

The Museum Messenger

Independence Historical Museum & Art Center

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Independence, KS 67301

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Letter from the President – Ray Rothgeb

We are elevating the museum, and many of you are along for the ride. The ramp is under construction and the “Pillar Elevator” is climbing (You’ll need to visit the gallery to gain a full understanding of this comment). If the current rate of construction continues, you will be able to enter the Museum on the “new access ramp” for the May luncheon. As of this writing the ramp is built and handrails are being constructed off-site to be installed soon. Because of generous gifts from so many of you, the elevator fund has grown to over \$250,000, and is increasing every week. What a wonderful investment in the future of your museum. Don’t miss the May luncheon to find out just how much higher the “Pillar Elevator” will be raised. * The museum continues to provide activities consistent with its mission. Currently the VVYAE (Verdigris Valley Young Artists Exhibit) is in the gallery. Kudos to Leigh Anne Stewart and her well qualified, highly motivated student committee for an outstanding show. Look for the VVAE (Verdigris Valley Art Exhibit) in June. Major events to come: “Changing America” and “Hometown Teams”. In August, the Museum is partnering with the Independence Public Library for “Changing America, “ a look at the connection between the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation and the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington, D.C. Immediately following the close of “Changing America” in September, the Museum will open “Hometown Teams” a companion to the Smithsonian traveling exhibit of the same name. These exhibits will be in the gallery and will be open to the public for free. Don’t miss these great events, or the many regular activities of the museum. * Need a place to have a part, baby shower, wedding reception, seminar, or family meeting? Contact Sylvia for the new Museum rentals brochure. Share these with friends. * We certainly are elevating the museum! How can one keep their feet on the ground with the elevator project and all the activities of his wonderful organization? If you haven’t become an ACTIVE member or donor, now is the time. You too can be a part of “Elevate the Museum;” figuratively or literally! Don’t get left on the ground floor!

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NEW HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and
Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM
Thursday Noon to 7 PM

WEBSITE

If you are responsible for an event, please be sure to email the updated information to jean@jeanandnormanart.com.

Jean Barnett

MILITARY ROOM

The Military Room is the next "Featured" room. It is to be featured for the months of April, May and June. If you would like to help out with this please contact John Koschin or Dan Dollison.

Kansas Celebrity Hall of Fame

The KCHOF Advisory Group met on Wednesday, April 15th to plan the next concert event. The members present were Debbie Schroeder, Ray Rothgeb and Mike Flood. The next concert is tentatively being scheduled for Saturday, August 15th at the museum. The current plans are for the fundraiser event to be a guitar musician talent contest to feature the great solo guitarists from the area. The preliminary auditions would be via Youtube with the finalists performing at the concert in the museum gallery for prizes. The other details are being refined with more news to be announced in the June newsletter. Other people who will be involved are Sylvia Augustine, Mary Hugo, John Koschin and Tony Wood. The next planning meeting is Wednesday, April 29th at 4:00 PM at the museum. If others would like to be involved with this unique and exciting event please contact the museum at (620) 331-3515.

Mike Flood, the new Director at the Independence Chamber of Commerce Convention & Visitors Bureau will be attending the Kansas Sampler Festival at Wamego on May 2nd & 3rd. The promotion of the Independence Historical Museum & Art Center, Landon Center and the Kansas Celebrity Hall of Fame will be part of the exhibit there representing all of the tourism activities for Independence. Last year over 12,000 people attended the festival. If you would like to attend and see all of the wonders of Kansas, please check for the details online at <http://kansassampler.org/festival/> or call (620) 585-2374.

The Kansas Celebrity Hall of Fame is located inside the Independence Historical Museum and Art Center at 123 N. 8th St. in Independence, KS. The museums include the Landon Center, Historical Research Center, Kansas Celebrity Hall of Fame and the Independence Historical Museum and Art Center.

ART CLUB

The Art Club will meet the second and fourth Monday for our regular painting together. The third Monday, May 18th, we will have Steven Greenwall for another drawing lesson. These are very terrific lessons even if you think you don't need them. We all have a lot to learn.

Cheers... Becky

DOCENTS STILL NEEDED

Docents (Tour Guides) are still needed for the upcoming tours. Another training class is scheduled for May 2nd at 10 AM. The class lasts about 1 ½ - 2 hours. If you are interested please contact the office at 331-3515.

ADA PROJECT

Construction of the Ramp on the west side of the Museum is nearly complete.

Be sure to stop by and see the progress.

LUNCHEONS

If you would like to host a luncheon in the 2015-2016 year please let me know. If you would like to provide desserts, salads or veggies for a meal you can be added to a calling list. The Board of Directors hosted the luncheons for the 2014-2015 year.

WISH LIST

Coffee
Coffee Filters
Gallon Tea Bags
Furniture Polish
Old English Oil
Splenda
Dish Soap

COMING EVENTS

MAY

- 1 – Sunflower Ramblers Visiting
- 2 - Last day of VVYAE
- 4 - Monday Music Club
- 7 – Jefferson School 3rd graders visiting (4 classes)
- 8 – Jefferson School 3rd graders visiting (2 classes)
- 8 – Luncheon
- 14 – Board Meeting
- 18 – Drawing Class
- 19 – Business After Hours

Luncheon

The next luncheon is scheduled for May 8th at Noon.

The Menu is Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Dessert, and Coffee or Tea. The program will be Museum Business and Installation of newly elected Board Members.

Please make your reservations by noon on April 8th.

The cost of the Luncheon is \$7.

Happy  Mother's Day

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The request for members to volunteer at the Museum to assist Sylvia has resulted in having individuals to cover Tuesdays and Thursdays. Thank you to those who have volunteered. Please consider helping your Museum with your time. We still need someone to help on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. It could be all day or half a day; 10 Am to 1 PM or 1 to 4 PM. If you cannot commit to a regular day and time each week but could help occasionally please let Sylvia know. This could provide a list of members to be on call.

Please give this serious consideration as a way you could help your Museum.



RENTAL SITES

Need a special place to rent for a family reunion, birthday party, anniversary celebration or a wedding, check out the Landon Center, the Historical Research Center and the Museum and Art Center. The Landon Center will accommodate 35, the Research Center 20 and the Museum & Art Center 140. Call the office (331-3515) to check availability.

Historical Research Center

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!

Call 620-779-0496 or e-mail hrc@ihmac.org to volunteer.

If you need research done call, e-mail or come by.

Stop by the Museum or Research Center and get your tickets for a chance to win a quilt or an afghan. The quilt and afghan are on display in the Museum gallery. The drawing will be held on May 20, 2015. All proceeds go to help support the Center.