

CENTRAL KANSAS FLYWHEELS YESTERYEAR MUSEUM NUTS & BOLTS NEWSLETTER



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Message to the President

As we review the last five years and plan our path forward, we want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to every one of you who has supported the Flywheels mission. And we want especially thank our president for his dedication and hard work.

Monty Hole has now been president for five years. During that time so many things have been accomplished. This just a partial list of the improvements made under Monty's leadership.

Heritage Building

all new ceiling panels
all new led lighting
new kitchen window
new refrigerator
new stove
new tables
new padded chairs
new big screen tv
new sound system
new computer
new printer
new exhaust fans
outdoor patio

Wells Church

new shingled roof
exterior repaired & painted
windows repaired
new brick walk

Pole Shed

new wiring & outlets
new outside security light

Agricultural Building

all new led lighting & fixtures
new wiring and breakers
new gutters & downspouts
new outside security light

Cox Schoolhouse

new shingled roof
exterior painted
bell stand painted
outhouse painted

Gas Station

new shingled roof
brick pavers in front

Grounds

new firepit
renovated picnic area
alert system for entrances
information kiosk at entrance
new lawnmower
paving at entrance gate

To Monty we extend our congratulations and gratitude for a job well done.

We look forward to all he will bring to the Flywheels in the future.

A Living History Museum Memories of our Heritage

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.

Featured Exhibits

Centaur Tractor
~
The Perfecscope

Upcoming Meeting

7:00pm Thursday
May 9, 2024
at the
Heritage Building

From the Office

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their membership renewal for the year 2024. I am happy to say we have received renewal from almost everyone who was a member in 2023. Your continued support of the museum and its mission is greatly appreciated!

Thank you to Richard and Karen Buhler for the donation of a set of embellished collar covers. Their use was to keep the necks of horses dry as they pulled wagons. These were used in conjunction with the lumber wagon that was donated to the museum by Richard in 2018.

While visitation has been a little slow due to weather, the families we have had find the museum interesting and informative. One family had a young son who was whispering to his mother. After some time she finally passed on his request about wanting to sit on a tractor. With their permission of course, he picked a smaller Fordson to sit on as it was “more his size”.



Richard Buhler and lumber wagon

Cox Schoolhouse Renovation

Blueline Remodeling was able to take advantage of the recent warm weather and was able to complete the painting of the schoolhouse in time for summer visitation at the museum.



The building was power washed, scraped and primed prior to the new paint being applied. There were several areas of damaged boards on the exterior that were also repaired.

As you may recall in a previous newsletter, we had the Wells Church exterior redone by the same company last year.

We now have both buildings completed and ready for display for years to come.

Centaur Tractor

The Central Ohio Tractor Co. opened in Greenwich, Ohio, in 1919. By 1921, it was offering the Centaur tractor. Early models were geared for smaller operations with a sulky-type design so the farmer could attach implements.

The Central Ohio Tractor Co. became the Centaur Tractor Corp. in 1928, and it produced the 2G model, with a 12-hp Le Roi engine and the unusual sales slogan, “Not better than other tractors, but as a replacement for the horse.”

After surviving the Depression, the company filed a patent for the KV tractor in 1934, standing for “Klear View” of the ground under the steering wheel. During World War II, tractor production stopped, and the plant produced tank parts. Centaur was saddled by debt after the war, and Le Roi took over, adding its name to the tractor. Le Roi also produced the Tractair 125, a mobile air compressor for the military.



The Perfecscope

The Perfecscope is a Holmes-Bates type stereoscope. This type was invented around 1860 by the American poet Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.

The Holmes-Bates stereoscope is a simple and inexpensive viewer for paper card stereoviews. It made stereoscopy accessible to many Americans, and contributed to the “stereocard craze” in the late 1800s and early 1900s in the United States.

The later paper card stereoviews were slightly curved. This reduced reflections and blur caused by the cheap lenses that were used in the Holmes-Bates stereoscope.

Elmer and Burt Underwood became the largest publisher of stereoviews in the world. The brothers developed a selling system by using college students as salesmen. They had a number of freelance photographers, and in 1901 they published 25,000 stereocards a day. They also introduced boxed sets with specific themes such as education and travel.

A Living History Museum



Phone: 785-825-8473

Email: ckf@yesteryearmuseum.org

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Memories of
our Heritage

CENTRAL KANSAS FLYWHEELS YESTERYEAR MUSEUM
1100 W. DIAMOND DR.
SALINA, KANSAS 67401