

The Historian

May 2015

614 East Main Shawnee, OK 74801 405.275.8412 www.pottcountymuseum.org

Fund Raising Continues in Effort to Meet June 1 Challenge Grant Deadline

Members of the Board of Directors continue to work to obtain gifts and grants to meet the \$500,000 challenge grant offered by Paul Milburn, a member of the board of directors of the Pottawatomie County Historical Society. His stipulation is that the amount must be raised by June 1, 2015.

Meeting this challenge grant will allow the Historical Society to authorize the architect, John H. Patterson, to prepare the plans and specifications for the much needed additional museum building in preparation for securing bids for the structure.

As of April 24, the Historical Society has received donations of \$22, 337.00 from 53 individuals and organizations. In addition the Pottawatomie County Commissioners have voted to provide \$25,000 in funding contingent on the achievement of the goal.

This is an extremely difficult challenge that we must make every effort to meet. Members of the Historical Society can assist by talking about this project with their friends and associates. The board of directors is open to any suggestions that you have for the fund raising efforts. Contact one of the members of the board in person or call the museum office at 275-8412.

Repairs Are Being Made to Santa Fe Depot Foundation

The City of Shawnee, from whom the Santa Fe Depot is leased, has contracted to have repairs made to the foundation of a portion of the building. Floors have been removed from both the women's and men's restrooms. The supports under that part of the building are being replaced in the basement area under the south side of the building. In addition electrical work affected by the deterioration of the support beams is being repaired.

Town of Asher Featured at Museum; Brooksville is Next

A display featuring the history of the town of Asher is being featured with special displays at the museum. A reception was held for Asher residents on March 21. The display was prepared and coordinated by Judith Michener, chair of the Museum Programs and Events committee of the Board of Directors. Other members of the committee are Dorothy Cooks and Bobbie Donat. They were assisted by Ken Landry, Acting Director of the museum.

During the Shawnee Trail Days celebration, June 19-20, the town of Brooksville will be featured at the museum. Ms. Michener, Sara Epley, Dorothy Cooks, Dr. Tom Henry, and Ken Landry met with a number Brooksville residents and former residents to hear stories and share historical photographs on Saturday, April 18, 2015 in preparation for this exhibit.

Vintage High School Yearbooks Being Scanned at Museum

Under the direction and personal involvement of Ken Landry, Acting Director of the Museum, vintage high school yearbooks are being scanned and placed into the digitized files of the museum's research center. Since the project began last fall, Ken reports that the following yearbooks are available:

Shawnee yearbooks: 1913-1985; 1990-1995; and 2011. No 1933 Caldron was produced

Bethel: 1966 and 1992

Tecumseh: 1916, 1917, 1927, 1953, 1961,

1962 and 1971 through 1975 Dale: 1955, 1957, 1965, and 1969

Asher: 1988 and 1999

On request digital or printed copies of the yearbooks can be obtained. Cost is \$20 for digital format and \$30 to 50 for printed copy, depending on the number

of pages in the book. Call Mr. Landry at 275-8412 for information about this project.

Printed copies of documents and photographs in the digital collection may be obtained at the cost of 25¢ for black and white, 50¢ for color, and an additional 50¢ if printed on photo paper.

2015 Board of Directors Membership and Museum Staff

Current membership of Board of Directors of Pottawatomie County Historical Society:
Executive Committee: Tom Terry, president; Robert Seikel, first vice president; Mark Schneiter, second vice president; Bobbie Donat, recording secretary; Dr. Thomas Henry, treasurer; Robert Currie, corresponding secretary; at large, Paul Milburn. Other members include Linda Agee, Dorothy Cooks, Sara Epley, Lisa Hefner, Jim Kinnamon, Johnny Kneisel, Jim Lynn, Ann McDonald, Judith Michener, Robert Perry, and Sam Vasquez. Ms. Agee was elected to the board in February.

Ken Landry is volunteer acting director of the museum. The museum staff members are Sherri Dykes and Cherita Landry. Jean Harjo provides cleaning services under the auspices of the Experience Works organization. Regular volunteers include Sara Epley, who works on Historical Society files, and Dawson Engle, who is constructing the model of downtown Shawnee in 1940 and its three railroad depots