

From the President

by Pat Lierly

This is the last *Barn Talk* for 1998—the last opportunity to address all members of LHS this year. THANK YOU AGAIN!

This has been a rewarding one as president of Lenexa Historical Society. Since 1990, I have been very much a part of the Society. I thought I could never be president, but I was, and the knowledge gained of our Lenexa history has been so exciting. Thank you to the Board for your support. The appreciation of our knowledgeable staff, interns and volunteers has been tremendous. **There is something for all members to participate in, and I say, "Come out to the museum; bring your friends; see the new temporary exhibit; share your ideas and memories with staff; attend the general meeting on November 17th."**

When someone calls to ask you to be on the Board of Directors, please say yes. You won't be sorry. The preservation of our collections and our history is a wonderful gift to our children and their children's children.

Thank you for the opportunity to learn and understand. You will still see me around. I want to see and get to know you, too.

Special Invitation to Lenexa German Descendants

Descendants of these early known families of Lenexa (listed below) are cordially invited to attend our November general membership meeting. Please bring your favorite German dish of meat, casseroles, vegetables, salads, or desserts.

German Lenexa Families: Lichtenauer, Hoehn, Boehm, Klein, Concannon, Smithers, Zahner, Schweiger, Voigts, Sitterman, Taeschner, Scherman, Wolfkuhl, Ahlenstorf, Weber, Rosner, Blume, Krumm, Uhl, Heider, Busch, Baumgardner, Schlagel, Fasching, Honn, Klusmann, Lackman, Spradling, Leeker, Weimer, Schalk.

If anyone knows of other early German family descendants, please share this information with them.

November General Membership Meeting

WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 (NOT THE 24TH, DUE TO THANKSGIVING).

Time: Potluck Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Drinks and bread provided. PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATIONS, AND WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO BRING, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to 492-0038. After regular Barn hours, which are Tues.-Sat., 10-4, call Beryl Hennigh at 888-3087.

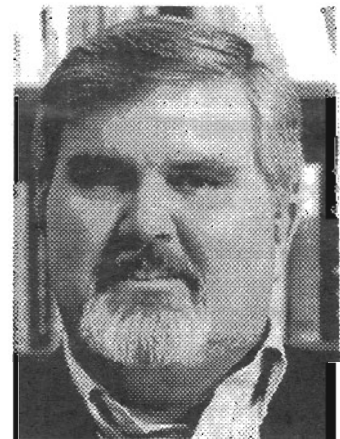
Where: Lenexa United Methodist Church, Schneeberger Hall, 9138 Caenen Lake Road.

Program: 7:30. LHS is pleased to announce that the program will be presented by Professor William D. Keel of Germany, and chair of the Department of Germanic

Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas. He received M.A. degrees in both German and Linguistics as well as his Ph.D. in Germanic Linguistics from Indiana University. He also studied three semesters at the University of Bonn, Germany.

In addition to his scholarly interests, Professor Keel and his family have helped organize the annual Oktoberfest at the St. Lawrence Campus Center at KU for a number of years. He has also produced two albums of German folk music with the Deutschmeister Brass Band of St. Louis, MO.

Descendants of early German settlers in the Lenexa community are being especially invited to this program. A GERMAN DISH POTLUCK DINNER precedes Professor Keel's program. Plan now to prepare your family's favorite German dishes and join the local Historical Group for an evening of plentiful food and entertainment. All members and interested friends are invited to attend. We're hoping for a large turnout for this special event.



Prof. William D. Keel

Letter From Kiersten



*Kiersten Latham,
Legler Barn
Museum Director*

A usual, we're staying busy at the Barn. **Two new volunteers have joined us: Sharon Hammontree and Carey Hale.** Sharon is working on organizing the library and eventually will be helping Peggy Stanton with the "Lenexa Boom" exhibit. She comes to us through the "Kids' International Exhibit" (see below), which she has been working on for its duration.

Carey will be working on entering new artifacts into the computer database. She came to us through Volunteer Center of Johnson County (VCJC). We are very pleased to have them join us and appreciate their help.

And speaking of VCJC, another **one of our volunteers from the Center recently landed us a \$250 grant from his former workplace, Mobil. Thanks to Carl Kawa** for all his hard work and to Mobil for the donation.

The last thing I want to mention is the completion of another new permanent exhibit, "Quilting the Barn." Adonia David, one of our interns, has been working since September on a small exhibit about our Legler Barn Quilters. She is due to finish the exhibit sometime in November. Everyone should stop by and see the progression.

What's Going On at the Barn?

LHS Website: www.kc.net/~lshskc/

Check out our site! Recently, our provider joined forces with another company and changed our address. Please be sure to write it down or change your bookmark. Sorry for the inconvenience!

We Still Need '70s & '80s Artifacts!!!

Do you have photos of your neighborhood before your house was built? Or as your was being built? Were you involved in Lenexa politics and have memorabilia from the experience? How about any items from groundbreaking or signs from openings? The Barn is still interested in collecting items from Lenexa that are a part of its

major period of growth, circa 1970-1989. Items such as advertising objects/papers, photographs, and other things that show the growth and change in Lenexa are what we need. If you think you have an artifact we could use, call Kiersten or Peggy at the Barn, 492-0038.

Rotating Exhibit Schedule

• **October 2-November 22: From Far Away Russia: Russian Germans in Kansas, with video "From the Volga to the High Plains, Germans from Russia in Western Kansas."**

Join us for this pictorial exhibit sponsored by the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Humanities Council. Threatened with military conscription and the loss of economic privileges, thousands of Germans left Russia in the 1870s just as they had left war-torn Germany for Russia's unsettled agricultural provinces a century earlier. With the railroads advertising land for sale in Kansas, many Russian-Germans responded. They sought good farm land with convenient access to markets via the rails. An added attraction was exemption from military service on religious grounds. By 1879, 12,000 Russian-Germans lived in the state.

• **November 28-January 24, 1999: Kids' International Corner.**

Kids' International Corner is a common tribute to peace. Each item has been donated from its country of origin to this travelling exhibit and each has been given in the name of a child in hope of a future enriched by global freedom. The exhibit was put together by the Greater Kansas City Ethnic Enrichment Commission. Opening day features an **open house celebration.**

• **January 30-March 21, 1999: Wow! That Oughta be in a Museum!**

What do erasers, orchids, and obituaries have in common? They're all things that Kansans collect! Both people and museums are driven by the same collecting impulse, but they often have different goals. This exhibit features collectors and museums from all over Kansas through colorful photographs and interesting accounts. It explores the human drive to accumulate things while spotlighting some amazing Kansas collections. **Opening day will be a celebration of local collections and their collectors. Bring in your collection to show and tell with our guests.** Join us for this pictorial exhibit sponsored by the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Humanities Council.

• **April 3-May 23, 1999: Pinnacles of the Plains: Public Sculpture in Kansas.**

Throughout Kansas, communities have displayed sculpture in public places. As both works of art and symbols of our heritage, outdoor sculpture captures a sense of community identity. Such

continued on page 3

Wish Wish Wish List



Your donations will be greatly appreciated:

- 1 or 2 clean mattress pads
- Plexiglass cubes or picture holders
- 7' (or close) rod or tube to hang a quilt on
- Shadowbox, about 10" X 12"

We also need a seamstress to hem curtains.

Barn continued from page 2

art is meant to inspire us and to cause reflection. View more than fifteen works of art in this color photography exhibit. Produced by Kansas State Historical Society in conjunction with the Save Outdoor Sculpture project.

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION

Come join us in our opening day celebration of "Kids' International Exhibit"! The festivities will last from 1 p.m. to 4 on Saturday, November 28. Hope to see you there!

Quilters Raise \$1797 for LHS

by Thelma Moyer

The Heartland Spinach Festival was as great as usual, and we quilters had a good time collecting donations for the Lenexa Historical Society. Our gorgeous quilt, "Floral Fantasy," was won by Carol Irnin of Adrian, MO. She displays quilts at shows and intends to add her lovely prize to her showings. We thank you all for your support and wish we could give each and every one of our supporters one of our beauties. This year's profits on our quilt was \$1797, and all of our funds are earmarked for future expansion of the Historical Society's museum complex.

We quilters have had a couple of low blows recently because we have lost two of our much-loved members. Kathy Schamberger, my co-chairman, was killed in an auto accident on August 13 at the Amana Colonies in Iowa. She was there to help her ill parents. Kathy was a brilliant and imaginative quilt designer with a delightful wit who was fun to be around.

Marj Roberts died on September 17, succumbing to cancer. She was an expert at several crafts and did all the cross-stitching on this year's Spinach quilt. She was also a fun addition to our group and wonderful joke teller. We remember with love these precious women!

Memorial services were held on September 27 for Majorie Roberts at the Regent's Walk Club House in Overland Park. She died September 17 in Shawnee, KS. Majorie, formerly of Brandon, Florida, moved to Johnson County in 1991 and joined the Legler Barn Quilters soon thereafter. She was the sister of Sue Locher, LHS member, and long-time member of the Legler Barn Quilters' group.

What is the "Historic Places Program"?

by Rita DeBrabander

Our Lenexa Historical Society is beginning a program designating certain homes, houses or structures for public recognition as an historic place in Lenexa. The owners would agree to having an appropriate plaque affixed to the property in a visible location, and to maintain the property with ongoing maintenance. LHS will make a public presentation to the owners indicating the history of the property. The owners also agree to inform LHS of any proposed reasonable changes to the structure and to changes in ownership.

Five places in Lenexa have been outlined to

become "Lenexa Historic Places": Holy Trinity Church (Chapel), 9138 Pflumm; the Haskin house at 94th Terrace and Pflumm; the Lackman/Thompson Home at 111th and Lackman; Virginia Hutton's building, formerly the Crockett Bit and Spur Co. at 18880 W. 87th St.; and the Merle and Elaine Sparlin home at 9318 Noland Rd.

To be chosen, a site must meet certain criteria and be within Lenexa city limits. If anyone knows of a site that sounds like it would be a good candidate, call Rita 894-2825 or Frank Andrews, 894-1376.

Lenexa Historical Society Membership Application for Renewals or New Members

Individual: Life _____ \$100	Family: Life _____ \$150
Contributing* _____ \$30	Contributing* _____ \$50
Active* _____ \$15	Active* _____ \$25

Corporate: Annual _____ \$100
Life _____ \$1000

* Denotes annual membership

Name(s) _____

Authorized person, if corporation _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Business phone _____

Mail to LHS, 14907 W. 87th St. Pkwy, Lenexa, KS 66215-4135 by JANUARY 31.

Volunteers Desperately Needed—Will You Please Help?

Sunday Hosts at the Barn. Volunteers attend the front desk for three hours from 1 p.m to 4 p.m. A short list of instructions is posted at the desk. It's fun to greet and talk with patrons!

Tour Guides at Lackman/Thompson Home. Tours are given by LHS volunteers on the third Tuesday and third Sunday each month, from 1 p.m to 3 p.m. An enjoyable experience in beautiful surroundings! If you can help, please call Pat Lierly at 888-5645.

Trunk Shows at Schools. Beryl Hennigh leads demonstrations and explanations of old objects used on the trail. Help children appreciate our past! Call Beryl at 492-0038. THANKS!

Lenexa Historical Society
14907 W 87th St. Pkwy
Lenexa, KS 66215-4135

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 57
Shawnee Mission, KS

Bill & Pat Lierly
13105 Logan Lane
Lenexa KS 66215

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEXT BARN TALK
DEADLINE:
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9**

**NEXT GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING:
JANUARY 25**