

From the President

by Pat Lierly

Dear Members, old and new,

A long time ago, I remember a quote, though I don't remember who said it: "Make new friends but keep the old, those are silver and the other gold." That seems to apply here. We lost an old friend, **Janette Marshall**, a member of the LHS Board of Directors. She gave it all to our Board and wanted to do so much more. Thank you for those contributions to LHS in memory of a "Great Lady."

Another Great Lady, **Ruth O'Gorman**, supported us from a distance and her friends and family also contributed to LHS in Ruth's memory. We appreciate your generosity and will strive to make this Museum a living memorial.

We have some new friends of the Lenexa Historical Society. They may be participating in this Spinach Festival and/or helping with the Sunday Hosting. Welcome and again, THANK YOU.

The Spinach & Trails Festival kept us all busy with preparations. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to help. If you wanted to help, but did not get a call, I am sorry. Please let us know your interests. There is an opportunity to be active in this Society and we need you.

On Tuesday evening, September 22, you are invited to attend our general meeting and please bring a friend. Please let the Museum know if you and friends can attend. **Beryl Hennigh**, our Historian, has planned an informative program and the dinner is always delightful. Thank you and see you there.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LENEXA CHILI CHALLENGE
OCTOBER 17

NEXT BARN TALK DEADLINE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

NEXT GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
NOVEMBER 24

September General Membership Meeting

When: Tuesday, September 22

Time: Pot-luck Dinner, 6:30 p.m. PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATIONS, AND WHAT YOU'D LIKE TO BRING, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to 492-0038. Drinks, bread, and service will be provided.

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

Program: 7:30. **Debra Hallauer**, estate planner with the law firm of Vold, Morris, and Hallauer in Leawood, will give a short explanation of the different ways LHS members can bequeath gifts to our Society in their wills.

Following Mrs. Hallauer, **Ruth Napier**, of KU's Department of History, will speak on "Different Realities: Plains Indians." Ms. Napier's presentation will include slides.

As always, thanks to our historian, **Beryl Hennigh**, for arranging our program, and to the **Dinner Committee** for preparing and cleaning up our meeting site.

Lenexa Trivia

1. What electric car (interurban) made its first trip from Lenexa to Westport in just 28 minutes?
2. Who was involved and where was the first murder and the first murder trial in Johnson County?
3. Where was the DAR granite marker signifying the Santa Fe Trail route through Lenexa originally dedicated in 1907?
4. What year of an intense drought was free water brought to Lenexa by railroad car from KCMO?

Answers on page 4.

Letter From Kiersten



*Kiersten Latham,
Legler Barn
Museum Director*

Well, it's been *relatively* quiet at the Barn the past couple of months. Everyone's been working away at things they started at the beginning of the summer. Our interns and volunteers have accomplished a lot with preservation storage, exhibit design, archival work, and cataloguing artifacts. Beryl has been busy as a bee doing research for so many projects.

This fall should be an exciting one, with the changing of temporary exhibits, the opening of two new permanent exhibits ("Lenexa Boom" and "Quilting the Barn"), additional changes to the web site, and the start of a new school year doing trunk shows. There's really never a dull moment at the Barn.

If you are interested in helping out with school tours and/or trunk shows, call Beryl at 492-0038.

What's Going On at the Barn?

Check out our LHS website:

www.kcdata.com/~lhs/

We Need Artifacts!

Attention Lenexa business people! Attention city officials! Attention Lenexa residents! The Barn is still interested in collecting items from Lenexa that are a part of its major period of growth, circa 1970-89. Items such as advertising objects/papers, photographs, and other things that show the growth and change in Lenexa are what we need. If you're not sure about an item, ask us. We collect things that might seem trivial or worthless. If you think you have an artifact we could use, call Kiersten at the Barn, 492-0038.

Show Your Quilt!

If you have a quilt that you are interested in putting on public display, we have the perfect spot for it. We try to have a different quilt exhibited every six months (that keeps them healthy). However, our collection does not contain enough quilts to rotate on a regular basis, so we are looking for folks interested in loaning their pieces to the Barn. If interested, please call 492-0038 to make an appointment.

Rotating Exhibit Schedule

Be sure to come see these new and exciting temporary exhibits! Mark your calendar:

- Aug. 15 through Sept. 30: **The Art of Grace Bilger: Local History**
- Oct. 2 through Nov. 22: **From Far Away Russia: Russian Germans in Kansas**, from the Kansas State Historical Society and Kansas Humanities Council
- Nov. 28 through Jan. 24, 1999: **Kids' International Corner**, sponsored by the Greater Kansas City Ethnic Enrichment Commission

Meet Our Interns

Michelle Beaman. Michelle is currently working on her BA at UMKC in American Studies. She is especially interested in museum education but she has done many types of museum work, ranging from preservation to exhibit design. She is a lifelong resident of Lenexa and a member of the Historical Society.

Adonia David. Adonia is a second year graduate student in KU's museum program (Masters in Historical Administration and Museum Studies-MHAMS). Her main focus of study is history. Her internship at the Barn involved organizing the preservation storage facilities and designing a permanent exhibit on the Legler Barn Quilters (due to come out this winter).

Carl Kawa. Carl isn't technically an intern, but his consistent and quality work here at the Barn deserves mentioning. Every Thursday since March, Carl comes in and works on getting our massive archives in order. This job is profoundly important, yet not always the most exciting work. We are lucky to have such a devoted volunteer working for us. In the near future, he will also be assisting with the collections database.

Kathy Spears. In her second year at KU's MHAMS program, Kathy's focus is on American Studies. She

(continued on page 3)

Wish Wish Wish List



Thank you to those of you who have donated items or services that have appeared on this list. Believe it or not, we don't have anything for the list this time around. But, keep your eye on the next issue.

Interns *(continued from page 2)*

is diligently working away at our computer collections database and other important registrarial-type duties. Kathy is currently a resident of Lenexa.

Peggy Stanton. Peggy is on her last leg of a MHAMS degree at KU. She has been working at the Barn since January. Some of her amazing accomplishments are creating a webpage for LHS (made possible by a grant from KCMO School District) and completely redesigning and installing the new exhibit in the Depot. To prove her dedication to museum work, Peggy drives in three times per week from Troy, KS, about an hour and half away.

Tracy Steitz. Tracy is in her second year of the MHAMS program, history track. Her special project focuses on the Barn's hat collection. She spends time identifying, cataloging, and preserving our very large collection of hats. Tracy also works at the Johnson County Museum of History as the Education Assistant.

Everyone at the Barn and at LHS would like to thank the interns and volunteers for their important and enthusiastic time devoted to bettering this institution. We truly could not get where we are going without their dedication and devotion.

LHS Receives Grant

In August, LHS received a wonderful contribution from Linquist and Craig Hotels and Resorts (Holiday Inn in Lenexa) for \$8500. This contribution will support some wonderful projects. We are grateful for their generosity and support of preserving our

In Memorium

Lenexa Historical Society extends its sincerest sympathies to the families and friends of two of its members who recently passed away, Janette Marshall and Ruth O'Gorman.

Janette Imblum Marshall

Janette passed away August 12. She and her husband, Jack, owned Marshall Liquor and Convenience stores in Lenexa. Jack died in 1995. She is survived by three sons, six grandchildren, and other family members. Janette was a member of the Lenexa United Methodist Church, and served on the Board of Directors of the Lenexa Cemetery Association. At the time of her death, she was secretary of the Board of Directors of the Lenexa Historical Society.

Ruth Callaway O'Gorman

Ruth passed away July 27 in Harrisonburg, VA, where she had lived since 1971. She lived in Lenexa until 1956 when she moved to Emporia, KS. Ruth was a librarian all of her professional life, until retiring in 1985 from James Madison University. Her husband, Harry Paul, died in 1950. Ruth is survived by two sons, three grandchildren, and other family members.

Both Janette and Ruth kindly designated LHS as the recipient of memorial gifts. We have received many from friends and family, and we thank them for their generosity.

city's heritage. If you are interested, stop by the Holiday Inn of Lenexa and see their large collection of historic Lenexa photographs. Thank you, Linquist and Craig!

Bilger Exhibit Opens

On Saturday, August 15, our temporary exhibit entitled, "The Art of Grace Bilger: Local History" opened to an enthusiastic crowd of Bilger admirers. Presentations by Mary Kay Smith, Kiersten F. Latham, and Mary Jo O'Brien were given and refreshments were served. After the talks were given, Grace Bilger Stansbury and her husband, Wesley, arrived at the Barn after a long drive from Sabetha, KS. Their presence was a special treat and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The exhibit continues to run through the end of September. Be sure to visit the Barn and see the wonderful historic works of Grace Bilger.

About Holy Trinity Church

9138 Pflumm Road, Downtown Lenexa
by Rich Lippincott, LHS member

This building was built by the general contractor **James Connor** of Rosedale, Kansas, who grew up in Lenexa, son of **John Connor**, 9900 Pflumm Road. **Maximilian M. Zahner** donated and hauled the stone from his farm near 87th Street Parkway in Lenexa. The cost was \$16,000.

Interior windows in this historic church building on the southwest corner of Pflumm and 91st Terrace were donated in 1910-11 by **Mrs. William B. Strang**. She was the wife of the owner of the interurban trolley line into Kansas City from Olathe. There are three rose windows and eight large Romanesque revival windows. Two smaller arched windows are located in the choir loft on the east wall.

A pipe organ was installed in 1931 at a cost of \$3,500. The marble statue of St. Anthony was donated by **Father J. A. Haeefe**. The Virgin Mary was donated by **Andrew and Magdalene Bleier Scherman**. St. Ann and the child Mary were donated by an unknown parishioner. The Sacred Heart, St. Joseph, and angels were purchased with parish funds.

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

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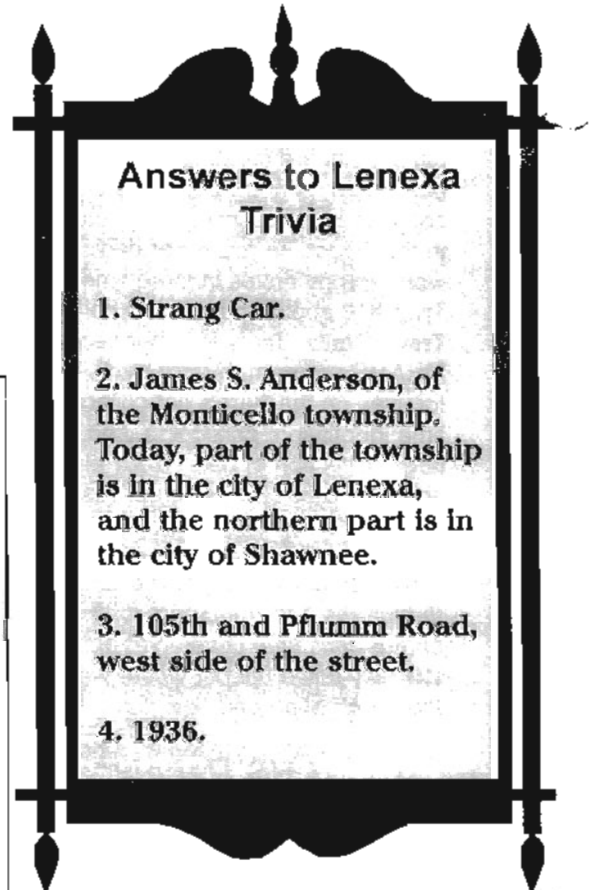


Gift Shop Feature

Do you like to build models? Well, the gift shop recently acquired some **historically-based wagon models** for you and your family to put together. We carry three types of wagon: Conestoga, Stagecoach, and Chuck wagon. All come with high quality materials, only \$10.95 each.

If you love Kansas landscapes and you love to write letters, you'll adore our new item at the Gift Shop: a packet of 10 notecards of **Kansas scenes** by local photographer, **Mark Fieden**. Beautiful sunsets and crisp skies, these cards are nice enough to be framed, let alone sent through the mail. Come get a packet at only \$9.

Either one of these items would make a nice gift. Remember, LHS members get 10% off!



Answers to Lenexa Trivia

1. Strang Car.
2. James S. Anderson, of the Monticello township. Today, part of the township is in the city of Lenexa, and the northern part is in the city of Shawnee.
3. 105th and Pflumm Road, west side of the street.
4. 1936.