President’s Letter

As we close out 2019 I want to thank all of the volunteers who have helped over the past year. As you are all aware volunteers are the backbone of our organization and have been since the beginning. I want to turn our attention to 2020. A great man once said “I have a dream.” His dream was way different than my dream or your dream but the important thing is that we have dreams and think of new activities and events to have at the Museum. I would like everyone’s input on their dreams for the Flywheels Yesteryear Museum. We could bring old dreams back or try new dreams for activities. I would like to get some youth activities going out here again. Getting kids transported from schools seems to be a thing of the past with all of the cost and logistics involved. With all of the wonderful buildings like the church and school we surely could put those to good use. I also want to keep adding more exhibits, and changing and working on current exhibits. I think upkeep on our buildings and facility is equally important and plan to keep upgrading as we can. We did quite a bit in 2019 with new ceiling tiles, a new kitchen window, more gravel, etc. I want us to look at 2020 as a new year with new ideas and things to accomplish and to help us grow. Again, I would value your input, even as simple as “why couldn’t we do……” would help. Lastly, as 2020 President I want to thank everyone behind the scenes who make this organization run and I hope to see each and every one of you at an upcoming event. I personally might not know you but would love to meet you at one of our events.

Monty Hole

Mission Statement

For the collection, preservation and display of artifacts that pertain to our heritage and provide enjoyment and education for our members and the general public.

Event

Christmas Celebration
December 14th
6:00pm - 8:30pm
Cookies Crafts Music

Featured Exhibit

Come out to see the Wells Church as our featured exhibit
Volunteer Opportunities

The following is a list of projects that need to be done around the Museum. If you have an interest in working on or wish to fund one of this projects, please contact the Museum.

PROJECTS

- Paint Bleachers - any or all
- Repair and paint Chuck Wagon
- Paint Mailbox
- Repair back porch of the School House
- Paint and hang new doors of the Church
- Repair and paint picnic tables
- Caulk and paint Church windows
- Wooden posts on front fence need replacing
- Make new signage for exhibits
- Sort and organize exhibits of south balcony (Display Bldg.)

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES

January 9, 2020
March 12, 2020
May 14, 2020
July 9, 2020
September 10, 2020
November 12, 2020 (Elections)

2019 Board of Directors

2019 Officers
President - Monty Hole
Secretary - LaVonne Sutton
Treasurer - Will Cooper

Board of Directors

2021 Term Expiration
Jamie Samson
Dave Rettele

2020 Term Expiration
Adam Hummel

2019 Term Expiration
Kenny Fuller

2020 Elections

The annual election of Officers and Board of Directors was held on November 14th. The Board and Officers will remain the same for 2020.
The congregation of Wells, Kansas was determined to have a church in their community and by 1900 had raised $1500 to build the Wells United Methodist Church. Land was donated by the Town Site Company and building began in May 1901. The church was completed and dedicated on November 21, 1901.

An addition was built in 1938 on the right side of the church, along with a basement. In 1960 new window panes were installed.

The pews were made of soft pine and were found to be uncomfortable so padding and fabric were added in 1972 for the comfort of the congregation.

The 75th anniversary of the church was celebrated in 1976 with an active membership of 58. By 1986 the population of Wells had fallen to 30 people and only 6 attended services on a regular basis. Final services were held on June 27, 1999 with only 3 members in attendance.

After nearly 100 years of service, in 2001 the Church was moved to its present location at the Central Kansas Flywheels. The move was made by flatbed truck and covered 25 miles. The 1938 addition was not moved because it was not part of the original configuration. The steeple had to be removed due to condition issues and was later reconstructed to hold the bell.

The church restoration lead by Ron Sutton and Jack O’Neal was completed in 2007. A dedication ceremony and blessing was held with the townspeople of Wells in attendance to celebrate the accurate historical renovation of their beloved church.

Since then, the church has seen continuous use at the Flywheels Yesteryear Museum. It is easily seen from I-70 and brings in visitors curious about its history. To date, we have hosted over 30 weddings for couples who find the church a perfect setting to begin their married life.

We are proud to have the church as a featured building on our Museum grounds.
**From the Office**

We have received the new doors for the Wells Church. They are replicas of the previous doors which have to be replaced. Thank you to Ron Gross for his assistance in this project.

The Museum obtained a grant for Heritage Building ceiling tile replacement and painting the tile grid. The project took approximately a month and was completed in late summer. Along with the tiles, a new one piece window was installed in the kitchen for better energy efficiency and natural lighting. These improvements make a big difference. A big thank you to the Earl Bane Foundation for funding this project.

New entry lights and a new hall light fixture were installed in the Heritage Building by Monty Hole. It is very much appreciated.

**Annual Fall Breakfast Event**

The Museum hosted its annual Fall Breakfast on November 9th. This fundraiser event is for members and the public to become acquainted and, in general, enjoy the company of others. Thank you to Monty Hole, Adam Hummel, Kenny Fuller and Jerry May for putting on the event. A good time was had by all.

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**NEED EVENT 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!
Join us on Saturday, December 14th from 6:00pm till 8:30pm at the Central Kansas Flywheels for our annual Christmas Party.

Come and enjoy old fashioned hot cider, hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. And we will also have hayrack rides, a visit from Santa Claus and Christmas crafts.

Live Christmas music will be provided by the Bill Burrows Band.

Start the holiday with family fun and an old fashioned Christmas experience.
A Living History Museum

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

We’re On The Web! Check Us Out!

www.yesteryearmuseum.org

And remember to “Like Us” on Facebook.