am relaying them to you as best I can from memory as I caught them from one, maybe two, of the original six, many, many years ago. The quoted words are not my own. If you could have know the men and apply either the Stovell or Radford pronunciation and accent, you would improve it a lot. And don't forget to speed up a little.

(To be continued in February 2010 newsletter)

WEBSITE NOTES:

NCHS receives several inquiries each week for research, pictures and documents. We are pleased to meet these requests through our Past Perfect computer program. Often the activity results in photos and additional information for our archives.

From Arkansas: I was recently searching for a family member on the Kansas GenWeb site for Nemaha County and found the following link:

<http://files.usgwarchives.org/ks/nemaha/military/granarmy.txt>

It discusses the Grand Army of the Republic and some of the members of the George Graham Post No. 92 from Nemaha. Towards the bottom it mentions some photos of the GAR that are hanging in the hallways of your museum. My GGG Grandfather, Philip Kuhn, was a member of this organization and is listed as being in one of these photos (dated 13 July 1882). I am writing to see if you may have this photo as part of your digital collection. I live in Arkansas and am not able to get to your location any time soon, but it would be wonderful to see the face of this ancestor! Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated.



Nemaha County Historical
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We're On The Web!
www.nemahacountyhistorical.com

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Nemaha County Historical Society

Date: Submitted: _____

in advance for
sistance.

2009-2010 Registration Form

Send to: Nemaha County Historical Society, PO Box 41, Seneca, Kansas 66538

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Cell: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual-Historical Society membership (H) \$10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual-Lifetime Historical Society membership (Life) \$200.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Business (Corporate) Historical Society membership \$50.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contribution-Memorial or Recognition of _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Donation _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund _____	

Number of Memberships: New Renewal

Total Enclosed: _____ *Nemaha County Historical Society is a 501C3 non-profit organization.
Contributions are tax-deductible.*