

# THE MUSEUM MESSENGER

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT- JOY BARTA

Your Museum Board of Directors sends greetings for a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Spring was a busy time at your Museum and Hope you were able to take in at least some of the events. The first Woodcrafters Show was held March to April. It was small, but well received by both visitors and the exhibitors. Two of the exhibitors conducted 4 different classes and they were well attended. April 21 thru May 6 the Independence High School art students chaired the Verdigris Valley Young Artist Exhibit. The students planned and promoted the exhibit that included over 100 entries and was well attended. An exhibit of Military Posters and other military materials were displayed May 16 thru 27. Dan Dollison and John Koschin were the chairmen for this event.

The 64<sup>th</sup> annual Verdigris Valley Art Exhibit, which is chaired by members of the Art Club, is setting up and the critique and opening will be June 30. The show runs until July 14. The entries are of very good quality so make plans to attend. On July 22, the Museum will host a "Wine, Cheese and Kansas Prohibition". Isaias McCaffery, history professor at ICC, will present a program about Kansas prohibition including information about this time in Independence. There will also be a music program with tunes from the era. Light refreshments and wine or punch will be served. Watch for announcements about the time and cost. This should be an entertaining and informative event. There will be a Quilt Show beginning August 1. If you have quilts you have made or special quilts from family, plan to bring them to exhibit. More information will be available soon.

Textron Aviation has some interns here for the summer. They are also volunteering in the community. Five of them are coming to the Museum to help with projects. They have been

painting in the basement which will help improve displays around the blacksmith area and also the bedroom.

At the May luncheon four Board Members were voted in to serve a 3-year term. They are: Norman Chambers, Liz Moore, Randy Hoffman and Lori Shaw. They will be installed at the September Luncheon. With regrets the Board accepted the resignation of Kym Kays from the Board. The Board will appoint a replacement.

Several businesses and individuals have become new members of the Museum. They are: Bill White Real Estate, Community National Bank, Booth Hotel, Hugo's Industrial Supply, Woods Lumber, Commercial Bank, Gary & Leseley Simpson, Ernie & Carol Loganbill, Alix Dreck & Nick Riesner, Lon Erwin, Jean Faler, and Robert & Marie Scovel. Please thank them if you know them or visit their business.

After several months of looking at information, options, revenue vs. expenses, and usage of the Landon House, the Board voted it was in the best interest to list it for sale. Usage has been low and therefore it was difficult to meet the expenses for utilities and insurance. Some repairs are needed amounting to \$8,000-\$10,000. To complete the renovation of the first floor, the Museum was awarded a Heritage Grant from the Kansas State Historical Society along with some donations from individuals. Grants have been submitted the past two years, however, the State is awarding those grants to applications for buildings in danger of being destroyed as opposed to this project of additional renovation for the second floor. Pasternak-Johnson Coldwell Banker will be the listing agent. It is with regret that the Board had to make this decision, but it could not justify continuing to have expenses exceed revenue.

Hope you have a good summer. Plan to attend or participate in the coming events. See you at the September Luncheon.

## ELEVATE THE MUSEUM PROGRESS – RAY ROTHGEB

Contributions to the ‘Elevate the Museum’ project continue to come in closing the gap on funds needed to start the elevator. It is my hope that within the next few months we will be consulting with the architect to begin the elevator portion of Phase III of the project.

Recent contributions that are moving us forward have come from the United States Department of Agriculture, Quality Toyota/Motors, Toyota Foundation and Wal-Mart. The USDA informed the Museum that it has approved a \$35,000 Rural Development grant to be used to help purchase the elevator. Quality Motors/Toyota and Toyota Foundation contributed \$5000 and \$2000 was received from Wal-Mart. Needless to say, the museum is grateful for the grants and the support of local business. These contributions have put us within \$20,000 of having enough cash and pledges to begin the Elevator portion. Another \$80,000 is still needed to finish the attic storage.

Throughout this process the museum membership has been, and continues to be an integral part of the project. Your continued support and encouragement are important for its successful completion. Of vital importance is pledged money. Over \$42,000 is still out in pledges. It is our hope that 100% of those pledges will be received. Take pride in what is being done as much has being accomplished.



WISH LIST

NEW MEMBERS

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

Warmer weather has brought out more visitors to the Research Center across on the corner from the Historical Museum in Independence. All guests are welcome on Tues. – Sat. from 10 am. – 3:30 pm. Volunteers keep us open for you during these hours.

Since our last article we have been absorbing a large collection of Official Records of the Union & Confederate Armies and Navies of the War of the Rebellion (Civil War). Many details of this war are available in these books. Tell your war historian friends!

We have also reworked our obituary files of several funeral homes from 1933 – 1988. We could use any four-drawer, heavy weight filing cabinets. We would prefer the above, but we would take any filing cabinet you want to donate to us.

A fundraiser for the Research Center will be our participation in the 100-mile yard and flea sale on September 8, 9, & 10, 2017. We will take donations at the Museum and Research Center. Most anything is acceptable except clothing. Purses are okay, but we just don't have room for clothing. Save those attic treasures for us!

Be sure to remember we are here for you to learn more about your family and ancestors. You will be amazed the resources we have available at your fingertips.

The Research Center may be reached by calling 620-205-0496 or e-mailing [IndyHRC@gmail.com](mailto:IndyHRC@gmail.com)

## IHM MAC ARTIST ACTIVITIES – DONNA ROTHGEB

IHM MAC Artists still meet regularly on the second, third and fourth Mondays of the month, unless some conflict interferes. For July, the second Monday (July 10) is set for a free art day when anyone interested brings supplies to work on any subject of their choice in the media of their choice. Though we have agreed to not use oils or acrylics because of paint on the floor, we can work in watercolors, pastels, pencil, charcoal or conte. The third Monday (July 17), Steve Greenwall will be here to instruct us in our choice of the mediums listed above. He circulates and helps each person one or two times and gives demonstrations as needed. We need 10 signed up to keep the cost at \$22 a person for Steve's fee and mileage. Steve is a wonderful instructor and very knowledgeable in all mediums. The art group invites workshop instructors requested by persons within the group and sometimes holds in-house mini workshops taught by our retired teachers and others with special experiences.

Several IHMAC Artists are entered in the Verdigris Valley Art Exhibit which opens Saturday, July 1, and runs through July 14. Another show, Kansas AWES is planned for September. If anyone is interested in joining this group, please contact Donna Rothgeb at [rdrothgeb@cableone.net](mailto:rdrothgeb@cableone.net). She will add you to the contact list. Please send name, email address, snail address, phone number, city, state, and zip code information. If you have definite interest in certain workshop instructors and media, please indicate this in your email to Donna. We look forward to adding more to the IHMAC Artists' list. We now have people from 14 communities with a range from Bixby, OK to Kansas City, KS----plus two drop-ins from Carthage, MO and Virginia Beach, VA.

## SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

Program:  
Installation of Board Members

Menu:  
Surprise

Does anyone want to help plan a luncheon for this next year? Just call the office for more information.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Art Center

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Historical Research Center

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Don't forget to save  
your Best Choice  
labels for Ellie Culp!!

## NEW MEMBERS

Gary & Leseley Simpson

Bill White Real Estate

Community National Bank

Booth Hotel

Hugo's Industrial Supply

Ernie & Carol Loganbill

Woods Lumber

Alix Oreck & Nick Riesner

Commercial Bank

Lon Erwin

Jean Faler

Robert & Marie Scovel

## 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.

