

# THE MUSEUM MESSENGER

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT- JOY BARTA

Activities from the past three months were successful and brought many visitors to the museum.

The 'Year of the Craftsman' started with the Pottery Show, January 7 – February 14, featuring items of students and art instructors from ICC as well as other area community colleges. February featured the Photography Show. There were 79 entries, with 53 from adults and 26 from students. Best of Show was awarded to Browyn O'Malley, a student. The soup Luncheon, March 17, was well received and raised \$2000 to be used for improved lighting for your Museum.

Spring is in the air. Your Museum is going to be busy. Upcoming activities include the Wood Crafter's Show opening April 1. It will include interesting demonstrations by some of the crafters. Plan to attend the show, purchase items from the crafters, register to win items by the crafters, and learn a new craft at the demo. April 21 to May 6 is the time for the Verdigris Valley Young Artist Exhibit. A special exhibit featuring Military Posters from World War I and II that the Museum owns will be May 16-27. The April luncheon

is April 14 and the program is Mayor Fred Meier. The May luncheon on May 12 is a salad luncheon hosted by the Art Club members.

The 'Elevate the Museum' project is getting close to being able to start the final phase. Contributions for this project are still welcome you can make a onetime donation or make a pledge to pay out over the next 3 years.

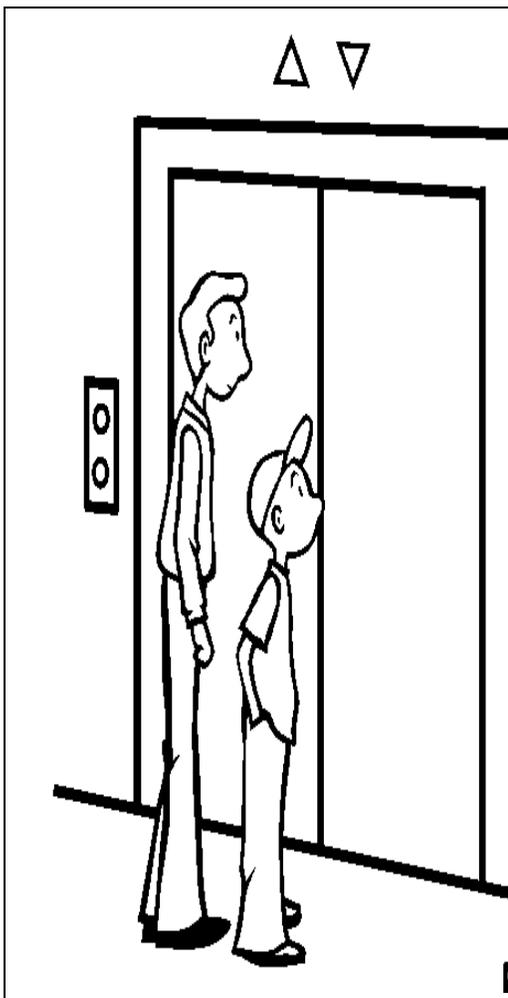
Membership renewal has a different procedure. Instead of all renewals being due at the same time, it is now based on the anniversary date of your last renewal. You will receive a notice 6 weeks before your membership renewal is due. Various levels of membership are available, so you; may choose the one best for you. Your membership is important and appreciated.

Your Museum is successful because of you, from paying your dues, to attending and participating in events, and helping in any way you can. Please let Sylvia know how you can help. Volunteers are 'priceless'!

Look forward to seeing you.

## A LETTER TO MR. CARTER – RAY ROTHGEB

Thank you, Mr. Carter! I'm sure you are smiling down on IHMAC as you see the impact your gift has made on the museum's accessibility. I know you are pleased to see that we have installed an accessible ramp to the main floor, an automatic entry door, and completed accessible restrooms. I hope you approve of the design. I don't often rave about restrooms but I'm sure you agree they are spectacular. I know that as a business man you appreciate the fact that these improvements have been paid for with the help of your friends and local businesses, and that over \$200,000 of the money spent on these amenities was spent locally. How about that for stimulating the local economy? Now, Mr. Carter, you wanted us to get the elevator installed so everyone could enjoy the entire museum. Well, we've identified the location to be just behind the two workroom doors on the main floor (I've included a drawing for us earthbound folks to see). This location will allow access to all floors. That's right! All four floors, including the attic, and the location have been officially approved by the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office. We have promised that when the money is there we would proceed with the elevator. We, we are almost there! Another \$85,000 will complete the elevator leaving about \$35,000 to make the attic accessible for storage space. Now I realize these figures are only estimates because of money pledged that has not been received, and the uncertainty of some outstanding grants. But, we are soooooo close! If you could put in a good word for us it might help. By the way, I hope your boss doesn't mind that we are putting names on a plaque. We are so grateful for all gifts and particularly want to recognize persons and businesses that give us \$1,000 or more. I promise we are not treating this as a graven image. So, Mr. Carter, one last favor: Do you suppose you could tell your boss that we need a little more help. Maybe he could inspire a few more gifts. Oh, and Mr. Carter, THANK YOU!



“Going Up”

### WISH LIST

VOLUNTEERS, VOLUNTEERS AND MORE  
VOLUNTEERS

COFFEE

GALLON TEA BAGS

GALLON ZIP LOCK BAGS

PAPER TOWELS

INK CARTRIDGES

(Call to get the type needed)

COOKIES FOR THE COOKIE JAR

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER – KIRSTEN WEBSTER

Did you know that in 1871, Charles William Post, founder of Postum Cereal and General Foods (Grape-Nuts and Post Toasties) owned a hardware store in Independence? C.W. Post, at the age of seventeen years, borrowed one thousand dollars from his mother and with a partner, Charles Moody, opened the Moody & Post, Dealers in Hardware on North Penn in Independence, Kansas. Their advertisement for business was found in a copy of the South Kansas Tribune, W.T. Yoe, Associate Editor. This information was located for a former Independence resident who is studying to be a docent at the Hillwood Museum in Washington, D.C. The museum is the former home of Marjorie Merriweather Post, daughter and heiress to C.W. Post. Imagine her surprise when she came across an article of the C.W. Post connection to Independence, KS. We were able to confirm this information for her.

The Historical Research Center volunteers have been working on a Marriage License Index for Montgomery County. The years 1926-30 and 1931-35 are almost ready to print. Our next project will be a Master Name Index for the Mt. Hope Cemetery. These indexes provide faster retrieval of information located here in the Center.

Visit us 10:00 – 3:30 Tuesday thru Saturday and a volunteer will be able to help you locate historical information on persons and families of Montgomery County.

The Research Center may be reached by calling 620-205-0496 or e-mailing [hrc@ihmac.org](mailto:hrc@ihmac.org)

## APRIL IHMAC ARTIST ACTIVITIES – DONNA ROTHGEB

Ten Independence Historical Museum and Art Center (IHMAC) Artists just completed three days of pastels with Steven Greenwall in March. Greenwall, a veteran teacher of thirty plus years at Allen County Community college, has taught IHMAC workshops for four years. Most sessions have occurred the third Monday of the month, but this time the three days were scheduled on March 13, 20 and 27. Greenwall spent January and February reviewing drawing techniques in values and perspective and finished a series on portraiture last fall.

Beginning the third Monday of April, Greenwall will begin an Open Studio arrangement where he will allow students to continue in pastels, return to watercolor, or work on drawings in some form of black/white medium, such as conte, charcoal, pen or pencil. Each participant needs to email Donna Rothgeb at [rdrothgeb@cableone.net](mailto:rdrothgeb@cableone.net) his/her contact information so a registration form and a supply list can be mailed by email or snail mail. The registration form and supply list may also be picked up at the museum. Participants in the Open Session need to mail (P.O. Box 294) in or leave at the museum (123 N. 8<sup>th</sup>) their completed form and their payment of \$22 by April 7 for the April 17<sup>th</sup> Open Studio workshop. Each third Monday Greenwall will continue the same Open Studio arrangement at the same cost with the fee paid ten days in advance.

Those persons planning on working in pastels may attend a gesso session, preparing a surface for their work on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The gesso session will be conducted by Steve Greenwall and will begin at 9 a.m., Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at the museum. The session will cost \$8 per participant to cover supplies and Greenwall's fee. At the Open Studio sessions, Greenwall has agreed to offer demonstrations in the three different mediums as needed and to help each participant on the work he/she brings during the three-hour workshop. The gesso fee of \$8 for April 10<sup>th</sup> will be collected that day.

April 24<sup>th</sup> will be a few art day for artists unless the entire gallery space is needed for the Verdigris Valley Young Artist Exhibit. The situation will be clarified at the April 17<sup>th</sup> Open Studio workshop.

2016-2017  
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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Independence Historical Museum &  
Art Center

Mailing address: P.O. Box 294

Physical address: 123 N. 8<sup>th</sup>

Phone: 620-331-3515

E-mail: [museum123@cablone.net](mailto:museum123@cablone.net)

Web site: [ihmac.org](http://ihmac.org)

Historical Research Center

Mailing address: P.O. Box 294

Physical address: 123 W. Myrtle

Phone: 620-779-0496

E-mail: [hrc@ihmac.org](mailto:hrc@ihmac.org)

Landon House

Mailing address: P.O. Box 294

Physical address: 300 S. 8<sup>th</sup>

Phone: 620-331-3515

## NEW MEMBERS

Karen Carpenter

Kari Barrera

Jerry & Etta Shanks

Bulldog Station

## ROOM CHAIRS

Chairs are still needed for some of the rooms in the Museum.

Get your family together, members of another organization you belong to, friends or neighbors to help clean, set up or organize a room. The more people you have in your group the easier the job.

If you are interested, stop by the office to see which rooms are available.

## EXHIBITS

If it has been a while since you have been to see the exhibits in the basement you are in for a few surprises. The Jail Exhibit has some interesting items to see.

The Fire Exhibit has been moved and reorganized.

The Blacksmith Shop and Ag Exhibits are undergoing some changes.

## APRIL LUNCHEON

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs  
Chips  
Baked Beans  
Cole Slaw  
Relish Tray  
Ice Cream  
Beverages

Hosted by  
The Demo Family

## MAY LUNCHEON

Salad Bar  
Desserts  
Beverages

Hosted by  
The Art Club

## MEMBERSHIP COUNTS – KYM KAYS

Sadly, we have lost several members this year. Several have moved away. Losing members has a significant impact on our budget. However, the good news is that there are a tremendous amount of people and businesses that are not currently members. We need to offer them an invitation to join us.

Right now the Membership Committee is hard at work recruiting new businesses with great offers that include free rental space, free lunches, free passes with reciprocity to other museums and discounts in the gift shop and for workshops.

The Membership Committee is asking our existing membership (stick out your finger and point to yourself) to join the membership drive. It's as simple as asking a friend or family member to join. If you need membership forms, need more information, or have suggestions of who we might send an invitation to, please forward their name and address to Sylvia at [museum123@cablone.net](mailto:museum123@cablone.net) and we will make sure they receive information on how to join us in continuing our great legacy here at IHMAC!

## COMING EVENTS

Wood Crafter's Show – March 30 to April 8  
Special Demonstrations:  
Wood Turning Demo – April 1 at 1:00 PM  
Wood Carving Demo – April 4 at 10:00 AM  
Wood Carving Demo – April 4 at 6:30 PM  
Wood Turning Demo – April 5 at 6:30 PM

Verdigris Valley Young Artist Exhibit –  
April 21 to May 6

April 21 Reception at 6:30 PM

Military Art  
May 16-27

If you have anything you would like to display during this event please contact the office or John Koschin.