The Coffey County Historical Society & Museum

# Timelines



Volume 12, Issue 2

June 2015

www.coffeymuseum.org

Inside this Issue:				
KC Monarchs	2-3			
Board Members	4			
New Displays	4			
Church & School	5			
Lifetime Members	6			
Membership & Brick Forms	7			

Reminder: Volunteers will have the museum open on the weekends until mid-November with the exception of Easter Weekend and Independence Day Weekend. If you would like to join our volunteer team, please contact the museum.

# **Board of Directors:**

Victor Edelman, President, Lebo Jeri Page, Vice President, LeRoy Eileen Coker, Secretary, At-Large Position Kent Hoyt, Treasurer, Burlington

Juanette Birk, Gridley

Sandra Reedy, Waverly

Ken Caudell, Jr., Burlington

## Museum Staff:

Museum Director: Shirley Gorge-Logan

Administrative Assistant: Erin Burdick

Registrar: Catherine Goodwin Presentation Explores Civil Rights among Kansas City Jazz Musicians

The Coffey County Historical Museum in Burlington will host "Kansas City Jazz and the Early Civil Rights Movement," a presentation and discussion by Kevin Rabas on August 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Coffey County Historical Museum 1101 Neosho Street, Burlington. Members of the community are invited to attend the free program. Contact the museum at (620) 364-2653 for more information. The program is made possible by the Kansas Humanities Council.

Kansas City jazz thrived on diversity: just as it melded and reshaped African and European musical traditions, it also gained energy and vitality from the talents of musicians of all races. This presentation explores how musicians such as Charlie Parker, Coleman Hawkins, and Lester Young drew national attention to the need for racial harmony by touring with integrated bands and writing songs that advocated equal rights in the early years of the Civil Rights movement.

Kevin Rabas co-directs the creative writing program at Emporia State University and edits Flint Hills Review. A jazz drummer and poet, he has four books inspired by jazz including Lisa's Flying Electric Piano, a Kansas Notable Book.

"Jazz helped fuel the American Civil Rights movement and affirm and exalt African American identity in a changing world," said Rabas. "Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King said, 'It is no wonder that so much of the search for identity among American Negroes was championed by jazz musicians. Long before the modern essayists and scholars wrote of racial identity as a problem for a multiracial world, musicians were returning to their roots to affirm that which was stirring within their souls."

"Kansas City Jazz and the Early Civil Rights Movement" is part of the Kansas Humanities Council's Humanities Speakers Bureau, featuring presentations and discussions that examine our shared human experience—our innovations, culture, heritage, and conflicts.

The Kansas Humanities Council conducts and supports community-based programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities. For more information about KHC programs contact the Kansas Humanities Council at 785/357-0359 or visit online at www.kansashumanities.org.

For more information about "Kansas City Jazz and the Early Civil Rights Movement" in Burlington contact the Coffey County Historical Museum at (620) 364-2653 or visit www.facebook.com/ coffeymuseum.



Kevin Rabas will speak at the museum August 11th at 6 p.m.

#### "Monarchs in Our Hometown"

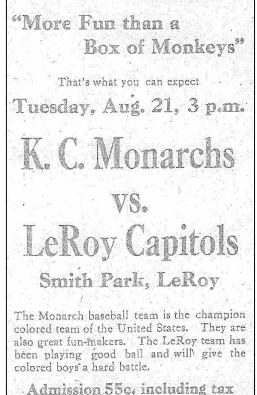
An audience of 34 people were in attendance at the museum on Saturday, May 9th to listen to Negro League Author, Phil S. Dixon, speak about the Kansas City Monarchs. The speech was part of his 90 City Negro League, "Monarchs in Our Hometown."

Dixon found inspiration for his tour from the Kansas City Royals' 2014 run in the World Series and from former Senator Bob Dole's Kansas Tour where he visited all 105 Kansas counties. Dixon decided he was going to visit all 90 cities where the KC Monarchs had played league and exhibition games and educate the listeners about the league, players and the role the Monarchs played in the history of baseball. Burlington was stop number fifty-seven on his ninety city tour.

Dixon is an African-American Sports Historian who has authored nine baseball books including one that won the prestigious Casey Award for Best Baseball Book of 1992. He has also received a SAVR MacMilan Award for excellence in historical research. He formerly worked in the Public Relation office of the KC Royals and was a co-founder of the Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City.

His research about the Kansas City Monarchs started in 1985 when he wrote a letter to Barbara Geery at the Burlington Public Library for help locating the information. Geery located some information Dixon was looking for and typed the articles and sent the information back to him.

The Kansas City Monarchs played at least three different times in Burlington (1923, 1924, and 1935) and at least once in LeRoy (1923). Dixon spoke about these games plus a few other games from



Above: Advertisement for the K.C. Monarchs vs. LeRoy Capitols that appeared front page in the LeRoy Reporter on August 17, 1923.

Below: Phil S. Dixon speaks to a crowd of thirty-four visitors about the Kansas City Monarchs visiting the Burlington area and the impact the Monarchs had on baseball history. Some of the famous Monarchs include Jackie Robinson, Satchel Paige, Ernie Banks, and Wilbur "Bullet" Rogan.



#### "Monarchs in Our Hometown" (cont...)

surrounding towns such as Garnett and Hartford. The 1923 Burlington game was held at Kellev Park at 2:30 p.m. on August 20th. All Burlington businesses were closed from 2:30 p.m. until after the game. The Monarchs arrived in Burlington that morning and set up their tent at Kelley Park and rested before the game. The Kansas City Monarchs beat Burlington 14 to 2. Burlington only score came in the fifth inning when Pierson hit a single with two men on bases. The LeRoy Capitals played the Monarchs the following day at Smith Park in LeRoy. The Daily Republican published in the newspaper on August 24, 1923 "There is rejoicing in the camp of the Capitols that they were not beaten worse in their fray with the Kansas City Monarchs Tuesday." Some believed that the threatening weather dampened the Monarchs' game. The Monarchs scored 1 in the first, 2 in the sixth and 1 in the eighth. LeRoy's scores came in the ninth inning with the game ending with Clem striking out with the bases loaded.

The Kansas City Monarchs played again against Burlington on August 26, 1924. The Monarchs slaughtered the Burlington team 16 to 0. It was said in the August 27th edition of *The Daily Republican* "The negroes apparently had it *in* for the Burlington team for they were unmerciful both on offense and defense." The Monarchs would not play the Burlington until 1935. The Monarchs

Right: Phil S. Dixon takes down one of the audience member's information. Dixon brought several photographs of the KC Monarchs to sell and even donated a photo of the 1924 Monarch team to the Coffey County Museum. He sold out of several of his books and was taking orders. Also for purchase were baseball cards that he wrote the copy for on the back of the cards years ago.

won the Negro League World Championships in 1924.

The Daily Republican started advertising the 1935 game with photographs of the teams and players with information about the upcoming game and the Monarchs. It was rare during this time period to see photographs of people of color published in the newspapers. The Kansas City Monarchs played against the Burlington Boosters on May 8th at Kelley Park under the floodlights at 8:00 p.m. for a night baseball game.

Dixon also spoke about the owner of the Monarchs, J.L. Wilkinson. Wilkinson was the only white owner when the Negro National League was founded. Wilkinson had other ethic players on the team such as Cuban star, Jose Mendez. Wilkinson wanted the team to travel together so they were the first team to travel by bus. The Monarchs were also the first professional baseball team to use portable lights to play night baseball in 1930. The team would transport the lights from game to game.

Dixon also spoke about the importance of teaching the youth of today how to speak baseball.

For more information about Phil S. Dixon or for list of speaking events, visit his Facebook page. For interviews or to schedule a speaking event, contact: Phil S. Dixon Baseball Speaker/Historian 7904 Spring Valley Road Belton, Missouri 64012 Philsdixon@aol.com (816) 922-0680





#### **Board Member Elections**

The 2015 Coffey County Historical Board Member Elections will begin with the August issue of Timelines with the winners announced at the October board meeting. Ballots will be cast by mail-in ballots. So far on the ballots are two Board of Director positions, the Lebo and LeRoy positions. If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors and would like to run in the election, please contact the museum (888) 877-2653 or email erin@coffeymuseum.org by August 7. The position on the Board of Directors is a volunteer position with no compensation.

#### **New Displays**

The Cochran Gallery and the Genealogy Library are currently closed due to maintenance. The Genealogy Library binders have been moved into the Asbury Gallery and the microfilm into the Flint Hills Gallery so patrons still have the opportunity to do genealogy.

With the closure of a gallery and school tours that were booked, the museum staff decided to change out a few displays and add new artifacts and displays in the other galleries.

The Flint Hills Gallery that had the Fitch Estate in the large glass display has been changed out with artifacts and uniforms from the WWI and WWII era. Another display in the gallery features items from the Civil Defense from the 1960's.

The Patchen Hall now has a display case that features artifacts about transportation including artifact from co-founder of Beech Aircraft Corporation, Olive Ann Beech. The display also has a 1/12 scale model of a Napoleonic Coach built by John Romary, Jr. in 1932. Above the display case are photographs of early Requirements of Board of Directors:

- Must be a member of the Coffey County Historical Society. (Membership requires annual due of \$5 per person. More information about memberships can be found on page 7 of this newsletter.
- You must be from the area which
  you would be representing. (In this case, you must have a Lebo address to run for the Lebo position or you must have a LeRoy address to run for the

forms of transportation.

The Asbury Gallery has had four additional display cases added to the gallery. There is a display that features jewelry and another that has general merchandise items. Over by the jail display are two cases that have artifacts from the Burlington Police Department and the Coffey County Sheriff Office.

The Pioneer Gallery has a display case by the fire truck that shows off the firemen artifacts that were previously difficult to view in the bed of the firetruck. The staff has also brought out several artifacts that have not been displayed for a long time. They include a creamer and tester, incubator, and a washing machine. A new display is also in progress in the Pioneer Gallery of the Old Hollow

Right: The Old Hollow Tree that was located in Drake Park in Burlington by the City Dam. It is not known how old the tree was, but the early pioneers used the tree as a landmark as they traveled to the area. Sadly, the tree caught on fire twice (1994 and 2006). After the latter, the tree was completely removed. The museum has a cross section of the tree that will be on display in the Pioneer Gallery. LeRoy position.)

- Attend the monthly meetings. The Board of Directors meet the second Thursday at noon every month. (Lunch is not provided, but members can bring their lunch to the meeting if they wish.)
- Having an email address and computer access is not a requirement but preferred in order to send out board packets electronically to save money on paper and postage.

Tree. The museum has a cross section of the tree that will be on display along with photographs and stories of the tree. If you have any photographs of the tree or stories, please contact the museum at (888) 877-2653 or email erin@coffeymuseum.org.

Other displays are in the works so make sure you check out the museum often for new artifacts and displays!



#### Page 5

# **Church & School Restoration**

Funds are still being raised to help restore the church and school. The buildings received a foundation lift last summer. The splits in the siding on the buildings were filled last fall to temporarily fix it until we have funds to replace the boards in poor condition with new boards.

The interior of the building still needs repaired. The last two fundraising events, Spiritual Dimensions and Kansas Day, were fundraisers for the restoration of the buildings. We are also collecting money for this cause. A donation form is located below if you are interested in donating to help

Ī.

restore the church and school buildings. A huge thank you to all of those who have already donated (see List of Donors) and to those who have already attended our fundraisers.

If you have any questions regarding the restoration or how to donate, please contact the museum at (888) 877-2653.

#### List of Donors:

#### Foundation Lift:

- ★ Joyce Holderby
- ★ Kevin & Linda Graber
- ★ Cindy Eccles In Memory of E. Lucille Woods Atherly for Bethel Church
- ★ Anonymous

## Restoration:

- ★ Anonymous
- ★ Margaret O'Leary

# **Bethel Church & Rural Dale School House**

# **Donation Form**

The Coffey County Museum is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Most donations can be tax deductible. Please see your accountant for more information on tax deductions.
Name:
Address:
City:State:Zip:
Phone Number: () Alt. Number: ()
Would you like your name listed as a donor?
If yes, how would you like your name listed?
Amount of Donation: \$      Type of Donation (circle one): Cash    Check    Money Order
A letter will be sent out as a receipt of the donation within a week of receiving the donation. If you have any questions, please call Erin at (620) 364-2653 or toll free at (888) 877-2653 or email erin@coffeymuseum.org.

#### Page 6

## **Lifetime Members**

Ackerman, Gayla Lonene Adkins, Joan Allegre, Peter Allen, Dan Allen, Linda K. Anliker, Tyler Atherly, Mary Lou DeLong Atkin, John D. M.D. Atkin, Patricia Banks, Peggy Beaty, W. Jean Bedwell, L.F. Birk, Julia Mae Bohrer, Paul Brecheisen, Betty Bruce, Nellie Bruce, Robert Lyle Central National Bank Citizens State Bank City of Burlington City of Lebo Clapp, Grace (Sauder) Clark, Joanna Clark, Larry Cochran, Dorothy Cockrell, Gilan Coffey County Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center Coffey County Council for the Arts Coffey County Honda Coffey County Hospital Coffey County Land Title Co. Inc Coffey County Library Coldsmith, Don Coldsmith, Edna Combes, Irene E. Combes, Kenneth L. Conrad, Mary E. Cordell, Larry Cox, Juanita Croll, Susan Curtiss, Jerilyn Curtiss, Larry M. Danford, Charlene DeLong, Roy G. Dunlap, Dr. James Dunlap, Judith Edelman, Albert L. Edelman, Victor Epting, Gary Epting, Polly Evans, Dean Evans, George Evans, Sue

Evans, Terry L. Ferrara, Melchoir A. Finkbiner, Patricia Finkbiner, Terry First National Bank of Kansas Fitch, Duane Freeman, Bill Freeman, Calvin Dean Freeman, Diane Freeman, Elva Freeman, Jeff Freeman, Joan Fulk, Doris L. Garrett, Emily Garrett, Lisa I. Garrett, Millie Geery, Barbara George, Dennis Graber, Kevin Graber, Linda Griffin, Lena Hatch, Bonnie Hatch, Homer Haves, Edris Irwin Herr, Bob Hess, Wayne Holderman, Jenifer Holderman, Rich Hood, Betty Io Hood, Herbert Hoover's Thriftway Hoover, Carlita Hoover, Lisa Hoover, Ned Hoover, Ron Hoyt, Kent Hoyt, Lori Hull, Kelly J. Hull, Sheldon L. Irey, Diana L. Irey, Ronald W. Johnson, Cloyce E. Johnson, Diane S. Johnson, Jerry D. Johnson, John E. Johnson, Loren E. Jones, Don Jones, Carol Jones, Fred S. Jones, Glenda Jones, Paul M. Kaufman, Helen Garn Keas, Sandy K. Kennamore, Deborah Kennamore, William "Pete" Klubek, Brenda Grace

Knapp, Bill Kniss, Clarence Kniss, Donna Krebs, Tammy Hoover Krigbaum, Marilyn Kunkel, Connie Kunkel, David Kunkel, Opal I. Lifecare Center of Burlington Little, Charles F. Lowman, Nadine Luke, Linda Sue Luke, Lola Mae Luke, Robert Standley, Jr Martindale, Paul Matney, Linda J. Mattox, Martha McAlister, M.A. McAlister, V.S. McConnell, John McReynolds, Richard L. Meader, Craig Meader, Peggy Merry, Barbara Merry, Gene Montgomery, Dean R Morey, George Muench, Chervl Muench, Rick Neil, Eunice Johnson Norris, David Norris, Kasu Stinson O'Leary, Margaret R. Park, William H. Parnay, Arlene Carpenter Payne, Janet Ponder, Mary Lou Ponder, Randy Purvis, Lois Jean Raaf, Clarence Raaf, Esther Raaf, Fred A. Raaf, Gary Raaf, Harvey G. Raaf, James L. Raaf, JoAnn Raaf, Mark Raaf, Ralph Raaf, Richard Raynesford, Carolyn C. Redding, Bud Redding, Carol Reeves, Glen W. Reeves, Karen K. Reimer, Paul Reisbig, Clara L

Robbins, Carol A. Roth, V. Cameron Salava, Dan Salava, Linda J. Salisbury, Florence Conrad Sanborn, Patty A Sauder, Ray Schick, Donald L. Schick, Ruth Schultz, Achsah Carter Sleezer, Johnnie R. Sleezer, Retha I. Smith, Darlene Smith, Ivan Smith, Marjorie J. Smith, V. LaVerne Spade, Sharon Spatz, Caroline B. Spatz, Robert J. Spriggs, Judy Stine, Phyllis A. Stukey, Arthur Stukey, Kent Sunseri, Carol Trimble, Chuck Trimble, Joyce Trimble, Randy Trostle, Ierilee Trostle, Kerry TrustPoint Services Ubert, Ann Ubert, Gary Vannocker, Rebecca Louise Veteto, Mona Watson, Irene Wildman, Kay Wilkinson, Al Wilkinson, Opal Williams, James E., Jr. Williams, Kathleen (Asper) Williamson, Arthur W. Williamson, Bernice Williamson, Mitch Wilson, Ida M. Wilson, Warren D. Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation Wolken, Deanna Woods, Chloe Woods, Frank Worrell, Dallas G. Zscheile, Lila L. \*new members are bolded 216 Total Lifetime Members

				Page 7	
· ·		Membership For			
Name:		-			
			Zip:		
			ber: ()		
			Ild you like to be a volunteer?		
Name as you would l	like it to appear on membe	rship:			
Type of membership	ype of membership (please circle one): *Please mail completed form and check or money				
Individual (\$5.00	0 annual <u>per person</u> )		Coffey County Museum		
<b>Business</b> (\$15.00	annual per business)		1101 Neosho Street		
<b>Lifetime</b> (\$100.0	0 one time fee <u>per person</u> )		Burlington, KS 66839		
I Name:	Purchase a personalized b	Gazebo Bricks brick that surrounds	the Gazebo for \$40 each.		
1 Iuuress					
City:			Zip Code:		

# **Calendar of Events**

Coffey County Historical Society & Museum

1101 Neosho Street Burlington, KS 66839 (620) 364-2653 (888) 877-2653 www.coffeymuseum.org Visit.Us@coffeymuseum.org



Take a walk through history!

We're on the web! coffeymuseum.org



Visit us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/coffeymuseum

Coffey County Historical Society & Museum 1101 Neosho St. Burlington, KS 66839 June 11– Board Meeting @ noon 21– Father's Day

<u>July</u> 3-4- Museum Closed- Independence Day 9- Board Meeting @ noon August 11– Kansas City Jazz and the Early Civil Rights Movement @ 6p.m. 13– Board Meeting @ noon

September 7- Labor Day- Museum OPEN! 10- Board Meeting @ noon

We need 5 more bricks to be purchased to have them come out and engrave several bricks that have already been purchased. See page 7 for information about purchasing a brick.

# **VIEWING HOURS:**

Summer Hours: (mid-February to mid-November)

Monday- Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.\*

Saturday & Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.\*

Winter Hours: (mid-November to mid-February)

Monday- Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CLOSED on Weekends and Federal Holidays

\*CLOSED Holiday Weekends except Memorial Day & Labor Day