



Kansas Museums Association

Preserving & Promoting History - Art - Science for Kansas Communities

eNewsletter

April 29, 2011

Greetings!

YOU ARE INVITED!

You are invited to join your KMA Colleagues at a South East Regional Gathering in North Newton on May 23rd! Free and open to all KMA Members.

Date: Monday, May 23, 2011
Time: 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Location: Kauffman Museum &
Flint Hills Design, North Newton

After refreshments at 10 am, Kauffman Museum staff will open a conversation about exhibits and programming on Kansas by sharing the award-winning exhibit "K is for Kan-sas." See selections of "Considering the Commonplace: Prairie Towns through the Lens of Bob Regier" and more!

In the afternoon, we'll take a mini field trip to Flint Hills Design to see the latest NEH on the Road traveling exhibit "Wild Land: Thomas Cole and the Birth of American Land-scape Paintings."

Come early or stay late, and share ideas with your KMA colleagues!

*Lunch not included-bring a sack lunch or we will send out for sandwiches.

PLEASE RSVP to Jami: 316-265-9314 or [E-mail](#)

[Print the Flyer](#)

**COMING SOON!
KMA MEMBERSHIP SURVEY**

In a few days, you will receive an e-mail requesting completion of a brief 10 question survey about KMA. Please take a few moments to respond. Your thoughts about the service provided by KMA will help

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guide the board and I guide planning for the future.

Kansas Cultural Heritage Resources Network

by Rachel Pannabecker, Director
Kauffman Museum

The Kansas Cultural Heritage Resources Network is a website to aid libraries, museums, historical societies and any cultural heritage institution in Kansas to prepare for and recover from a natural disaster (see <http://kansaschern.wordpress.com/>).

This statewide resource is governed by a coordinating council who maintains the KCHERN website and list-serv, and promotes emergency and disaster preparedness and training. The volunteer council meets at least biannually (most recently through conference calls) to discuss promoting MayDay and emergency planning activities for the Kansas Libraries Association and Kansas Museums Association. Currently two KMA members serve on the nine-member council: Tammy Hanna January (museum community representative; currently KCHERN Vice-President) and Rachel Pannabecker (Kauffman Museum). The council would like another member from the museum community, particularly from the southwest region of the state, although a volunteer from anywhere in the state will be welcome. For further information about KCHERN or becoming a museum representative on the council, contact Rachel Pannabecker (rpannabe@bethelks.edu or Kauffman Museum phone 316-283-1612).

Sponsors and Exhibitors Wanted! Sponsorship Form

KMA Annual Conference October 26-28 - Olathe

To the Stars....Through Art, Culture, History and Science

Kansas Museums Association Annual Conference
October 26-28, 2011
Olathe, Kansas

Join museum professionals in celebrating the Kansas 150 Anniversary! Prepare for the next 150 years! Explore new perspectives in museum practices, participate in relevant educational sessions, visit area museums and exchange best practices with museum professionals.

Host Museums:

- The Mahaffie Stage Coach Museum and Farm Historic Site
- Deaf Cultural Center/William J. Marra Museum
- The Johnson County History Museum
- Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn - Olathe Regional Medical Center
101 West 151st Street, Olathe

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Click on icon above to find
**Join KMA
on Facebook**

Check out KMA on Facebook. Thanks to Jami Frazier Tracy, KMA Southeast Regional Representative, the KMA Facebook page will be featuring photos and news articles that will help keep members up-to-date. Send your photos and events to [Contact Lisa](#).

BIG IDEAS FOR SMALL MUSEUMS

Big Ideas for Small Museums, is a free quarterly e-newsletter with helpful information. just for people who work in small museums. Through this publication, the AASLH Small Museums Committee shares resources that are pre-tested and approved by actual small museum professionals. The articles are brief and practical - giving you the shortcuts you need when don't have enough time, money, or people.

To receive the newsletter, join the AASLH Small Museums Affinity Group. The Affinity Group is not a memberships organization and there is no fee to join.

[Sign-up for Newsletter](#)

Click on "Join the Small Museums Affinity Group" link at the top of the page.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Flint Hills Discovery Center Time Capsule

by Bob Workman, Northeast Area Representative

The Flint Hills Discovery Center has launched a Flint Hills Time Capsule project now underway through 2011. Under the direction of Dennis Ryan, KSU History intern, the Flint Hills Discovery Center is asking all counties throughout the region to capture the spirit of the Flint Hills in 2011 through the collection of objects and ephemera during our Sesicentennial year. Each county will be given an archival box to fill with material that tells about their area during this year of reflection and celebration. The boxes will then be sealed into an interior space of the new museum project, to be opened in 2061 for the Kansas Bicentennial. A site has been selected off the main lobby and a wall plaque will denote the time capsule location. Current staff are committing future staff to the organization of a special exhibition of the time capsule contents fifty years in the future. Besides generating awareness and interest in the new Flint Hills Discovery Center, organizers hope the material gathered will provide future historians a better awareness of the Flint Hills region -- and its opportunites and challenges -- in 2011.

by Debra Hiebert
Director, Harvey County
Historical Museum

I spent part of last week in St. Louis at the IMLS and AASLH sponsored Project Management Workshop. It was very worthwhile and is well-supported by grant monies so expenses might be manageable. They have another in Oklahoma City in May that MAY have some spots available.

Interested folks should get in touch with [Steve Hoskins](#) at AASLH. [For more information.](#)

Web Page



The KMA Web page is evolving and wants to feature photos and news articles from your museum. Send information to director@ksmuseums.org

Important 2011 Dates

May 23
KMA South East Region Gathering
10:00 am-3:00 pm
Kauffman Museum &
Flint Hills Design,
North Newton
[Print the Flyer](#)

May 22-25
[American Association of Museums Conference - Houston, Texas](#)

Coronado Quivira Museum Photograph Analysis and Preservation Project

by Maggie Carlson, Director/Curator of Collections

The Coronado Quivira Museum was the recipient of a \$400.00 grant from the Kansas Museum Association in 2009. The grant was received for a Photograph Analysis and Preservation Project created to allow us not only to preserve the photographs in ANSI-approved storage methods, but also to update our catalog records for the photographs and create an easily searchable database to allow better and faster access for staff and researchers. After having completed the project using the funds from KMA and matching funds supplied by the CQM, there are some challenges I would like to pass along to potential grant seekers, as well as some advice to help you out on your grant-funded projects.

I attended a workshop session once to hear one of the grant writers from the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art speak about how to go about successful grant writing. She said one of the key things she feels is a sense of elation after winning the grant, followed by a feeling of "Oh man...now we actually have to do the project!" Now that we have had a grant funded project, I can say that this feeling definitely exists! But it doesn't take long to get over that overwhelmed feeling, and once you begin the project the work actually does progress rapidly.

When you are creating your grant project, make sure that the size and scope of the project you are doing are not too much for you to handle, because it is not wise to take anything for granted (pun intended!) when you are creating the project. If you plan for yourself having a certain amount of hours per week to devote to the project, be sure that when you have to cut back on some of that time for unforeseen circumstances you can still complete the project. For example, changes in staff at our institution after receiving the KMA Grant cut in half the number of hours I could devote to the project, but luckily my Assistant Curator and I were able to divvy up the hours I had to cut to ensure that the project was finished on time.

There were also certain points when a kind of depression sets in when you are dealing with any kind of collections project like this one. I knew going in that the photo counts I had was likely out of date, but I had no idea just how out of date the numbers were until we got into the project. I created Photograph Catalog sheets for the project, allowing us to divide each photograph into one of seven broad categories (such as architecture or portrait) and to further classify them by subcategories (such as "churches" under architecture or "group" under portrait) based on the image in the photo. As the completed Catalog sheets began to pile up, it was depressing to see the number of them which either did not match up with our current collection records or were filled out for photographs which were not numbered at all, and therefore not in the system. All of us who work in collections deal with issues like this at certain points in our careers, and the best thing for it is to simply breathe and remember that everything you are doing is leaving the collection better than before you started the project. Focusing on one aspect of what you are doing, rather than on the enormity of the task in front of you keeps stress from overwhelming you and makes work progress much faster than you realize.

Finally, allow yourself to take pleasure in the small victories as you work

July 19

KMA Director's Forum

September 14-17

[2011 AASLH Annual Conference Richmond, Virginia](#)

October 17-21

[MPMA Conference - Helena, Montana](#)

October 26-28

[KMA Conference - Olathe](#)

Employment Listings

[Education Director- Sternberg Museum of Natural History](#)

Scholarship

KMA Professional Development Scholarships

Applications are available for professional development education to enhance skills of museum personnel are available for up to \$300.

[Scholarship Application](#)

Exchange Submissions

Newsletter Submissions are due the first of the month.

Newsletter is published monthly around the 15th of each month.

Send information to director@ksmuseums.org

Facebook



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through your project. This project allowed us to reach out to our membership and our community to inform them of the project and seek volunteers, and we have had a small but devoted band of regular volunteers who have helped us catalog the photographs. It was such a great feeling to work with several of them, who remembered many of the people in the photographs (even the older ones from before their births!) and reminisced over the images. One particular photograph of prominent businessmen from Lyons in the 1930's dressed as women in full dresses and bonnets for a community play caused us all a great deal of amusement and laughter! It also prompted one of the volunteers working with us to share the story of how the jewelry store owner in the photograph allowed him to purchase the engagement ring for his wife on credit so he could make payments from the various army bases he was sent to during WWII! It was a story we never knew about the jewelry store owner, and I promptly wrote it down for inclusion in the research file we have on the jewelry store. Another volunteer has been so dedicated at helping us process the photographs that he is thinking about writing a column in the local newspaper about the history of Rice County as he remembers it from his years as the newspaper editor.

[Email Executive Director,
Lisa Dodson](mailto:Executive Director, Lisa Dodson)

The portion of the photographs we have completed and organized has already proven itself in cutting down research time and allowing us to pull a greater variety of photographs for researchers. A group of Lyons High School alumni is organizing an All-School Reunion for next year for everyone who graduated from the school, no matter what year. We have worked with them in the past on various projects for these reunions, and this year they are creating a disc of photographs of local businesses and homes from around Lyons at various points in the past. Last year, a request for photographs that broad would have taken a week or more to pull through all of the photographs to see what they could possibly use. This year we were able to pull from the photographs that we have done in half an hour and they were able to find all of the specific images they were looking for from the ones we pulled!

Overall, the grant we received allowed us to get started on a project that was in desperate need of being done. We were able to update catalog records and see where there were major holes that need to be addressed as we work our way through the photograph collection. We have re-housed the photographs using ANSI-approved storage techniques to preserve the them. We have used the newly organized collection for research in a much faster and more efficient manner and we have been able to renew our volunteer base and gain some wonderful new members and volunteers and the stories they have to tell. We would like to thank the Kansas Museum.



Newton Fred Harvey Dining Room 1957

**Harvey County
Historical Museum
Celebrates the
Kansas
Sesquicentennial
with 150 Years of
Food & Fun with the
Family**

by Debra Hiebert, Director

One table at 150 Years of Food & Fun with the Family pays homage to the influence of the Fred Harvey Restaurants, the first chain restaurant in the US.

Harvey County Historical
Museum

The Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives invites the public to participate in *150 Years of Food & Fun with the Family* on Saturday, April 30, from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM (come- and-go) at the museum. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth (ages 4-14), with children 3 and under admitted free. Tickets are available from the museum, Karen's Kitchen (701 N. Main, Newton) and Prairie Harvest (601 N. Main, Newton).

The event, which celebrates our state's 150th birthday, features samples of food prepared from recipes from 1860 through present day, period decorations and artifacts, food trivia and fun facts and games for all ages. Cooperating with HCHM to present the event are Acapulco Restaurant, Harvey County 4-H members, Karen's Kitchen, The Leaf Tea Lounge and Prairie Harvest. Each organization or business, along with HCHM, invites guests to view our state's history through a unique culinary perspective by presenting an ornamented table and two food samples from a 20-year period in our history, accompanied by historical highlights. Designed to entertain both youth and adult visitors, the event will also feature food-focused games and activities for all ages, such as a Cheerio catapult and sugar-cube stacking challenge, as well as food-related artifacts and trivia.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please call the museum at (316) 283-2221 or visit 203 N. Main, Newton during open hours. Tickets are also available at Karen's Kitchen and Prairie Harvest.



Summer Music Time at McPherson Museum

by Carla Barber
KMA Past President
Director, The McPherson
Museum

The McPherson Museum will begin its fourth annual **Summer Music Series** with a performance by the McPherson Community Band at 6:15p.m. on Tuesday, June 7, as part of the *Bike Across Kansas* events.

This is one of six performances to be held at the band shell. The public is invited to bring folding chairs or blankets, as desired. Popcorn from McPherson Cinema 4 and Culligan water will be provided free.

All other concerts will begin at 8p.m. and will last from an hour to an hour and a half, with a short intermission, during which there will be a prize drawing for free meals from McPherson Wendy's Restaurant.

There will be six events in total, all performed by the McPherson Community Band at the band shell at Lakeside Park. After the June 7 concert, all other concerts will begin at 8:00 p.m. Dates for the concerts are June 23 and 30, and July 7, 14, and 28.

The events are great for families and any age. They are informal, children and pet friendly.

Admission is free; a donation of \$2 per person to benefit the McPherson Museum is appreciated. For questions, call the Museum at 620-241-8464.

The Museum Summer Music Series is made possible by sponsorship from NCRA, Wal-Mart, Edward Jones, the office of Gary Hess, Peoples Bank, Sounds Great, Wendy's, Culligan, and McPherson Cinema Four.



Third Kansas Battery B, Light Artillery

**Civil War
Reenactment
Old Cowtown
Wichita
Third Kansas
Battery B, Light
Artillery**

**by Lisa Dodson
KMA Executive Director**

I took a walk back in time at the Old Cowtown Museum Civil War Reenactment on Saturday, April 16. I particularly enjoyed visiting with members of the Third Kansas Battery B, Light Artillery Inc. who participated in the reenactment of a Civil War battle. The reenactors are volunteers who donate their time to promoting living history. Their organization is a non-profit organization and they are willing to participate in museum and community events for low fees that cover their expenses for cannon fire and mileage to tow the cannon. They are also interested in recruiting new members who would like to become reenactors. To arrange for a reenactment in your community or for more information contact: Richard Spacek at 913-682-1659.

Contact Information

Lisa Dodson, Executive Director

316-765-9197

Email director@ksmuseums.org

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