DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

Anniversaries prompt reflection and reflection is our business! How is it that the people of the nation’s 50th largest city have created an exquisite museum of local history ranking in the top 5% of all museums? I hope that you will come and see 80 Years of History Making, and enjoy all we offer from new exhibits to the natural beauty of spring in Heritage Square. You’ve joined many others who, over the generations, have built on the enthusiasm for our local story. Thank you for your support.

Eric M. Cale
Museum Director

Members only exhibit opening
Thursday, April 18, 4-6pm

This year marks the 80th Anniversary of the Museum and celebrates its work to collect, preserve and educate through the interpretation of our local history. Over the years the Museum has featured an encyclopedic range of exhibits telling stories using artifacts – material culture bearing tangible evidence of the past. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums since 1972, the Museum is one of America’s finest museums of local history and a tremendous community asset. 80 Years of History Making celebrates the sharing of local stories and the collection of artifacts that will inspire and instruct future generations.

EXHIBIT SPONSORS:

80 Years of History Making Exhibit runs through 2019
A NEW CARILLON

The inaugural concert of the new Wichita Bloomfield Carillon, located away from public view on the Museum’s 5th floor, will be held on **Saturday, May 11th at 2:00 PM**. The concert shall be in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Wichita’s decorative Victory Arch over Douglas and the victory parade which took place on May 9, 1919. It will be performed by Lynne Davis, WSU’s Robert L. Town Distinguished Professor of Organ and the carillon’s Artistic Director. The new carillon is a present to the City through the Arts Council from the Sam and Rie Bloomfield Foundation and a private donors’ group led by Eric Engstrom and Robert Bell, including Paul and Phyllis Buchanan, Michael Easton, Jerry Martin, Bill and Mary Lynn Oliver, and the Ross Foundation, Hal Ross, trustee. The new carillon, replacing the carillon that failed in 2018, continues the Bloomfield Foundation tradition of providing music for Downtown Wichita for over half a century.

Prairie Print Makers of Wichita

When The Prairie Print Makers organized in 1930 “to further the interest of both artist and laymen in printmaking and collecting” they were following a tradition of print societies established in the nineteenth century to promote fine art and cultivate patronage. From a charter membership of ten, the Prairie Print Makers roster grew to include dozens of artist members, including nine Wichita artists. The Prairie Print Makers produced an annual gift print for its members, including lay collectors, and organized exhibitions across the country. The Prairie Print Makers disbanded in 1965 but their influence continues to resonate with artists and collectors today.

A new exhibit featuring examples of the nine Wichita artist members of the Prairie Print Makers opens Friday, April 26th at the Museum in the Lois Kay Walls Gallery and will be on view through April of 2020. This exhibit is supported by a generous gift from the Lois Kay Walls Foundation.
Museum featured in NEH For All

The Historical Museum was recently featured in the National Humanities Alliance Foundation “NEH for All” website, which spotlights over 100 exemplary projects funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Since 2012, the Museum has written grants to bring stellar NEH on the Road exhibitions to our community. NEH on the Road curates smaller versions of world-class exhibitions, originally funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

These exhibitions then travel the country, reaching people in rural areas and small and mid-sized cities. The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum has hosted Our Lives, Our Stories: America’s Greatest Generation; House and Home; Spirited: Prohibition in America; and, most recently Jacob Riis. By hosting NEH on the Road exhibitions, the Museum has reached new audiences, developed popular community programming, and expanded the capacity of our staff.

The National Humanities Alliance Foundation advances the humanities by conducting and supporting research on the humanities and communicating the value of the humanities to a range of audiences including elected officials and the general public. About NEH for All, NHA Executive Director Stephen Kidd remarked that “The grant projects featured on the website are a sampling from across the country and represent the significant investments the NEH is making in our communities. From big cities to small towns, the National Endowment for the Humanities is successfully bringing culture, history, and economic opportunities to life in the United States,” said Kidd. “The NEH for All website highlights many valuable investments in an easily searchable format that we will continue to build upon, showing the incredible impact access to the humanities has on people of all ages and walks of life.”

For those who use the site, NEH for All is an opportunity to learn about the kinds of humanities work that goes on in their communities and across the United States. Visitors can search projects by state and explore the tangible benefits the grants have on specific impact areas, including preserving cultural heritage; ensuring rural access to high-quality programming; enriching K–12 education; providing lifelong learning opportunities for diverse audiences; facilitating community dialogue; supporting cutting-edge research; fostering local tourism; supporting veterans; promoting civic education; and collecting and curating local histories.

In 2017, the NEH provided over $107 million in grant investments to nearly 1,000 humanities projects in every state of the nation and U.S. territorial jurisdictions.

NEH for All is an initiative of the National Humanities Alliance Foundation and is supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Visit the website at http://nehforall.org/.
Thank You

Blue Moon fundraising event for the Museum is hosted by the Wichita Historical Museum Society (WH IMS) and underwritten by these generous sponsors:

Patty Armstrong
Robert and Martha Bufford
Sean and Melissa Conley
Dave and Sue Crockett
Bruce & Cecilia Gilkeson
Carolyn and Jim Grier
Jim and Shari Hand
Michael Heaston
Joanne McClelland
John Roger and Kathy Gann McCoy
W.A. and Mary Frances Michaelis
Nancy and Steve Perry
Colby B. Sandlian
Alice A. Smith
Gail Williams
Liz and Bob Workman

You’re invited to come celebrate in high style! Join us Saturday, May 4th, 7-10 pm for an exciting evening of dinner, drinks and music. The event will transform the Museum into the original Blue Moon Nightclub, which was located on South Oliver during the 1940s and 50s. The club was a popular gathering spot for adults to dine and dance to the nation’s most famous orchestras. Donna Tucker, internationally renowned jazz singer, and her quartet will entertain with songs of the era as guests enjoy fine food and drink.

This is a very popular event in its 11th year – limited reservations will be accepted, so act soon. For reservations and more information, call 316-265-9314 or email wschm@wichitahistory.org. Admission to the Blue Moon Party is $100 per person, of which $50 is a tax deductible donation to the Museum, a 501(c)(3) Not for Profit Organization.

PHOTOS FROM 2018 BLUE MOON - no actual cigarettes were used in these photographs
HONORING YOUNG HISTORIANS

The Historical Museum celebrates young historians! We partnered with Friends University for a tenth successful year in sponsoring the National History Day competition on February 22nd. This national competition engages young people by challenging them to interpret history through various mediums including exhibits, video, website design, essay and performance. Students choose historical topics related to the national theme of “Triumph and Tragedy in History.” Nearly 300 area students participated this year.

For students, nothing brings academics into focus like reflecting on one’s own history and heritage. The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, acting as a conduit to the past, does this more effectively than any other educational institution. In support of our mission, the Museum encourages participants to use local history as a basis for their NHD projects. This begins early in the year with an Essay Contest sponsored by the DeVore Family Foundation. The essay is a warm-up exercise for their projects and challenges students to approach the theme with a local perspective.

The winner of the 9th Annual DeVore Essay Contest will be honored during the Young Historian Awards on May 5th at 2pm. The event includes a special keynote address by historian and educator Mindy Tallent of Friends University.

The recent special exhibit featuring the celebrated space toy collection of lauded American poet Albert Goldbarth will be commemorated through an exhibit catalog published by the Museum this summer. Featuring photographs by acclaimed artist photographer Larry Schwarm, this catalog will be available at a special release party – stay tuned for details!
BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

An exciting opportunity is now available for businesses to support the Museum by purchasing an annual membership. Not only does the membership support the Museum’s varied programs and exhibits, it provides many opportunities for company employees, including:

- Free admission to the Museum and Heritage Square for employees and their guests
- Invitations to special membership events
- Free admission passes for clients
- 10% discount in the Museum’s gift shop

In addition, company principals will receive the biannual Heritage Newsletter, Museum mailings and email notices of upcoming events. All business members will be recognized on the Museum website and in the Heritage Newsletter. Patron members will be given special recognition on the Museum’s first floor. What a wonderful way to support the Museum that supports the community by preserving our local history!

The Museum thanks our current Business Members for their support, including the following:

Aero Plains Brewing
Ambassador Hotel
Bever Dye Law Firm
Builders, Inc
Candle Club
Cero’s Candy
Coleman Company
Cozine Memorial Group
CVI
Dondlinger Construction
Drury Plaza Hotel
  Broadview
Fidelity Bank
Foulston Siefkin
Frame Guild
Freddy’s Frozen Custard & Steakburgers
Golden, Inc.
Hatman Jack’s, LLC
Hephner TV & Electronics
High Touch Technologies
Hillside Nursery
Hyatt Regency
IMA Financial Group
INTRUST Bank
KMUW
KPTS
KSN-TV
Kings North American
Lusco Brick & Stone
McClelland Sound, Inc.
Midwest Hearing Aids
Nifty Nut House
Old Time Clock Shop
Old Town Architectural Salvage
One Source Technology
Pioneer Balloon
Platt, Adams & Bradley
Radio Kansas
RE/MAX Premier
Goebel Foundation
  Star Lumber & Supply
Sullivan Gang Creative
Sweet Allie B’s
The Trust Company of Kansas
The Spice Merchant
The Wichita Eagle
Visit Wichita
Watermark Books & Café
Wells Fargo Advisors
Westar Energy
Wichita Festivals
Wichita Independent Business Association
Wichita’s Extended Stay Collection

For additional information including levels of membership, contact Sally Buch, Development Director, 316-265-9314.
An Adventure In Time!

The Museum’s Summer Programs are presented by seasoned professional educators and designed to engage and inspire youngsters, 3rd – 12th grade, through our own local history. Classes fill quickly and capacity is limited. Contact the Museum to reserve space.

**Song Writing Workshop**  
June 11 – 14, 1:00 – 3:00  
Students tour exhibits to acquire understanding of local history, learn how songs are created, then create songs that celebrate our community and common heritage.

**Penmanship Class**  
June 25 – 28, 1:00 – 3:00  
Penmanship Class introduces students to the skill of writing in cursive, also known as script or longhand; a flowing manner of writing by hand which provides efficiencies that include speed and critical thinking.

**Dolls on the Prairie**  
July 9 – 12, 1:00 – 3:00  
Students explore historic dolls, games and the timeless place they hold in our lives as well as what they teach us about the past.

**Exploration of the 19th Century Traders and Plains Indians**  
July 16 –19, 1:00 – 3:00  
Students tour exhibits and engage in activities illuminating the settlers’ relationships with the many tribes of local Plains Indians and how it shaped the future.

**The Wichita Indians and Creative Writing**  
July 23 – 26, 1:00 – 3:00  
Students learn writing skills and story construction while also learning about the American Indian tribe from which the city’s name was taken - the Wichita. Exploration of this history will provide inspiration for story writing.

Visit the Museum’s website at [www.wichitahistory.org](http://www.wichitahistory.org) or call 316-265-9314 for more complete, upcoming information. The programs are free, but space is limited, so reservations are strongly encouraged. Register by calling the Museum at 316-265-9314 or by email to wschm@wichitahistory.org

**Sign up today!**
Welcome to recent members

We are pleased to acknowledge recent Museum members. Membership is an important way to support the Museum financially and a great way to stay apprised of exhibits, programs, events and progress. While not listed here individually, our gratitude also goes out to the many who have increased their level of membership or who have contributed through an annual gift or supported an event, all of which has led to the increase of programs and exhibits over the past year.

Maggie Barglowski
Glenda Campbell
Barbara Caudle
Terry Allen Chilcott
Curt & Taeko Clonts
Judy Combs
Janiece & Curtis Dixon
Kay M Doubrava
Charlotte Dulohery
Marc Durfee
Alfred & Sylvia Eckes
Valerie Ellington
Marjorie Everoski
Ruthann Farley
John & Carol Findling
Dave & Diane Gestenslager
Sue Gleason
Sherry Heuthman
Rex & Debi Herndon
Gary Ivy
Marian Krallman
Sharon Langley
Nancy Lawrence
Steve & Valerie Lewallen
Nancy Marr
William Mason
Kay Mathias
Mike & Wanda Maxton
Cathy McElroy
Richard & Vicki Miller
Victoria Mohr
Cathy Mong
Suzie Peak
Mindy Powers
Carla Rebenstorf
Rachael Redler
John B Schwartz
Dwight Sharp
Alan & Julie Siegman
Stephanie Skillman
Trudy Smith
Greg & Shelly Stoner
Carol Taylor
Dana Taylor-Perry
Kent R Thomas
Julie Piper & Brent Townsend
Alberto Urbano
Tracey Velazquez-Wallace
Paula & Gary Weber
Patricia D Wilson
Joe & Lee Wurtenberger

Museum elects Trustees

At the Annual Membership Meeting on March 20th, Museum members unanimously elected the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees.

New Trustees welcomed: LaShonda Garnes, TeOndra Phillips, and Elizabeth Workman.

Accepting a second three year term: Patricia Armstrong, Dr. Cheryl Golden, David Hawkins, and Ron Ingle.


Officers elected at the following Board of Trustees meeting were:
Richard Honeyman, President, David Crockett, 1st Vice President, Joanne McClelland, 2nd Vice President, Cynthia Hand, Treasurer, and Patricia Armstrong, Secretary.

The Board bids farewell to outgoing Trustees Judge Paul Buchanan, Martha Linsner, and Dale Richmond.

We thank these Trustees for their many contributions, including participation in monthly meetings, service on committees, and a wide range of other activities that benefit the Museum.
WHiMS announces new officers

The Wichita Historical Museum Society (WHiMS) provide support to the Museum in ways that reflect our mission and vision, enhance visitor experience, and attract the public. The committee provides a dynamic connection to many Museum volunteers. Connect with WHiMS on Facebook under “Wichita Historical Museum Society” to learn more.

President – Alice Smith
Vice President – Deborah Oller
Recording Secretary – Nancy Mendell
Corresponding Secretary – Nancy Delaney
Treasurer – Jeanne Urban
Gift Shop Manager – Nancy Shawver
Gift Shop Scheduler – Gail Williams
Social Media Administrator – Susan Osborn
Volunteer Communications – Sandy Binn
Blue Moon Chair – Barbie Parsons
Public Relations – Janice Van Sickle

Salute to museum docents!

The word “docent” comes from the Latin verb docere, which means “to teach.” These volunteer tour guides are trained to facilitate learning on field trips by leading discussions with students and providing additional information about exhibits. Our stellar docents foster museum literacy and increase understanding of local history through definitive, evocative interpretation of the Museum’s encyclopedic exhibit and programing spectrum. The Museum is grateful for our current roster of docents:

Barbara Brotton          Cathy McElroy
Twila Brown             Mary Sloan
Kathryn Compton         DJ Spaeth
Terri Evans             Merlene Switzer
Margaret Floyd          Kent Thomas
Gary Huffman            Nancy Tush
Sharon Huggins          Mary Watson

VOLUNTEERS IN DEMAND!

Volunteering in the Museum gift shop is fun! Volunteers meet interesting visitors from around the world, catch up on their reading, enjoy interaction with Museum staff and docents, and record sales of the shop’s unique merchandise. Most of all, volunteers improve visitor experience while contributing to the Museum’s annual average of 5,000 volunteer hours given the Museum. To learn more, call the Museum at 265-9314 or contact WHiMS through Facebook under: “Wichita Historical Museum Society.”

MEMORIALS

The following have been honored with gifts to the Museum’s Memorial Fund from April 20th, 2018 – through April 5th, 2019:

Denzil Alcorn
Thelma Borresen
Ian Conner
Harry Dobbin
Dr. James C. Mershon
Warren Wandling, Sr.
Dr. Marc Webb
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Wichita

Saturday, July 20th
1-5 pm

The Museum is celebrating a special birthday on Saturday, July 20th— the 149th anniversary of the founding of Wichita! Wichita was officially born July 21, 1870 - view Wichita’s remarkable history wandering the four floors of the Museum’s exhibits and enjoy special tours, crafts, activities and refreshments. This event is free to those individuals and small groups bringing a Birthday Card!

BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

The Historical Museum joins more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation’s active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve and their families, from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2019. A collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America, the program, established in 2010, provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their community, especially after a military move. The list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Last summer, more than 900,000 military members and their families took advantage of free admission as part of Blue Star Museums, visiting historical museums, fine arts museums, science museums, music museums, nature centers, and children’s museums.

Leadership support for Blue Star Families programming and promotional materials has been provided by MetLife Foundation. The effort to recruit museums has involved partnerships with the American Alliance of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children’s Museums, the American Association of State and Local History, the Association of Science-Technology Centers, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The free admission program is available to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active duty U.S. military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps - and family members. Contact the Museum for details.

WICHITA RIVERFEST

Admiral’s Armada at the Historical Museum

Sunday, June 2, 1-5 pm

Enjoy free admission to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum with your Riverfest button and discover Wichita and Riverfest history!
2018 MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

THE MUSEUM BEGAN ASSEMBLING ITS COLLECTION IN 1939. THESE OBJECTS ARE PRESERVED IN PERPETUITY TO USE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF OUR LOCAL HISTORY AND TODAY NUMBER OVER 70,000 CATALOGED ARTIFACTS. WE THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE OFFERED SUCH GIFTS, CONSIDERING THE MUSEUM AND ITS UNIQUE MISSION. HERE IS THE CUSTOMARY ANNUAL LISTING OF THOSE ARTIFACTS ACCEPTED TO THE COLLECTION IN 2018.

Laura Black Auchterlonie – Photograph of Carnahan Golden Wedding celebration, 1908.

Sandra Carter – Collection of Victory Arch photographs, Wichita, 1919.


Dennis Copp (on behalf of the John T. McKenzie Family) – Photograph of the M.A. McKenzie Wichita Carriage Works interior, circa 1915.

Sue Grant Creegan – Collection of handmade Christmas cards created by citizens of Orleans, France for citizens of Wichita, 1949.


Lillian C. Dinkins – Mt. Carmel Day School diploma, 1940.

Claudia Jean Dunlap – Collection of photographs of the Wichita Water Company from the estate of Lucile and Robert Hill, 1930s-1940s.

Orin Friesen – Coleman Camp Stove with associated documents, circa 1966.


Nancy Glenn – Photographs and documents related to Wichita artist Fred Wassall and Wichita poet and musician Irma Wassall, 1940s-1950s.

Rebecca A. and Donald E. Gragg – Framed needlepoint of the Sedgwick County Seal, displayed in the office of County Commissioner Donald E. Gragg, 1982.


Troy Houtman, Director of Parks and Recreation – Baseball home plate from Lawrence-Dumont Stadium, 2018.

James R. Hukle – Supertone “chuck wagon” stenciled guitar, 1937; owned by Clifton “Clif” Major.

Dorothy J. Kalfa – Collection of three quilts created by Zentner family, 1920s.

Elizabeth Kay – Photograph of group in front of the Walter Morris home at 1155 North River Boulevard, circa 1921.

James E. Mason – Carte-de-visite photographs of Kate Murdoch, 1870s; photograph of politician Alf Landon at the Wichita Forum, 1936.


Mosby Lincoln Foundation – Collection of prints by Kansas artists and Prairie Print Makers Arthur W. Hall, C.A. Seward, and Norma Bassett Hall, 1930s-1940s.

Diana Palenz – Board of Park Commissioners brochure, 1960; Wichita Fire Department brochure, 1956.

Phillis Schumaker – Large collection of Wichita promotional materials and souvenirs, 1870s-1950s, collected by the donor.

Gay Simpson – Man’s straw boater hat with Henry’s Wichita label, 1930s, and woman’s velvet dress, 1930s.

Keith Stevens – Collection of Kansas Coliseum belt buckles, 1970s.


Wichita Public Library – Collection of USS Wichita sterling silver produced by the Gorham Manufacturing Company and presented to the ship as a gift from the City of Wichita, 1939; bronze plaque, originally mounted on the Carnegie Library, 1913.
Senior Wednesdays

AT THE WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM – HOSTED BY WHIMS

Visit the Museum the 4th Wednesday of each month from January to October and enjoy special Historical Museum programs developed with active senior audiences in mind. A special $2 admission for seniors and their guests is offered; admission is free for members. The Senior Wednesday programs at the Historical Museum begin at 10:00am, and the doors open at 9:30. Refreshments are served. Senior Wednesdays in 2015 at the Historical Museum are sponsored by a generous grant from Mickey Armstrong and the Trust Company of Kansas. For more information about the Museum’s Senior Wednesday programs, visit www.wichitahistory.org or www.seniorwednesday.org.

APRIL 24 – The Victory Arch by Gary Huffman. This program examines the local response to World War I, including the construction of the Victory Arch erected in 1919 to honor Wichita soldiers returning from the Great War.

MAY 22 – Wicked Wichita by Joe Stumpe. Local author Joe Stumpe tells the real stories of the city’s best-known and least-known criminals and misfits.

JUNE 26 – The Four Horseman and a Sage by John Burchill, Kansas Wesleyan University. Fighting the rising tide of nativist sentiment in the early 20th century, a few Kansas leaders took a stand to stop the forces of intolerance in our state. This program is made possible by Humanities Kansas.

JULY 24 – Personal Story of Dockum Drugstore Sit-in by Dr. Galyn Vesey. In July 1958, Black students gathered at Wichita’s Dockum Drugstore to stage a peaceful protest against the unequal practice of segregation. It was a catalyst that would shake the nation and change the fabric of Wichita. Hear Dr. Vesey’s personal story as an original participant in this landmark event.

AUGUST 28 – History of Vietnamese in Wichita by Dr. Anh Tran. Dr. Tran will share her personal immigration story and an overview of how Vietnamese immigrants made Wichita their home.

SEPTEMBER 25 – Fresh Produce: Kansas’ Orchardists, Market Growers, and Truck Farmers by Cindy Higgins. The history of commercial specialty crops and agriculture experimentation in Kansas are highlighted in this program. Learn about our state’s nationally-known heritage apple; the successful grow-secrets of freed slaves, entrepreneurs, and early suburbanites; the state’s connection to exotic fruit introduction; and the 1960s counterculture influence on today’s market mainstays. This program is made possible by Humanities Kansas.