

Soup Luncheon



Wed. Feb. 10
Lenexa Community Center
11:00 to 1:00



Serving our delicious Steak Soup and
Ham and Bean Soup, plus bread,
beverages, and dessert

Bring your friends and co-workers!

First "Historic Places" Plaques Presented

The first four plaques designating Lenexa structures as historically important were installed in December. LHS members **Frank Andrews** and **Rita DeBrabander** researched the sites and determined their eligibility. They installed the plaques at the Johnson County Cat Clinic at 94th Terrace and Pflumm (formerly the Haskins home); Holy Trinity Chapel, 9138 Pflumm; the Sparlin home, 9318 Noland Road; and Virginia Hutton's building, formerly Crockett Bit and Spur Co. at 18880 W. 87th St.

LHS has reached an agreement with the Lenexa Lutheran Church to place a plaque there. Frank and Rita are currently researching the church. Presentation of the plaque should happen later this year.

Left: Witnessed by Lenexa Mayor Joan Bowman (far right), LHS presented the plaque naming the home of Merle and Elaine Sparlin (center) as a "Lenexa Historic Place." 1998 LHS President Pat Lierly (far left) holds the certificate given to the Sparlins.



January General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 26
7:00 p.m.

Lenexa United Methodist Church
Schneeberger Hall
9138 Caenen Lake Road

Program: "High and Low Spots in Kansas
During the 20th Century"
by Robert W. Richmond,
Author and Historian
Topeka, KS

Mr. Richmond retired from the Kansas State Historical Society after 36 years. He was Assistant Executive Director. He is the author of "Kansas: A Land of Contrasts" and "Kansas: A Pictorial History"

Now a resident of Topeka, Mr. Richmond was a Scholar in Residence at the Johnson County Museum of History in 1991.

Instead of a pot luck dinner at the meeting, we will be having beverages and cookies. All LHS members, friends, and those interested in history are welcome.

Letter From Kiersten



*Kiersten Latham,
Legler Barn
Museum Director*

Welcome to 1999! I bet you're asking yourself, "What will the new year be bringing to the Barn?" It seems as if there could be nothing left to do after the amazing things we accomplished in 1998—creating all new permanent exhibits, starting a temporary exhibit schedule, establishing a preservation storage facility, starting collection and archive policies—to name just a few!

Well, once we catch our breath, we will get busy reaching our 1999 goals. The list is too long to detail here, but much of the work we plan to do this year revolves around education programs and marketing the museum, both very time-consuming things that will probably continue on into the next millennium.

Regarding education, we hope to evaluate our current education programs, trunk shows, lectures, tours, slide presentations, and school shows. Once we evaluate them, we will work on improving them. For instance, we plan to develop a docent program, complete with manuals and training sessions to create a more consistent, yet flexible tour for our guests (as well as for our docents).

On the marketing front, the Board has established a committee to help "get the word out" to schools, the community, and to the greater metropolitan area as a whole. Much of this process will involve planning and surveying the world around us to see where we fit, how we can fit better, and how we can let people know what wonderful resources we have here at the Barn. I expect this will take much of the year and probably overflow into 2000.

In addition to these major goals, we hope to build upon the '98 accomplishments, such as enhancing the new exhibits and continuing the huge process of organizing the collections database and preservation storage. As you can see, we've got a bundle of work ahead of us, but it feels good to be a part of these achievements. If ever you would like to help out, just call the Barn and we'll put you to work! As always, thanks for your support.

What's Going On at the Barn?

LHS WEBSITE:

www.kc.net/~lhskc/

Check out our site! We maintain our site on a regular basis, so look for changes, announcements, and other goodies.

ROTATING EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

November 28- January 24, 1999: Kids' International Corner (KIC)

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.



The KIC exhibit opened on November 28 with an Open House, enjoyed by many visitors. LHS member Angelo Miño (left), a native of Ecuador, demonstrated a traditional dance.

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

What do erasers, orchids, and obituaries have in

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Wish List



The museum needs all kinds of items and maybe you can help. Your donations will be greatly appreciated:

- 1 or 2 clean mattress pads
- Plexiglass cubes or picture holders
- Podium (floor or desk version) to set an open book on

We also need a data

entry person (must know computer and be willing to commit to a consistent work schedule), and a maintenance person.

Barn

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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 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.



LHS Elects New Board Members at November Meeting

Five new Board members were elected at the November General Membership Meeting. They were **Frank Andrews, Nancy Heeney, Josie LeCluyse, Angelo Miño, and Jim Spaith**. This is Frank's second consecutive term. Jim was filling in on the Board due to a death.

Here is a little information on each person:

Frank Andrews. Frank has lived in Lenexa 13 years. He has retired from his career as a consultant for business acquisitions and management employment. He and his wife, Connie (a life-long Lenexa resident), have seven children: Gincey of Denver, Eric of Blue Springs, Joycelyn of Kansas City, Gail of Shawnee, Wyeth of St. Joseph, Laura of Florida, and Peirce of California.

Nancy Heeney. Nancy has lived in Lenexa 26 years. She has retired from a 17-year part-time job as a nurse's aid at Rosehill Elementary. She and her husband, Don, have four children: Jim of Wichita, Joe of Hutchison, John of Ohio, and Jane of Olathe.

Josie LeCluyse. Josie has lived in Lenexa since the late '60s. She has retired from school teaching and administration. Josie has eight children, seven boys and one girl. Five live locally, while she has one son each in Colorado, Arizona, and Texas.

Angelo Miño. Angelo has lived in Lenexa six years, coming here from his native Ecuador as the Diplomatic Corps' Honorary Council for Kansas and Missouri. His full-time job is Personnel and Safety Director for Signature Landscape. He is also a part-time city employee as Lenexa Community Center Supervisor. Angelo volunteers for the Lenexa Police Dept. and as an interpreter at the Lenexa Municipal Court. He and his wife, Maria, have three daughters: Doris, Grace, and Ivette.

Jim Spaith. Jim grew up in Lenexa, leaving to go to college. He and his wife, Nancey, live in Shawnee. He is a labor relations attorney for the Postal Service. Jim is also on the Advisory Board for KCPT, and president of his fraternity's alumni association at Baker University. He is past president of the Westport Ballet Theater Board of Directors.

New Board members are, from left: Nancy Heeney, Jim Spaith, Frank Andrews, Angelo Miño, and Josie LeCluyse.

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.

Please make checks payable to Lenexa Historical Society. Thank you!

THANKS! To outgoing Board members Rita DeBrabander, Irv Hoffman, and Norman Keech, thank you for the time and effort you gave to LHS this past year. Returning Board members are President Mary Kay Smith, Katie Evans, Bill Markman, Bernie McNichols, Jim Peterson, Ken Reeves, and Ex-Officio Pat Lierly.

New Subdivision. The Walter Scherman farm, known as Mill Creek Stables, at 8440 Renner has been sold to Rodrock Developers. The new subdivision will be named "Parkhurst." It will have 356 lots on 157.8 acres. Walt built 17 buildings on the farm over the years. A brief history of the Scherman family will appear in a future issue of "BarnTalk."

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

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Board Action

At the December meeting, the **LHS Board voted to close the Barn Museum on Sundays for the months of December and January.** The decision was based on the small number of visitors due to inclement weather and holidays, and the difficulty in getting Barn Host volunteers.

Also, the Board voted to try **having only refreshments instead of a pot luck dinner** at some of this year's general membership meetings.