

Timelines

August 2006

Board Members:

- JoAnn Phillips-President
- Jody Hood-Vice President
- Andrea Badgley-Secretary
- Kent Hoyt-Treasurer
- Duane Fitch-Burlington
- Bud Redding-Waverly
- Kelly Hull-Lebo

Staff:

- Deborah Kennamore-Executive Director
- Shirley Gorge-Curator
- Jean Beaty-Office
- Kristin Smith-Staff
- Courtney Meeker-Staff

Inside this issue:

- Displays **2**
- August's Lifetime Member of the Month **3**
- Old Hollow Tree **3**
- Volunteers **3**
- New Brick Purchases **3**
- Historical Society Membership **4**
- Boardwalk **5**
- Summer Visitors **6**

Painting the School and Church

We don't often ask for financial help...but we are asking now. Our church and school are in desperate need of paint both inside and out. Two preliminary estimates are \$7,800 and \$8,200. We want to get this done before fall 2006. We are asking each of our historical society members to donate a minimum of \$100. If we can get the funds together we should be able to get this

done this year. We know that each member will not be able to give \$100, so some might be able to give more than \$100 and some might need to give less. We will be happy to send you a receipt for the donation and assure you that all money will be used in the painting project! We are including some pictures so you might be able to see our problem.

Please send donations to:
Coffey County Historical Society and Museum
1101 Neosho Street
Burlington, KS 66839

Please earmark your donations for: Paint & Building Fund!

Remember that the Historical Society and Museum is a 501 c III Not for Profit!



Timelines

Displays

The back storage area has been reorganized to better accommodate our growing collection of artifacts. This has given us the chance to create more storage space, and it has also given us the chance to bring artifacts out of storage for visitors to see.

All of our farm plows are on display in the Pioneer Gallery. We moved the box cart wagon and railroad cart into the Asbury Gallery to free up enough room for the plows. Soon the plows will be arranged at different levels so that viewing them will be easier.

In Patchen Hall we have added a baseball uniform that was donated by Lee Anthony, along with scanned newspaper clippings of him taken when he played for the Greenies

and when he was a scout and manager of the Kansas City Athletics. The newspaper clippings belong to Bill Freeman, who was gracious enough to let us copy duplicates for the display.

In the Flint Hills Gallery, we moved the Political Display from its original location to the walls surrounding the gallery. In its place we put the Children's Room. The staff had a lot of fun placing toys all over the walls and ceiling! Remember that the Children's Room is "hands on", so please bring your kids in and let them have some fun playing with the toys and costumes!

In the Asbury Gallery we have managed to get closer to our goal of transforming it into an old cow town, complete with a Blacksmith

Shop, Livery, General Store, Post Office, Jail, and Bank. Old photographs have been scanned of businesses that were once in Coffey County and placed on the wall surrounding some of the displays. Hopefully by Pioneer Days at the end of January our Tool Display will be added and the gallery will look wonderful!

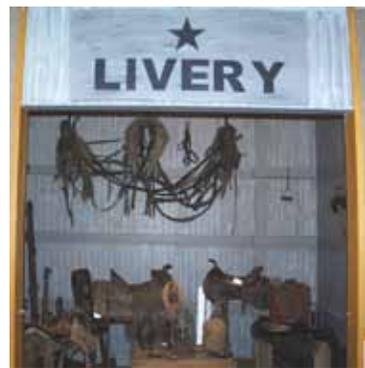
There are more displays that we have planned for the next year in order to bring out artifacts that have been in storage for a while and to give some that are on display now a much needed rest. Come in periodically and see all the wonderful history we have collected from Coffey County!



People's National Bank in 1916.



Strawn Post Office in 1930.



The Livery Display.



Burlington Carriage Works.



The new hands-on Children's Room.



The Post Office Display.

August Lifetime Member of the Month...Bill Freeman

Our Lifetime member for the month of August is Bill Freeman! He was born and raised in Burlington and has been a member of the Coffey County Historical Society for over 15 years. He served on the museum board as the vice president and has volunteered for

many years. He is involved with the museum because he is interested in history, especially the history of Bleeding Kansas. Bill feels that the museum should be proud of the part it plays in community activities, the amount of articles that the museum has about the

history of Coffey County, and the leadership of the employees to make the museum a better place. He feels that it is important for people who know or have history in Coffey County to tell their story and for the history to be well preserved.

The “Old Hollow Tree”

On Saturday, July 1, 2006, children vandalized the remaining stump of the “Old Hollow Tree”. Three children placed firecrackers inside of it and caught what was left of the tree on fire. City workers and firefighters decided that because they could not extinguish the fire inside the

tree, the tree needed to be removed. After the previous act of vandalism, the Coffey County Historical Museum was fortunate enough to receive a cross section of the “Old Hollow Tree”. The Museum is now discussing bringing the “Old Hollow Tree” out of storage and onto display.



Volunteers

Some of our volunteers have been battling various medical issues this

summer. Mona Veteto, Lois Hills, JoAnn Phillips, and Kelly Hull; we have

missed you all greatly and hope that you will have a speedy recovery and good health.

New Brick Purchases

Carole True Wilson BHS 51	Newton-Wilson Tearney
Zachary Smith BHS Alum 2006	Jonathan Jacob Hull
Bert E. Johnson	

Coffey County Historical Society Membership

When out in the public meeting with citizens, speaking at service groups, and talking to business owners in the area the question that comes up most often is how many historical society members are there for the Coffey County Historical Society? Well, I often hate to answer that question . . . the truth is, in my humble opinion, every citizen of Coffey County should support the museum and historical society and be a member. It isn't difficult to be a member, for a mere \$5 per year a citizen could belong to the historical society and, therefore, support the efforts of the society and museum. The latest statistics say that there are:

8,683 people in Coffey County of that amount broken down by cities:

- 2,735 Burlington
- 585 LeRoy
- 403 New Strawn
- 960 Lebo
- 368 Gridley
- 565 Waverly

Now if each person was a member of the historical society that would give us \$43,415 each year! Funds to continue buying microfilm, paper, microfilm readers, maintaining and upkeep on all the many artifacts, purchasing cleaning supplies. . . you get where I am headed with this right?

Now some very kind citizens have already become LIFETIME members of the historical society. They gave a single gift of \$100 or more to the society. That membership continues to grow every year. Some gave \$100 and some of them gave many more dollars for that privilege. They will never have to pay the yearly dues again.

Often people think that they are historical society members just by being a citizen of the county, but that sadly is not the case. We need your membership! Our list of supporters is dwindling every year. The society is not just for our senior citizens as some of you have guessed. We need to teach our youngsters how important it is to maintain the museum and to retain our history for the many generations to come. Each day during the summer we have visitors who have traveled many

miles to come to Coffey County to research their heritage and every time they comment on how wonderful our museum is and how wonderful the exhibits are. The Genealogy Library is one of which we should all be very proud to see and use.

So who are our members? Business owners, students, parents, teachers, Wolf Creekers, doctors, lawyers, moms, dads and you! Please help us spread the word that we need memberships at the historical society and museum and we need them now. So what can you, our loyal members, do to help us? Ask your neighbors and friends if they are members of the historical society. Ask the business owners that you trade with if they are members. Help us spread the word that the museum needs them, ask them if they will join and help us support the best museum in the state of Kansas. Below is a form to become a member please help us! And for those of you still reading . . . we have less than 1000 members at the present time.

Application for Historical Society Membership:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone : _____ (please include area code)

Date of birth: _____

Anniversary date: _____

Email address: (if you want to share) _____

Please submit \$5 per person along with the form above to:

Coffey County Historical Society and Museum
 1101 Neosho Street
 Burlington, KS 66839

Boardwalk

As most people start their summer they think of ways to “go slower”, “stop and smell the roses”, take things a bit easier, perhaps to stay indoors and stay cool . . . well we here at the museum see the long days of summer a bit differently. We think of things that need to be done before the harsh winter hits us and what we need to do to prepare for the change of temperature and climate.

So this summer we took the opportunity to weather seal the boardwalk out back. No small task! Especially in the heat, but the treatment was very specific it had to be hot and it had to be moisture free so the staff started the project! Cleaning the

boardwalk turned out to be something that is difficult to describe, we thought it would be easy. Take a hose, wash it off! Nope that was too easy. There were hoses, water, scrub brushes, and a solution that felt like sand! It took a couple of weeks just to get the surface clean. Then Kristin and her “merry band” began the long, tedious task of brushing on the weather sealant. This had not been done for years so the wood simply drank the expensive stuff up! Over 35 gallons of the stuff to be exact!

The weather got so hot and the materials were so labor intensive we ended up putting out a “help call” to the neighborhood and luckily some of our

youth were able to answer. Will Augustine, Jessica Bluma, Alex Furse, Austin Hills, Courtney Meeker, and Selby Stadel were able to help get the weather sealant applied. It was hot and plenty of water was issued and on a couple of days popsicles were supplied. But their labor was worth it!

The finished product is beautiful and the wood should be preserved for many years to come. The past years of snow, ice, water, and other elements made the wood dull and brown and molded in some areas. Now the board walk looks like brand new wood ready for visitors to enjoy the school, church, gazebo, bell tower, and playground equipment!



The boardwalk in front of the school.

Summer Visitors

Over the summer we have had visitors from many different locations. We have had visitors from Missouri, Arizona, Texas, Tennessee, Utah,

Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Nevada, Oklahoma, Washington, Oregon, and North Carolina. There was even a couple from

Bangor, Wales, in to do research in our Genealogy Library! When was the last time you visited the museum?

**Coffey County Historical
Society & Museum**

1101 Neosho
Burlington, KS 66839

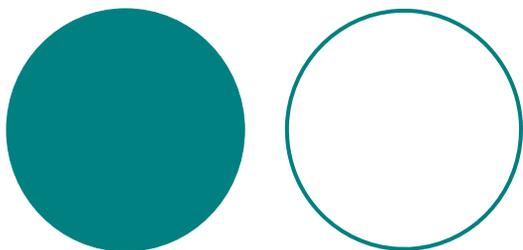
Phone: 620-364-2653

Email:

director@coffeycountymuseum.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.COFFEYCOUNTYMUSEUM.ORG



With the excessive heat our sprinklers
have been working overtime!