

# The Museum Messenger

## Letter from the President - Ray Rothgeb

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### Coming Events:

"Changing America"  
Aug. 22 to Sept. 29

"Independence: A Bat  
and a Ball  
Oct. 6 to Nov. 21

Arts & Crafts Fair  
Dec. 6

Bear with me as I once again ramble about museum happenings. \* The Museum and Independence CVB was notified this week that Independence will be the site of the 2018 Kansas Museum Association State Conference. This is an important event for the community and the museum. Kudos to Mike Flood and the Chamber for their work in bringing this prestigious event to our community. \* Room Chairs have been working on a labeling system and a room improvement program that will be applicable to the entire museum. They have agreed to start working on the Blacksmith room and adjoining law enforcement room. \* Thanks to Drew Demo a refrigerator has been installed in the Gift Shop where bottled water can be purchased for 55 cents. \* The "Changing America" exhibit opens this month. This is a Smithsonian Exhibit we are hosting in association with the Independence Public Library. Following on the heels of "Changing America" will be the "Hometown Teams" companion exhibit. Thanks to Hoite Caston and Larry McHugh the exhibit will contain local baseball stories. \* The Board agreed to have the museum open Wednesday, 12-5; Thursday, 12-5; and Friday 5-8 pm during Neewollah. Friday night will be dollar night with treats and gifts for kids. A book signing for Minisa Halsey will be held on Saturday prior to the Oak Ridge Boys show. \* Officers were elected for 2015-2016. They are: President-Ray Rothgeb; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President-Kym Kays; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Mike Flood; Secretary-Donna Dittmer; and Treasurer-Randy Hoffman. \* "I am proud to be a part of a museum on the move."

## Website

If you have any suggestions for things you would like to see on the website contact the office or Jean Barnett.

“Changing America” Events (August 22 – September 29) Exhibit on display at **IHMAC**  
August 22-Keynote Speaker Dr. John Edgar Tidwell; Jazz Musicians Terri & Fuzzy Barbera; BBQ Lunch-**IHMAC**  
August 25-Book Discussion-“The Fire Next Time” by James Baldwin-Discussion Leader Anne Hawkins – **IPL**  
August 27-Kansas Debate with Jeff King and the ICC Debate Team-**IHMAC**  
September 1-Emancipation Proclamation presented by Dr. Isaias McCaffery-**IPL**  
September 8-Serving As One presented by Dr. Shawn Leigh Alexander-**IPL**  
September 10-Let Freedom Sing-**IPL**  
September 15-Documentary Screening-**IPL**  
September 16-From Slavery to Civil Rights-Children’s Story time-**IPL**  
September 19-City Spirit –  
September 22-Book Discussion-“Race Matters” by Cornel West-Discussion Leader Marilyn Klaus-**IPL**  
September 29-Closing Reception-Keynote Speaker Gretchen Cassel Eick-**IHMAC**  
(Locations-**IHMAC**-Independence Historical Museum & Art Center / **IPL**-Independence Public Library)

## Kansas Celebrity Hall of Fame

The KCHOF event scheduled for August 15 has been canceled.

## Gift Shop

The changes have begun.

Check out the Gift Shop the next time you are in.

Bottled water is now for sale in the gift shop.

## Landon Center – Norman Chambers

Watch the Newsletter and the area newspapers for upcoming events at the Landon House.

### “Independence: A Bat and a Ball”

The Independence Historical Museum and Art Center will be a companion site for another traveling Smithsonian exhibit beginning October 6<sup>th</sup>. The exhibit will focus on the first night lighted game in Organized Baseball which was played here in Independence on April 28, 1930. Lots of fun and exciting events are scheduled. There will be book discussions, a special luncheon, a vintage baseball game (with 1896 rules) and much more. The exhibit will be on display through November 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you have stories to tell or items (to loan for the exhibit) you would like to share please call the office.

Author Jan Sumner will have a book signing on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

There are several invited guests coming for the Baseball Luncheon on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Lots of volunteers are needed for this special event, so, if you would like to be a part of this event contact the Museum at 331-3515.

### Historical Research Center

The Historical Research Center will be participating in the 100-Mile Sale on September 11 & 12. We will have some unique items for sale that day, including the following:

Old Independence City Directories – 1964 through 1986 (not Inclusive)  
Orange & Black Independence High School Yearbooks (1911-1951)  
Inkanquil and Communico Junior College Yearbooks (1926-1943 and 1970-1982)  
Neewollah Program Books (1962-2013)  
Special Addition Neewollah Program Book Covering 1919-1989  
Neewollah Pins and Cups  
Two-drawer file cabinet

We would certainly appreciate any contributions to the Research Center that we might sell those days. If you have any items that you would like to donate to include in our sale, please call Susan Johnson at 331-7599. We do not want to include in our sale any clothes, shoes or small knick-knacks. Thanks to all our museum members who have supported the Research Center in the past and continue to support our efforts in helping people with their genealogical research.

**Independence Historical  
Museum & Art Center**

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PO Box 295  
Independence, KS 67301

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(620) 331-3515

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museum123@cablone.net

We're on the Web!

See us at:  
[ihmac.org](http://ihmac.org)

**Art Club**

The Art Group will meet for working on personal art projects August 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to Noon. Please note that one does NOT have to be a great artist to work with us; any level of artist is welcome. Also note we enter the museum via the back door on the dock.

Mark Metcalf is donating his time on Saturdays to escort us to places featuring sites which would be good for photographing. More and more interest is being shown in regional art, and Southeast Kansas is a fantastic region. Contact the office for more information.

August 17<sup>th</sup> is a drawing workshop with Steven Greenwall. We meet from 9 AM to Noon. The cost is \$20.

We would love to have you join us anytime.

**Verdigris Valley Art Exhibit**

Alice Bradford of Caney was awarded the People's Choice award for the 62<sup>nd</sup> Verdigris Valley Art Exhibit. Alice has exhibited in almost all of the 62 shows. She was the featured artist for this year's show. Her favorite subject to paint is architecture. Old barns and houses show up in a lot of her paintings.

Mark your calendar for next year. The dates are June 16 through July 16.

The Luncheons will begin again in September.

If you would like to help with a luncheon please let someone in the office know. There are planning guides available in the office.

The first luncheon is September 11 at noon.