This is the first of four newsletters that will be going out to our “Friends of the Museum”. At the end of each quarter, you will receive this newsletter with updates and articles relevant to the Museum and the events taking place. I encourage anyone to submit articles that you think would be of interest to our readership.

I would also like to direct you to our website for more information pertaining to the Museum. You can read about us at www.yesteryeamuseum.org. Since this website is our primary means of communicating with the public, I welcome any suggestions you may have to enhance it and make it as entertaining as possible.

Since our last newsletter at the beginning of 2015, Museum visitation has decreased in numbers. After having spoken with historical societies in Abilene, Beloit, Minneapolis and McPherson, this seems to be a regional trend. There is no one outstanding issue that can be identified, rather it seems a combination of factors. We are fortunate in that our funding of the Museum is sound while other organizations dependent on State or City funding have seen a decrease in funding of their operations.

To keep up with the latest trends and economic news, we continue to be paid members of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce as well as the Kansas Museum Association. We also take part in the Convention and Tourism portion of the Chamber which helps in our advertising and promotion of the Museum through Chamber opportunities.

Events and Happenings / Will Cooper

As always, we are looking for volunteers that are interested in donating their time and ideas towards our events throughout the year.

We had an information booth at the Mid-America Farm Exposition held March 28, 29 & 30. We are fortunate the Salina Chamber sponsors our booth and allows us the opportunity to get the word out about our Museum.

On Sunday, May 7, we will be at the Discover Salina Naturally event held at Lakewood Park. This will be our fifth year and we have had a presence since its inception. Come out and enjoy the event and see what Salina has to offer!

We will again be a part of the Tri-Rivers Fair Parade on August 8. For years Museum volunteers have driven tractors and pulled implements representing our regional agricultural heritage.

This year our annual Central Kansas Heritage Days Event will be held October 14 and 15. As you know, this two day event requires planning and volunteers to be successful. Our featured tractors this year are: Oliver, Massey Harris and Minneapolis Moline. If you care to be part of the Show Committee or wish to participate in the event, call the office at 785-825-8473 with your inquiries.

Also, Santa has made the Yesteryear Museum a must visit to see the boys and girls he has on his list. Since he is so busy, look for the upcoming date in December when he and Mrs. Claus will be here to speak with all the children who wish to meet him and tell him how good they have been throughout the year.
**Museum Opportunities / Joan Caldwell**

The following is a list of potential projects needed to be done around the Museum. If you have an interest or wish to fund one of this projects, please contact the Museum.

**PROJECTS**

- Paint Service Station (In progress)
- Repair and paint Chuck Wagon
- Paint School House Bell Tower
- Power wash small garage
- Repair or replace ceiling tiles in Heritage Building
- Repair back porch of the School House
- Repair back porch of the Church (In progress)
- Paint and hang new doors of the Church
- Repair and paint bleachers
- Repair and paint picnic tables
- Caulk and paint Church windows
- Reseal windows of the Heritage Building
- Catalog all exhibits and match up paperwork (In progress)
- Make new signage for exhibits
- Signage for outside of each building
- Sort and organize exhibits of south balcony (Display Bldg)
- Second coat of paint on School House

**WISH LIST ITEMS**

- Lights at gate and in parking lot
- Lights and power to Pole Shed
- Paint Heritage Building façade and build covered walkway over the main entry doors and overhangs over the other entry doors (Grant money of $2500 has been provided)
- Build pavilion in center square behind Heritage Building similar to one covering the Sawmill

---

**President’s Letter / Joan Caldwell**

It has been way too long since I sent out a letter and I wanted to take the opportunity to include something in the updated and improved newsletter being sent out. As always there is plenty to keep us all busy at the Museum. Cleaning, straightening and organizing is never ending. We have received a few new items: one of which is a welding service truck originally from Salina so come out and have a look around. The grounds are looking really nice and we will be doing some painting to the exterior of some of the buildings.

Again as always funding or donations to keep the property and building in good repair are always welcome and appreciated. The project list is included in this newsletter.

Also a reminder, if you have not sent in your dues to renew your membership, please do so.

We have had a couple of events so far this year. We were at the Farm Expo and Discover Salina. We had a very successful day of rock crushing and are looking at coming up with other ideas to do something simple once a month to attract more visitors.

We are also working on the details of Heritage Days on the second weekend in October so please let me know if you know of anyone interested in demonstrating, exhibiting or being a vendor.

Joan Caldwell - President
Ostenberg Mfg. Co. / Salina History

The Ostenberg Manufacturing Company is a vital part of the history of Salina and shows the ingenuity and character needed to become successful wherever a person may reside. The Kansas State University College of Technology & Aviation’s History of Technology is responsible for the research and organization of this article. The instructor of this class, Greg Stephens, brings his students out every fall to tour and learn about the museum and its collection of artifacts that are offered for public viewing. Thank you so much for your effort in collecting the information on the history of the OMC.

OMC slogan:
“Built Especially To Meet The Farmer’s Requirements”

Amos & Luther Ostenberg:
When Amos and Luther Ostenberg were grown, they left their parents farm in Smolan. They moved to Salina where they both learned to become accomplished mechanics. Shortly afterwards, they opened an engine rebuilding business at 132 S. Fifth Street in Salina, where they also dealt in auto parts. One other aspect of the business was a small car dealership that sold two early makes of automobiles. For several years the brothers operated their business over-hauling engines and selling parts and cars. They quickly became known for their quality work. It was work that was accomplished with a fair amount of speed and at a price that was often deemed more than fair. As Amos farmed, he was more than aware of the importance of tractors to the region. It was around 1938 that Amos decided it was time to put his knowledge to use. With his ample supply of auto parts, keen knowledge and a surplus of ambition, Amos set out to build his vision of a tractor.

The OMC Tractor:
Throughout the production span of the tractor, there were many innovative technologies implemented into the design and improvements to the models were made from time to time. There were two models of the OMC tractor. Both models shared commonality on the patented T-Box frame. This frame design was crafted used six-inch channel iron. Parts that the Ostenberg’s produced included the fram, gas tank, front axle and grill. A local foundry and tin shop produced several other components. The first tractors that came out of the factory in 1938 included an Ostenberg rebuilt four cylinder Fourd Model A engine and retired Fore truck transmissions. An upholstered seat was added to the tractor which was not common on the other tractors at the time.

The first prototype tractor was tested on Amos’ farm south of Salina. He tested its ability in all weather conditions and used it in all farming roles including plowing, planting and towing. The later model, which was the second version, upgraded the engine to a six cylinder Chrysler Industrial engine with a 237 cubic inch displacement. The used Ford truck transmissions were replaced with a new Process 4 Speed drive train and a more reliable Timken rear axle. Some of the last models incorporated a hydraulic lift and clutch system. Adding a hydraulic system to the tractor was in response to other manufacturers incorporating the technology on their models. The hydraulic system that Amos designed for his OMC tractor incorporated some design features found on the Willy’s Jeep.

Between the 1930's and mid 1950's, the entire production run of the OMC tractor, approximately 50 tractors were built. The Ostenbergs didn't have many employees. All of the tractors were manufactured by Amos and long-time employee and nephew, Richard Carlson. Between the three mechanics, they averaged a tractor a week for the entire production run. Tractor production did take a break during World War II. While Richard and Amos focused on building the OMC tractor, Luther Ostenberg focused on the engine rebuilding and auto parts business.

Marketing the OMC Tractor:
The OMC tractor was sold factory direct. Selling the tractor factory direct allowed farmers to custom order the tractor for their specific needs. The Ostenberg's didn’t rely on dealerships to sell or service their tractors because since the tractor was built mainly from automotive parts, parts would be widely available without dealerships. Most tractor sales were through word-of-mouth advertising and were usually to farmers in the local area. The tractors would be picked up from the fifth street building and driven to the new owner's farm. Someone who worked for the Salina Journal published an article one day about the impressive speed and quiet features of the rubber wheeled tractor.

The OMC Tractor Today:
From immigration to operation, the Ostenberg legacy is now a memory of the past nearly forgotten. However, it ended as stories often do, with a tragedy. The fire in 1954 that decimated the plant and dash the dreams of the two brothers was a stark reminder that any dream can come to an end. The old Ostenberg building still stand today, the stone and masonry untouched by the flames. It’s location of 132 S. Fifth in Salina houses a local family owned and operated furniture store.
Kansas Trivia / Will Cooper

In Derby County, Kan., a law is in place that makes it illegal for any person to hit or punch a vending machine when it has stolen a person’s money.

Kansas ranks second nationally in average number of tornadoes per year (60) and third in tornadoes per 1,000 square miles (44).

Amelia Earhart, first woman granted a pilot's license by the National Aeronautics Associate and first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean was from Atchison, Kan.

The first woman mayor in the United States was Susan Madora Salter. She was elected to office in Argonia, Kan. in 1887.


Dodge City is the windiest city in the United States, with an average wind speed of 14 mph.

The term "red light district" came from the Red Light Bordello in Dodge City, Kansas. The front door of the building was made of red glass and produced a red glow when lit at night.

The Hugoton Gas Field is the largest natural gas field in the United States. It underlies almost 8,500 square miles, an area nearly five times as large as the state of Rhode Island.

The First United Methodist Church in Hutchinson was built in 1874 during the time of the grasshopper plagues. As a result, thousands of grasshoppers are mixed into foundation.

Hutchinson is nicknamed the Salt City because it was built above some of the richest salt deposits in the world.

Second only to Texas, there have been more meteorites found in Kansas than in any other state west of the Mississippi River.

The Arkansas River may be the only river whose pronunciation changes as it crosses state lines. In Kansas, it is called the Arkansas (ahr-KAN-zuhs). On both sides of Kansas (Colorado and Oklahoma) it is called the “Arkansaw.”

Historians have reported that Native Americans were living in Kansas as early as 12,000 B.C.

Cooking Ideas / 1986 CKF Cook Book

Cowboy Coffee Cake

1 1/4 Cup Flour 1 Cup Brown Sugar
1/4 Tsp Salt 1/3 Cup Shortening
1 Tsp Baking Power 1/4 Tsp Soda
1/4 Tsp Cinnamon 1/4 Tsp Nutmeg
1/2 Cup Sour Milk 1 Beaten Egg

Mix flour, sugar, salt and shortening until crumbly, reserve 1/4 cup. To remaining crumbs, add baking powder, soda, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix well. Add milk and egg. Mix well. Pour in greased and floured pan. Sprinkle reserved crumbs on top. Bake at 375 degrees for 25-30 minutes.

Kansas Crisps

1 Cup Butter 1 Cup Sugar
Cream butter and sugar
1 Egg 1 Tsp Vanilla
Add to mix
2 Cup Flour 1/2 Tsp Salt
Add to mix
1/2 Cup Sunflower Seeds
Add to mix
3 Cup Corn Flakes - Crushed

Shape dough in 1” balls. Dip in crushed cornflakes and put on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees 10-12 minutes.

Chili Con Carne

2 Cups Tomato Sauce 1 Can (12oz) Cooked Kidney Beans
1/2 Cup Chopped Green Pepper 1/2 Cup Green (4oz) onion
8 oz Cooked Ground Beef Crumbled
1 1/2 Tsp Chili Power 1 Bay Leaf

Combine all ingredients in electric skillet and simmer covered for 30 minutes. Equals 1 serving of meat, counts as a beef dinner.
Chisholm Trail / Jesse Chisholm & Joseph McCoy

Scot-Cherokee trader Jesse Chisholm first marked the famous Chisholm Trail in 1864 for his wagons. It started at the confluence of the Little and Big Arkansas Rivers and went to Jesse Chisholm’s trading post, southwest of present day Oklahoma City. Jesse Chisholm used the trail to trade with the U.S. Army and Native American tribes (Indians) from his trading post at the present site of the Twin Lakes Shopping Center in Wichita to his southern trading post in Indian Territories. The Wichita Indians used the Chisholm Trail when they moved from their native territory to the mouth of the Little Arkansas and also when they returned in 1868.

Joseph G. McCoy, a cattle buyer from Illinois, was instrumental in extending the Chisholm Trail from present day Wichita to Abilene, Kansas, to promote and establish cattle market for thousands of longhorn cattle from Texas. In 1867, McCoy built stockyards that he advertised throughout Texas. Approximately 35,000 cattle followed the Chisholm Trail during the first season to Abilene in 1867. Through Joseph McCoy’s promotional and entrepreneurial efforts Abilene became a prosperous and famous cattletown from 1867 to 1870. In the five years from 1867 to 1872, more than three million head of cattle were driven up the Chisholm Trail from Texas to Abilene. By 1870 thousands of Texas longhorn cattle were being driven over the Chisholm Trail to the Union Pacific (later the Kansas Pacific) Railroad shipping center at Abilene. By 1871 as many as 5,000 cowboys were often paid off during a single day. Abilene became known as a rough town in the Old West. The Chisholm Trail in Kansas generally follows a true north route through or near the following communities in Central Kansas: Caldwell, Clearwater, Wichita, Newton, Goessel, Lehigh and Abilene.

As local interest waned in the cattle business in Abilene in the early 1870s, Ellsworth and other points along the Kansas Pacific Railroad established a market for the Texas cattle business. The cattle business on the Chisholm Trail moved south to Newton, Kansas in 1871 as the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad built to that point on the Chisholm Trail. Newton became one of the most notorious and violent towns from the cattle business in its one-year reign as a prominent cattle town. The City of Wichita approved in 1871 the issuance of a $200,000 bond to build a railbranch from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad to acquire the cattle business. With the completion of this branch in 1872, Wichita became the new terminus for the cattle business on the Chisholm Trail. The cattle business thrived in Wichita with the saying Anything Goes from 1872 - 1876. In 1880, the cattle business moved further south along the trail to Caldwell, Kansas as it competed with Dodge City, the Cowboy Capital which promoted the Western Trail (ie., western branch of the Chisholm Trail -- also called the Texas Trail) for the Texas cattle. Dodge City held the cattle trade for 10-years, the longest of any cattletown. Although a 1885 Kansas quarantine law tried to stop the Texas cattle trade, only the well-known January 1886 blizzard, which killed all the cattle in southwest Kansas, would end it.
Pictorial Kansas / Will Cooper

Prairie Home. Rural Kansas 1895

Haying. Rural Kansas 1910

Pioneers. Kansas 1900
**2016 MEMBERSHIP**

Below is a listing of last year’s membership. We certainly would like to see this number grow, so if you know of anyone that would have an interest in the Museum, please provide them with the information to contact the office. We are more than happy to provide interested persons with the necessary information needed.

**2016 MEMBERS**

_We appreciate your support!

A. Jay Anderson  
Richard Bowman  
Jim Brown  
Richard Buhler  
Richard Friedman  
Dean & Pam Gipe  
Darren Gunderson  
Monty Hole  
Don Johnson  
Elizabeth Marietta  
Leon & Joyce Marrs  
Julia Morse  
John Price  
Dave Rettele  
Jamie Samson  
Monte Soukup  
Dwight Tarn  
Ken Wasserman  
Clayton Anderson  
Hank Boyer  
Joyce Brown  
Phil Coleman  
Ronald Gipe  
Ron Gross  
Evelyn Henricks  
Eldon Hyle  
Bryan Lorensen  
Marilyn Marietta  
Jerry & Mary Jo May  
Gary Neuschafer  
Leroy & Nellie Quade  
Rod Rogers  
Duane Snyder  
Ron & LaVonne Sutton  
Charles & Elaine Waddle  
Dale Yordy

**“Friends of the Museum”**

**How to Support the Museum**

New Membership Program at the Central Kansas Flywheels and Yesteryear Museum

Annual dues are $40 for a single person or family

Donations above the membership fee are welcome and can be designated for a project, operations or in memorial of a loved one.

Membership benefits:

- Free admission to the museum events
- One free rental of the dining hall
- Discount at the listed participating members
- Newsletter (Quarterly)

Participating discount businesses:

- Allpak Battery Outlet 10%
- BRC Bearing 40%
- Carb Shop 10%
- Del’s Alternator 40%
- NAPA Auto Parts 10%
- Hoff’s Machinery 20% (Material Only)
- K4 Garage TBA
- Miller Tractor & Equipment TBA
- North 81 Tractor TBA
- Orscheln TBA

**NEED SPACE?**

Keep us in mind when you have the need for additional space when hosting an event. With our fully functional kitchen, dining hall for seating up to 70 people and all the outdoor space you need, we are the perfect solution for those events requiring room for large groups.

Call the office at (785) 825-8473 and talk to Will about pricing and availability.

Don’t forget, all museum exhibits and building are available for your group to tour and enjoy!
A Living History Museum

Phone: 785-825-8473  
Fax: 785-825-8473  
Email: ckf@yesteryearmuseum.org

We’re On The Web! Check Us Out!  
www.yesteryearmuseum.org