



Kansas Museums Association

Preserving & Promoting History - Art - Science for Kansas Communities

eNewsletter

March - April 2012

Greetings!

The following report was submitted to the Mountain-Plains Museum Association meeting in February 2012.

KMA Strategic Planning

Kansas Museums Association contracted with a facilitator to undergo a strategic planning process to assure a cohesive direction to build a stronger organization that will be able to respond to member needs and increase financial stability. The first meeting was held in January. Some key goals developed for KMA include:

- Diversify and strengthen revenues;
- Provide consistent quality programs to members;
- Provide leadership for Kansas museums;
- Promote best practices and professional standards.

The board also established the following committees to formulate recommendations:

- Governance
- Finance
- Membership
- Communications
- Programs

The first two committees will report to the board at the March meeting; the remaining committees will present their reports at the May meeting. KMA is looking forward to emerging from this process a stronger and more responsive voice for museums. www.ksmuseums.org

Other News in Kansas

The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson is taking applications (through March 15) for a new president and CEO. The Cosmosphere tells the non-biased, definitive story of the Space Race. With a U.S. space artifact collection second only to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow, the Hall of

Space Museum is known by space enthusiasts worldwide. www.cosmo.org

The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum is hosting Our Lives, Our Stories: America's Greatest Generation, an exhibit adapted and toured by Mid-America Arts Alliance through NEH on the Road. Our Lives, Our Stories: America's Greatest Generation, a new exhibition opening this week at the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, explores the life arc of the World War II generation-as told in their own words. Born in the 1910s and 1920s, these people were decisively shaped by the Depression and World War II. They went on to make the "baby boom" and shape the economic boom of the postwar era. Today - well into the 21st century - we are all living with their legacy. Interesting companion exhibits and local programming were developed by museum staff to compliment the traveling exhibit. www.wichitahistory.org

The Coronado-Quivera Museum in Lyons, the High Plains Museum in Goodland, the National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, and the Miners Hall Museum in Franklin have been selected by the Kansas Humanities Council to host "The Way We Worked." The exhibit explores the stories of America's workers and invites us to consider how the workplace and workforce have changed over time. Through photographs from the National Archives, audio and video clips, and hands-on components, Kansans will discover how, together, our work makes America.

www.kansashumanities.org

The Flint Hills Discovery Center, in Manhattan, will be hosting a grand opening on April 14, 2012. The Flint Hills Discovery Center celebrates the importance of the tallgrass prairie, through a presentation of its geology, biology and cultural history. With 7,000 square feet of dynamic permanent exhibits, visitors will learn the importance of this rare eco-system, its rich biological diversity -- how the first Native peoples lived here in harmony with nature for 13,000 years, and how Euro-Americans adopted grazing as the principle economy of the Flint Hills that has essentially saved it up to today. The Flint Hills is a place of subtle beauty, but it continues to face many challenges. Our goal is to inspire people to celebrate, explore and care for the Flint Hills now and for future generations - because we are the custodians of the last stand of tallgrass prairie in the world.

www.flinthillsdiscovery.org

The Kansas Museum of History, in Topeka, recently opened "You Are Here: Putting Kansas on the Map." The exhibit of Maps provides us with information about what's around us and who we are. They help define Kansas and make it known to the world. Enjoy the best maps from the KSHS collection in this showcase of Kansas places. This unique exhibit will present many maps that are very rare and seldom displayed. It also offers art work and objects related to maps and map making. www.kshs.org

Kansans just closed out year of celebrating the state's 150th birthday. Museums and organizations all around the state joined in with parades, exhibits, programs, and other special events during the birthday year.

KMA held their 2011 conference in Olathe. Keynote speakers were Ford Bell, President, American Association of Museums; Julian Zugazagoitia, Director & CEO The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art; and Brian Alexander, President & CEO National World War I Museum. The 2012 conference will be held in Newton.

I could continue on for many pages with the wonderful exhibits and events that our Kansas museums, both large and small, are creating to showcase our state's history, art, and culture. I am proud to be a part of the wonderful museum community in Kansas.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Herrick
President, Kansas Museums Association
Director, Stanton County Museum



The History Detectives Visit Leavenworth County

In early March, PBS' History Detectives came to Leavenworth County to research and film for an upcoming episode which will air this summer. In addition to filming at First City Museum in Leavenworth, the crew came to Mount Muncie Cemetery located on Highway 5 in Lansing. Historian Elyse Luray is the detective on this case. While we cannot reveal who they were looking for in the cemetery we can say the man in question is buried in the Elks section.

The Benevolent Protective Order of Elks was an offshoot of the Jolly Corks drinking club which was founded by actors in 1866. The purpose of the club was to bypass the New York law that prohibited the sale of spirits on Sundays. Today the club has over 1,500,000 members and promotes patriotism, public service and caring for Elks in need.

Kansas Hall of Fame Announces First Round of Laureates

The Kansas Hall of Fame at the Great Overland Station has announced the first group of Laureates for 2012.

At the William Allen White State Historic site, spokesperson Beth Fager revealed three of this year's honorees:

William Allen White
Cyrus Kurtz Holliday

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Resource

VINTAGE AMERICAN ADS

ONLINE. Vintage American Ads Get Online Archive - Heard on the Runway - WSJ. This past September, Jay Paull, a vintage ad enthusiast based in Reston, Va., launched an online archive <<http://www.jaypaull.com/>> to showcase his collection of more than 10,000 American advertisements dating from the 1830s to the 1920s.

Bulletin Board

Flat Files Wanted

Walter P. Chrysler Home & Museum in Ellis, KS needs a cabinet with shallow drawers that would be used for filing and keeping old calendars or magazines. If you have one to donate, please e-mail [Dena Patee](#).

Buffalo Wanted

Exploration Place in Wichita,

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway

They will be inducted into the Kansas Hall of Fame in ceremonies in Topeka on June 15. In order to appropriately honor all of the inductees, two more press conferences are scheduled in April to announce the remaining Laureates.

William Allen White, the voice and soul of Kansas for decades, placed Kansas in headlines all over the world from his own front desk at the Emporia Gazette. Perhaps best known for his editorial, "What's the Matter with Kansas?", White's plain-spoken, insightful editorials struck a chord far beyond the boundaries of his native state, and though he traveled extensively, Kansas remained his home. White is the namesake of the prestigious William Allen White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas, whose graduates include Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt and newsman Bill Kurtis. Family members were in attendance at today's announcement, including great-grandson Chris Walker, Editor and Publisher of the Emporia Gazette.

Cyrus K. Holliday is most well-known as the founder of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. A staunch supporter of Free State Kansas, Holliday came from Pennsylvania to the Kansas Territory in 1854 with energy and vision, and it would take both to endure the challenges of Bleeding Kansas and the Civil War. Not only did Holliday endure, he left an indelible mark on his new state, as well as on the national landscape. As a founder of Topeka, he was instrumental in that city's becoming the state capital. His optimism and business acumen were instrumental to the growth of our state. In 1859, he chartered a new railroad that would eventually traverse the exotic and little-known American Southwest and reach the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Holliday's understanding of the power of promotion set a standard seldom replicated and gave rise to a mystique surrounding that railroad that continues to this day. Historian Deb Goodrich Bisel told reporters that Holliday persevered in his dream of building a railroad despite economic obstacles. "He was incredibly capable and visionary," she said.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, one of the greatest Kansas business success stories, gave rise to dozens of new towns as it crossed the state. Its storied history is memorialized in a song of the same name. From its founding in 1859, the railroad has continued to be a major national transportation provider, even since the merger in 1995 that created the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, now the BNSF Railway. It is worth noting that Kansans continue to occupy critical positions within the BNSF, with Salina native Matthew Rose serving as Chairman and CEO, and Topekan Carl Ice serving as President and COO. Mr. Ice will attend the June 15 Gala to receive the award.

The remaining Kansas Hall of Fame Laureates will be announced at various locations in the state in April.

"Kansas has produced so many notable people and companies, many of whom were nominated for consideration this year - it's a great challenge to select only a few from among the many great Kansans," Beth Fager, Hall of Fame Coordinator, said. "Our nominations committee worked many hours reviewing candidates and debating their relative merits and we believe we have selected a very special group this year. We know the June 15 event will be exciting! Stay

KS needs a buffalo for an exhibit. If you have an "extra" and want to help please e-mail [Jan Luth](mailto:Jan.Luth@ksmuseums.org).

To post a request on our Bulletin Board, please e-mail information to [Lisa](mailto:Lisa@ksmuseums.org).

Important Dates

2012 KMA Annual Conference
October 26-26,
2012 Newton - North
Newton

American Association of
Museums Annual
Conference
April 29-May 2, 2012
Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN

Association of State and
Local History
October 3-6, 2012
Salt Lake City, UT

Mountain-Plains Museums
Association Conference -
Corpus Christi, TX
October 1-5, 2012

Employment Listings

KSHS Education Director

Exploration Place Tech
Services Assistant

Send employment listings
to

director@ksmuseums.org

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



Click on icon above to find the Kansas Museums Association

tuned to learn who the additional honorees will be!"

The Kansas Hall of Fame Ceremonial Induction Gala will take place June 15 at the Great Overland Station Museum, 701 N. Kansas Avenue, Topeka. Seating is very limited. For ticket information, call the Great Overland Station at 785-232-5533. For more information, go to www.greatoverlandstation.com

**Kansas Historical Society Workshop
Our Town: Preserving Local Museum, Archives,
Collections, and Historic Buildings**

**July 13-14
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

This two-day, 16-hour workshop led by Kansas Historical Society professional staff will prove useful to anyone interested in historic preservation, especially local historical society and museum stewards.

Call Marsha to reserve your spot * 785-272-8681, ext. 240
No registration fee * Lunch is on your own

Information Flyer

**Small Museum Scholarship Application
AASLH 2012 Annual Meeting
Salt Lake City, Utah
October 3-6
Deadline: June 30**

The American Association for State and Local History will hold its 2012 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. This year, participants will explore the empowering, challenging and special connections between people and place. This year's Annual Meeting, Crossroads: Exploring the Vibrant Connections Between People and Place, will examine the personal, communal, and organizational journeys that lead to vibrancy and authenticity. Learn how these journeys allow us to achieve meaningful social change and sustainability. Join us as we welcome speakers Pat Croce, Laura Thatch Ulrich, and Will Bagley and explore the theme together.

Unfortunately, many working in our nation's small museums feel as if we can only dream of attending this meeting. In a perfect world, boards would grant every request to fund our professional development. Institutions of modest means, however, may not have the resources to help us become effective stewards of our community's memory.

Websites, listservs, and social media constantly offer new sources of technical and psychological support, but nothing is better than the face-to-face fellowship of sharing survival strategies. Every year, increasing numbers of Annual Meeting sessions address issues specifically affecting small museums. These sessions can be as practical and wide-ranging as training, marketing, and strategic planning. Other sessions focus on creative ways to forge and re-energize relationships with the surrounding community.

on Facebook

KMA Links

www.ksmuseums.org

Board of Directors

Join Our Mailing List!

Email

director@ksmuseums.org

Now in its seventh year, AASLH's Small Museums Committee is offering scholarships to any AASLH members who are full-time, part-time, paid, or volunteer employees of small museums. The \$500 scholarship will cover the cost of the conference registration and the Small Museums luncheon. Any remaining funds may be used to offset travel and/or lodging expenses.

To qualify, the applicant must work for a museum with a budget of \$250,000 or less. They also must either be an individual AASLH member or work for an institutional member. [**Download Application Form**](#)

The deadline for applications is June 30. The committee will email award winners by July 15. For questions, please contact Bruce Teeple, Small Museum Scholarship Subcommittee Chair at [**mongopawn44@hotmail.com**](mailto:mongopawn44@hotmail.com)

Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel: Now a Mobile Application!

Heritage Preservation's

Emergency Response and Salvage

Wheel is now available free of charge on the iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad as the "ERS: Emergency Response and Salvage" app.

Long known as the authoritative resource for salvaging artifacts after a disaster, the Wheel has been used by museums, libraries, and archives around the world. This new app makes the Wheel's invaluable guidance accessible to anyone who is in need of practical advice for saving collections in the first 48 hours after disaster strikes.

Apple users can download this free app from the App Store. Simply search for "ERS: Emergency Response and Salvage" or [**click here**](#)

To download, your device must run iOS 5.1 or later. Complete technical requirements are available on the [**ERS page**](#) at the App Store.

ERS provides the same reliable content found in the original Wheel. The app outlines critical stages of disaster response and provides practical salvage tips for nine types of collections, from photographs to natural history specimens. ERS can help users protect precious collections and significant records, access reliable information instantly, and save damaged objects.

The app was created in partnership with the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

The original slide-chart Wheel was created by Heritage Preservation, a national non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of the United States. It has been translated into six languages and distributed internationally in more than 40 countries. The original

Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel, sponsored by BELFOR, is still available for purchase in the [Heritage Preservation bookstore](#)

City of Wichita Launches Innovative New Fundraising Website for Wichita Museums and Arts Organizations

The City of Wichita and The Arts Council announced the launch of [WeMakeArtHappen.com](#), a Web site that is giving Wichitans a new way to support local arts projects. Residents are encouraged to visit the site, find art projects that speak to them and become collaborators by making small gifts online.

"The City of Wichita is proud to have partnered with The Arts Council on this innovative project," said Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer. "We expect great things to happen as a result of [WeMakeArtHappen.com](#)."

[WeMakeArtHappen.com](#) lists projects by area nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists that need help getting off the ground. Such a platform allows project coordinators to reach out to a greater pool of funders whose individuals gifts - which can be as small as \$5 - can add up to fund an entire project.

Projects will be listed on [WeMakeArtHappen.com](#) on average for 30 days. Projects that reach or exceed their goal will be given the go-ahead, and collaborators will have the opportunity to come back to the Web site for updates on their progress. Projects that aren't fully funded will be taken off the site and all money refunded to collaborators.

Today is the first day that donations are being accepted from the public and the first opportunity for all nonprofit arts organizations and artists to submit projects for inclusion on [WeMakeArtHappen.com](#). Guest bloggers are also needed to facilitate a sharing of information about the arts and encourage the local creation of art. Submission guidelines and contact information are listed on [WeMakeArtHappen.com](#).

Kansas Museums Association Seeks You! Membership is OPEN!

If you have not renewed your membership for 2012, it's not too late!

KMS offers Individual, Institutional and Business Memberships. I urge everyone to join as both an individual and institutional member. Your \$20 individual membership shows your commitment to your profession and your investment in KMA's future. Institutional memberships are vital to maintain a strong, state-wide association and an engaged presence in events and issues impacting our community and profession.

[2012 Membership Application & Benefit Details](#)

Our Members represent a range of organizations and professionals in

the state of Kansas including: Art Galleries and Museums, Historical Societies, Historic Preservation, Museums, Natural History Museums, Convention and Visitors Bureaus, and Zoos.

Cosmosphere's SpaceWorks Division Completes Major Preservation on NASA Apollo Command Module Boilerplate for California's Columbia Memorial Space Center

SpaceWorks - the exhibit design and spacecraft restoration division of the Kansas Cosmosphere & Space Center - has just completed its latest preservation project: a 12,000-pound Apollo test capsule for the Columbia Memorial Space Center in Downey, Calif. With strict adherence to restoration techniques approved by the National Air & Space Museum, the project took eight weeks to complete.

Known as "Boilerplate #19A," the test capsule with the not-so-fancy name has a definite place in space lore. Identical to those used on Moon missions, this capsule was dropped multiple times from a C-133 cargo plane, allowing NASA engineers to test the craft and parachute recovery systems without endangering human life.

"Compared to other remaining capsules from the Apollo era, this particular artifact was exceptional, due the fact that it still contained original components," Hollowell said. "SpaceWorks stabilized the original materials, cleaned and preserved the surfaces and prepared the capsule for full-time exhibition."

SpaceWorks has nine new project bids pending approval by customers, totaling more than \$350,000, Hollowell said. Chief among them is the opportunity to produce the display case for Mercury Astronaut Alan Shepard's Freedom 7 capsule, which is being relocated from the U.S. Naval Academy to the John F. Kennedy Museum in Boston.

"Museums worldwide have been affected by the economy, so new exhibits and restoration have been primarily on hold for the last several years," Hollowell said. "We are starting to see signs of economic recovery, and museums are now eager to get back on track with their exhibitions and collections. The bids we currently have pending represent more than half of SpaceWorks' annual budget, and we expect to see more bid opportunities yet this year."

Another recent SpaceWorks project was to build an Apollo Command Module and Lunar Module Ascent Stage replica for the exhibition, "NASA: A Human Adventure." The exhibition opened in Stockholm last year before moving to its current location at Casa de Campo in Madrid, Spain. Besides the replicas built by SpaceWorks, the exhibit also displays 157 artifacts from the Cosmosphere's collection.

The Smithsonian-affiliated Cosmosphere houses the largest collection of space artifacts outside the Smithsonian's National Air & Space Museum in Washington, DC. It also houses the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow. The internationally acclaimed Cosmosphere astronaut camps have been conducted for children and adults of all ages for more than 25 years.

The Cosmosphere is located at 1100 N. Plum in Hutchinson. Call 800-397-0330 or visit www.cosmo.org

Photo 1: Boilerplate on arrival at SpaceWorks.



Photo 3: Boilerplate after restoration.



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