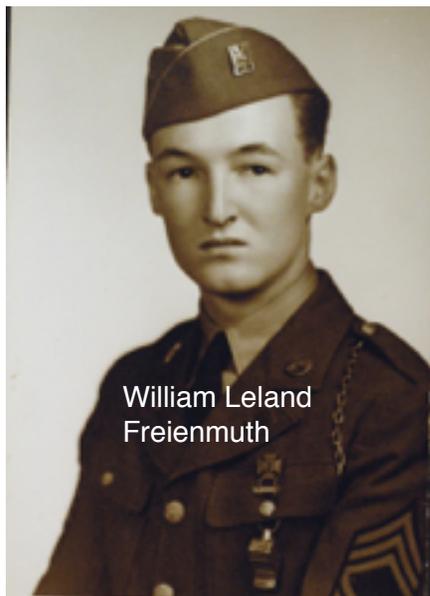


TONGANOXIE COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1st QUARTER NEWSLETTER, March 2019

TONGANOXIE AND WORLD WAR II (Con't)

WILLIAM LELAND FREIENMUTH



William Leland
Freienmuth

To most of the people around Tonganoxie, he was known as Leland. After WW II most of the people called him "BILL". The name change was "finalized" about the time he lived in Damascus, Maryland.

His interest in radio and communications began with a crystal radio set that required ear phones and the Jenny Wren Radio station which had its transmitters in Tonganoxie. Bill as a young person ca. age 9-10 would spend time at the WREN station absorbing what the people who operated the transmitters had to say. It was noted by Bill, there was plenty of free time when everything was working fine, but all hell broke loose when things didn't work correctly.

Bill was beginning his 3rd year in electrical engineering at KU. He had several part time jobs to help him with his school expenses. He also had joined the the National Guard, 137th infantry of he 35th Division. In December of 1940, Companies H & M assembled at the Lawrence Armory and became full time units of the army. By Christmas of 1940 the two units were in Camp Robinson, Arkansas.

Bill was transferred to Hdqrs Co. 137th Infantry as a radio operator. From this point Bill had various schools and positions within his unit, all involving radio and communications. With all this he was promoted to Staff Sgt. and shortly after that he was made Tech Sgt.

Dec. 7, 1941 things changed. The base became business with no phone calls allowed, equipment was loaded on railroad cars, and the men were loaded in older railroad passenger cars. After 5 days they arrived in Ft. Ord near Monterey, CA. The 137th was scattered all over northern California guarding railroad bridges and others areas considered critical to transportation and communication. **ED Note: This activity might seem like overkill, but if you remember several Japanese submarines were seen near the west coast and a few of those had fired torpedoes into California soil.** Bill's outfit provided communication between headquarters and many areas around the San Francisco area. During the San Francisco stay he was stationed at the Presidio.

In April 1942 the Regimental Communications Officer told him that the Signal Corps was looking for applications for people to go to Signal Corps Officer Training School at Ft. Mammoth, New Jersey. Here he completed the schooling and became a 2nd Lt. He asked for an assignment with radar. He received orders to report to the 3rd Air Force, 503 Aircraft Warning Training Regiment at Drew Field in Tampa, Fla. He soon learned of a excellent graduate level training in Electronics at Harvard and later MIT. Because Bill did not have the prerequisite knowledge about some of the classes, he was assigned to a "get up to speed" course. He found the schooling just what he wanted.

In June 1942 he was at the AETC course at MIT. All the work for these classes was completed by late August. He had orders to report to Camp Murphy in September.

He married Easter Risner on Sept. 1, 1943 and the next day they were going to Florida. He met Easter in Boston. She worked for one of his professors.

The two went to Kansas, but Bill had orders to Drew Field (Drew Field is now Tampa International Airport) for operational training with the 564 Signal Aircraft Warning Battalion. His battalion would ship overseas to the War. Easter stayed in Kansas.



Bill & Easter Freienmuth

Bill left Florida by train and boarded the Queen Mary which would take them to Europe. There was no concern about submarines because the Queen Mary could out run a sub. She was capable of more than 36 mph. Part of the trip was rough. The trip took 6 days and they landed in Scotland. A train took them to England. They stopped at Twyford, England at about 11:30 AM on Jan 30, 1944. They went to a new camp on an estate called Stanlake Park, (the property of an English colonel) about 1/8 mile out of Twyford.

He transferred to B Co, 573rd early in Feb., and moved to Henley on Thames about the middle of the month. Camp was about the same as at the 564th.

From early February to mid August 1944 Bill travelled around England on trips about business and some were weekend trips for sightseeing. He was very bored with the usual military training and activity. August 29th arrived and he was in France near Cherbourg. "Every building is literally shot to hell, and yet the people live in such places and smile as we go by"

From the time Bill moved into France (He was in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany) until the time that the war in Germany was over, his unit was never very long in one place. It had to be very mobile. The unit moved from one location to another location. This required everyone being ready to pack, move, and unpack some heavy radar equipment. Some required large trucks. Sometimes the unit would be 2-3 miles from the front and sometimes they would set up equipment 8 miles from the front. One time Bill crossed the front to inspect a possible location. He reports that he saw 3 Germans, but he scared them with his M-1.

The mission of his unit was to support the fighters and bombers, to direct fighter pilots with bombs aboard to specified ground targets, to alert pilots to the presence and position of enemy aircraft, to guide disoriented pilots back to base, and to find the objects that needed to be destroyed. In the short time that his unit was actively involved in the war, they were in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Bill never discussed any of the actual work that his radar company did. **The listing to the right shows over a 6 day period, how busy his unit was. Now think about how long his unit was operating in WW II.**

Extracts from FDP 1, 573d SAW Bn. Operations Report

Six days ending 26 March 1945

229 mission 2822 sorties

Claims made by pilots as a result of controlled missions

	Destroyed	Probable	Damaged
Amo dumpns	7	0	5
Buildings	217	3	234
Flackgun positions and car	102	15	9
Half tracks	10	0	30
Horses	42	0	0
Locomotives	122	0	81
Oil Dumpa	2	0	1
R.R.cars	1892	9	2207
Roundhouses	4	0	6
Troops	168		
Warehouses	15	0	9
Aircraft destroyed on the ground			
ME-109	83	27	120
FL-190	11	0	7
JU-88	21	5	22
UI-TE (twin engine)	15	1	20
Heinkel - 111	0	0	5

The War is Over! "Looks like we will be leaving here about 15 Sept for the States according to dope this afternoon". When the war with Germany was over, the men became focused on Japan. It was fortunate for them that the Japanese war was soon over. Bill came home and was out processed from Ft. Leavenworth on Oct 2, 1945".

Shortly after they were married, Easter lived in Tonganoxie. While she was there she had twin girls, Sylvia and Susan. The house she lived in had no heat or telephone. It was owned by Ernie and E.K. Elston. It was just north of where the Elston's lived. Rationing was in full blast during this time and winter had become one of the coldest winters. Several efforts to acquire a heating stove were not effective. Same was true for a telephone. The rationing board was firm in this decision. Her uncle by marriage, Perry Walters, the judge, went up to Leavenworth to confront the rationing board to give her a telephone and a heating stove. Again they refused. **Before the judge left he suggested to the board they might not like the newspaper story that might develop if these two little girls froze to death in this house with their daddy fighting in the War with Germany. He came home with a stove and telephone. Easter always had a special place in her heart for my dad, the judge.**

DAVID UNDERWOOD

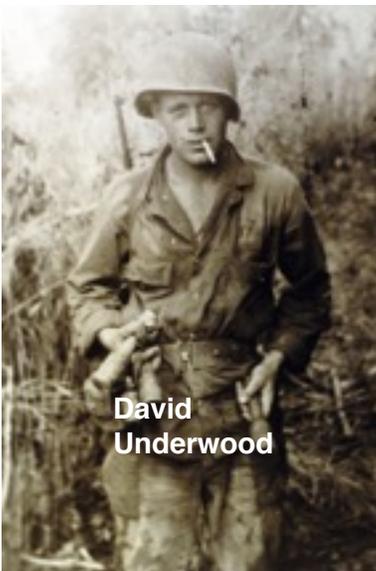


David was born on 13 May 1925 in Kansas City, Kansas. He graduated from Wyandotte High School in May of 1943 at the age of 18. He says that his induction into the army was almost on the same day as his graduation.

He went to Ft. Leavenworth and received his military clothes. He was now in the infantry and sent to Camp Roberts. David said it was on the coast near San Luis Obispo. David was now in the infantry a member of Co. A of the 165th Infantry Regiment of the 27th Infantry Division. He carried a rifle, did close order drills and learned to take the rifle apart and put it back together again.

After basic training his outfit went to Oakland where they loaded on a troop ship bound for Hawaii. They lived in Scofield Barrack, near Pearl Harbor. It was very sad to go under the Golden State Bridge. He said, "I'd better take a good look because I probably won't see it again". David was asked how he would evaluate his time in the army. With some thought, "My time with the government was one I endured". He didn't like military life. You got up early and just stood around.

The next stop was Saipan. "In Saipan we got the heck blown out of us." Civilians towards the end of the battle would hold hands and walk into the ocean and drown. **This suicidal activity has been shown on several TV documentary movies about WW II. On one movie I saw a mother throw her child off a cliff into the ocean and then she followed her child. I think the reason for this type of action was because the Japanese, who since ca. 1934 had been preparing for war by building tunnels and caves, had repeatedly told these natives the Americans would rape and kill the women and children and torture and kill the men.**



David didn't talk too much about his battle experiences, but he did say the first day a shell burst occurred over his head and a wooden piece of his rifle shattered into pieces. but he wasn't hurt. That night while in a new fox hole a mortar shell landed right next to him. It didn't explode. He felt that someone was looking after him.

Saipan is a small island. When going ashore, the waves were very rough and there were rocks. This situation prevented the small landing crafts from taking them to shore. Consequently, they dropped into waist deep water and waded to the shore. This was accomplished after dark.



The heat was terrible on this island.

There were numerous caves on Saipan and these were where the enemy could and did hide. After you walked by a cave the Japanese would step out and shoot you in the back.

After Saipan David's group went for R & R in the New Hebrides Islands. The island of Espiritu Santos is where they rested and regrouped for several months. Here it was safe, the food was good and they had plenty of fun things to do. He describes the island as beautiful with clear blue water. They did lots of fishing. Some of that fishing was by exploding Composition C4 and gathering the fish for a fish fry. Because he was now a Staff Sgt. he could get a small boat for use in the river.

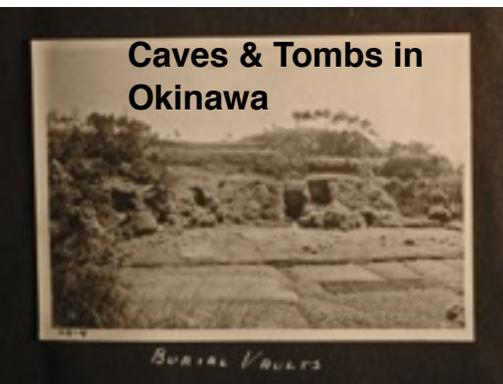
The next stop was Okinawa. I am somewhat familiar with Okinawa because I lived there for one year. Much of what David described was still there, but the buildings in Okinawa were generally new, because most of them were blown to pieces during the war. Especially those buildings within large cities, like Naha, the capitol.



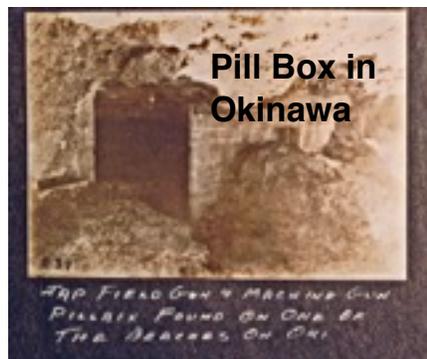
City of Naha destroyed

The battle for Okinawa is considered the bloodiest and most difficult of all the battles with the Japanese. David didn't discuss this in any great detail. He said Okinawa was very tough. There was no beach landing. The ship pulled into a dock and they walked off the ship directly onto the dock. David's landing took place on the west side of the island near the Machinato Air Field. His group of men were responsible for the northern 1/3 of the Machinato Air Base. From this they then turned north and

were responsible for what was known in 1966 as the Northern Training Area.



Caves & Tombs in Okinawa



Pill Box in Okinawa

TRP FIELD GEN & MACHINE GUN
PILLBOX FOUND ON ONE OF
THE BEACHES ON OKI



Large cave open
1967 Okinawa
Dr. Sam Stegman

The Japanese Military had been preparing for war since the 1930's, and they were ready. Caves and tunnels, as in Saipan, were built and joined together. Artillery guns were prepared with pinpoint accuracy. All caves, tunnels, and military weapons were well hidden and the caves were a place used for hiding and for killing U.S. Military members.

Generally he thought the food was good. They sometimes supplemented their food by robbing gardens. They quite often had to eat C-Rations. This consisted of three cans. One would have a biscuit or a cookie, one would have coffee and the third can might have beef and vegetable stew. If you ate this for several days you would have heart burn and dysentery. No one wanted that.

At least twice David became quiet and thoughtful while he said he was not sorry about his time in war. He may have shot someone. He had thrown grenades, placed and exploded satchel charges by caves, used napalm provided in 2.5 gal tanks, but he was not aware of shooting or killing anyone. He also had placed a few satchel explosives near the opening of a few caves. David also dropped a few grenades in some caves to take care of enemy personnel that might be in the cave.

One of the things that Sgt. Underwood enjoyed while he was on Okinawa was the USO show with Kay Kaiser and his Kollege of Musical Knowledge. It was unusual, but David enjoyed it. He also enjoyed that the officers were placed at the back of the audience, David also enjoyed the number of beautiful women in the show of which one was Kaiser's wife.

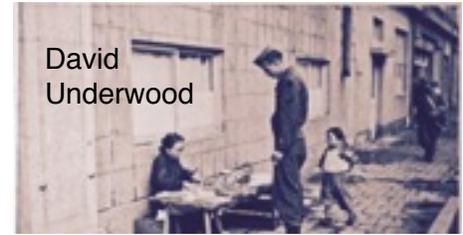


Kay Kaiser USO Show

The war between Japan and the Allies was now over. David's unit was headed to Japan for occupation. David's outfit loaded onto some C-54's at the Kadena Air Force Base and headed for Atsugi, Japan (Today the US Navy has an airbase there). David noted some American Soldiers who were extremely thin and looked emaciated, being loaded onto some of the C-54 airplanes. He felt very sorry for them. David was in Japan for about one year.



He noted that the Japanese were very friendly towards the Americans. The worst part about the Japanese people was he couldn't understand most of them because



of the language barrier. He felt sorry for them because he believed The Emperor controlled everything they did.

David relates several humorous stories that occurred while he was in Japan. Once they were being transferred by a Japanese railroad from Honshu to another post. There must have been many U.S. soldiers on this train. The train pulled onto a side track and began some maintenance on the wheels. When the train began to move it couldn't start. Several attempts to make this train go failed. It was discovered that an American soldier got out of the train and disconnected some hoses. When discovered the Japanese went crazy. Everyone laughed.

David and another soldier got some R & R on the northwest side of Japan. The area looked like Colorado, but the mountains were generally 3000 feet above sea level. It was cold here and skiing was an important part of the economy. He found an old pair of skis and discovered skiing was not compatible with military issued boots.



He described this place as an exceptionally elaborate hotel with interesting food. The people were friendly and he liked them. He was however turned off from their food which included a bowl of fish soup. It was the fish eye that winked at him that turned off his desire to eat. He decided that he didn't like Japanese food.



He had trouble understanding some of the social things the Japanese did. He discussed this as being a big surprise

(other G I's said the same thing). If they had to urinate they just went over to the side of the road and urinated. AND men and women used the same restrooms at the same time. People sat side by side with no partitions. It is my understanding that music created here might be considered a dual performance.

Ed note: While I was in Okinawa I saw this urination by the roadside a couple of times, but it wasn't prevalent. It was always an old man. Male and females also used the same restrooms in public places. This action only took place in public places not on the military bases. When I arrived in Okinawa, I immediately noted a very familiar smell. The island smelled just like my grandmother's chicken yard. This chicken yard consisted of dish water from the kitchen thrown into the back yard (no plumbing fixtures inside the house) and mixed with chicken manure from over 100 chickens. The smell was unique. The smell on Okinawa was not recognized after a few days. Good thing smell is a weak sense for humans.

After his tour was over he was transported back to Seattle, Washington. Here the military people doing the processing made a serious attempt to have him re-enlist. David was persistent and was discharged. He got a ride

back to Tonganoxie for \$20.00. He went to the telephone office where Alice Ford was working. She called his parents and they came and picked him up.

Another WW II Story: While on Okinawa, I shot skeet on the Marine Skeet Team. A retired Sgt. Major was in charge of the team. He related a true story to me. He was a back seat gunner in a single engine fighter plane. They were using the Kadena Airbase as their home base. One time the plane took off from Kadena to fly down and bomb Naha. Shortly after takeoff the pilot banked the plane in a steep turn and my friend fell out of the back seat. The only thing that saved his life was his parachute got tangled up in the seat. He banged on the fuselage until the pilot could land the plane.

YOUTH FOR NIXON JULY 25-28, 1960



What you are looking at is a photo of a few people from Tonganoxie who went to the Republican National Primary Election held in Chicago. The youth in this photo had to be favorably considered by the Precinct Committee woman, Anna Denholm. She chose the people from her precinct that would make the trip. Gary Shilling and I had completed our junior year of college. We were chosen because they didn't have any male chaperons to watch over the young boys. Most expenses were paid by the Republican Party.

Nixon pushed to connect with the young voters in the United States. This group of people was popular with the Kennedy's and Nixon attempted to get votes from this group of people.

To help accomplish this, Kansas sent 4 large Greyhound busses (about 60 people to a bus) to Chicago loaded with so called "Youth for Nixon". These were all kids who were in high school. There were several people from Tonganoxie, Leavenworth, Atchison, and Hiawatha on this bus. Later in the fall, I had an occasion to see one of the girls from Hiawatha. She was a roommate of Pam Druley's at Baker University. The Wichita area supplied one bus, and Topeka supplied a bus. The 4th bus brought another group of people, but my memory doesn't recall where these kids were located.

We were promised two things which never occurred.

1. The first day in Chicago the Youth for Nixon held a luncheon. Nixon was to dine and speak to the young people. For some reason he couldn't make it. Pat Nixon substituted for him. It was a disappointment, but we were impressed with Pat Nixon. I suspect when Nixon discovered none of the "Youth for Nixon" could legally vote, he decided to direct his efforts in other areas. First promise failed !!!.

2. We were promised and we were expected to campaign on the convention floor for Nixon's nomination. Only one person actually got to the floor of the convention and that was me. I was just inside the door, but there were so many people—mostly uncontrolled— that you couldn't move. I took a photo.

We arrived at the convention building long before we were to campaign on the convention floor. I expect we were waiting outside for over 2 hours. Probably the most exciting thing that involved the convention was between some of our youth and some of Goldwater's people. Our high school people were able to verbally taunt the Goldwater people into almost a fist fight. I mean this. I don't know how our adults were able to calm this situation. After 10-15 minutes things were back to more normal.

Our Chaperons did a good job of tracking our young people, but the Wichita group lost a few. It appears the Wichita group left the convention center without all of their youth. Fortunately, the kids found our bus and we took them back to where we all slept.

The most exciting thing that happened on this entire trip was at the location where we were staying. It was arranged that all "youth for Nixon" groups would sleep in the Northwestern University Dorms. There was nothing unusual about the dorms except this: At the same time we were in the Northwestern dorms, the College All Stars men were getting ready for the so called Pro-Am football game held in Chicago, and they were in a dorm 20 feet from ours. The dorms we stayed in were locked, but that didn't deter some of females. The chaperons had a difficult time with some of the young girls who managed to crawl out some windows and go the the College Football Allstars.

The trip home was uneventful, but we were all tired.

VALENTINES - A STRANGE HISTORY

The first evidence of Valentine's day as a special day for love is attributed to Geoffrey Chaucer (1342-1400). His Poem, "*The Parliament of Foules*", is one of the first references that St. Valentine's day was a special day for lovers. It is believed that this poem was written ca. 1382. The story is related by a narrator who falls asleep and dreams of pleasant landscapes. Some birds gather to discuss choosing their mates. Three eagles attempt to seduce a female eagle. They are unsuccessful in their attempt. The dream ends with the coming of spring.

Wm Shakespeare (1564-1616) is well known for his references to true love. His Sonnet 18 is credited with being the most romantic of all his writings. It is a relatively short sonnet which compares his lover to a summer day. He remarks that the seasons change in appearance but his lover never will.

The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife. In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. In the United States beginning ca. 1913 Hallmark probably did the most to promote valentine's day with newer and faster printing methods. Valentine's day is the second largest day for card sales.

However, in the United States the single most significant person to promote Valentine's day with the celebration of a card was In the 1840s. Esther A. Howland, a Massachusetts native, began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. She was known as the "Mother of the Valentine," She made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." In her first year of business she expected to make \$200.00 but she made over \$5,000.00. She then expanded her business and hired several people to help make the valentines. She eventually made \$100,000.00 per year, but in 1880 she sold the business to care for her sick father.

For me recognition of Valentine's day began in the first grade. Most of my classmates exchanged valentines among each other until perhaps the third grade. My wife's Nebraska school did this through the 4th grade.

I don't remember any special party, except there had to be an allotted time for distributing the cards. There may have been cakes. My mother saved everything and I have most of all the family cards. It is interesting to see how the kids spelled their names. All names were printed.

The Valentines I enjoyed were not ones that I got or sent. These were on pulp paper much like a Big Chief Tablet. The inscriptions ("You drive like you are either drunk or fast asleep; Some day you're gonna wind up in a ditch—-6 feet deep") were very pointed and sarcastic. All the farmers would gather at Gracie's filling station and open their sarcastic valentines. No one would sign the cards so all would guess who sent it. Most people laughed, but some may have taken the script seriously. I enjoyed the entire process.

As we got older the giving of valentines became more private and more personal. I actually don't remember sending very many valentines after grade school. Certainly not in college.

My wife has a great appreciation for humor and I have sent her a few "love cards" over the years. The one that she and many others enjoyed was a birthday card made for me by The Flower Shop in McLouth. It was delivered to the pharmacy store where she worked. It was a box of prunes with several dead roses attached to the box. The entire store laughed for several minutes. My wife still laughs over this one.

The early recognition of a St. Valentine's day is definitely not related to love, romance, and chocolates. The Catholic Church recognizes three different Saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. In one legend Roman Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families so he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other traditional stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine".

While some believe that Valentine's Day is celebrated in the middle of February to commemorate the anniversary of Valentine's death or burial—which probably occurred around A.D. 270—others claim that the Christian Church may have decided to place St. Valentine's feast day in the middle of February in an effort to "Christianize" the pagan celebration of **Lupercalia, a wild pagan celebration on Feb 13, 14. & 15th.**

Lupercalia was outlawed in 5th century.



type of Valentine given by grade school kids—mid 1940's-1950



These two Valentines are very

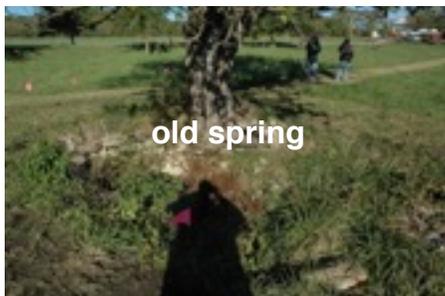
elaborate, 3D, and delicate. They each have at least 3 levels of depth. I have at least 10 similar to these. They all belonged to my mother. I don't think she ever used them in any displays. Laurie and I have used them from time to time.

The Spring Barn Quilt Class will be March 30 at the site and the enrollment is full. This will be the only class until next fall

MUSEUM ACTIVITY

Visitors to the museum on Tuesdays and Wednesdays will discover a hive of activity as well as many new items and displays of our exhibits. Joy Lominska has tackled the task of unfurling and straightening our maps which had been rolled for storage. She is placing the maps in very large archival folders provided by our Kansas Museums Association grant. She is reorganizing our map cabinet in the work room allowing us better access to the maps.

In another corner, Donna Talbott can be found transcribing the original surveyors hand written notes from the original survey of our state started in 1855. These notes show corn fields, native Delaware holdings, rivers or streams and the banks, buffalo licks, etc. Of particular interest to us are the notes which include our property and more especially the spring which lies south of the museum. This reportedly was a stop on the Leavenworth to Lawrence road as well as a source of water and cooling for the Fairchild dairy.



In conjunction with this, Joy and Kris Roberts have written a grant for aid in geological work to determine the exact dimensions of the spring, etc. We would have cooperation from the State Geological Society and the Kansas Archaeological department. Cross your fingers that this grant is funded.

Betty Englen continues to provide very attractive displays...she was the "magic" behind the temporary Valentine display this spring. We displayed some of the Valentines from our archives as well as some recent new accessions from the Harold Denholm family.

Jenny Alden continues to enter the myriad of material we receive into our computer program. Under her diligence, our back up procedures for saving data takes over 1/2 hour. She continues go work on the more than 500 items from the Denholms, plus other gifts.

Members who are retired teachers are helping to revise the museum experience for the third graders. Janet Stuke, Joy Lominska, Janet Burnett, Janet Stuke, and Sarah Kettler have given us some great ideas. Susy Ross has created and donated a trunk of native american items which is similar to the one from the Kansas State Historical Society complete with buffalo bladder. This trunk will be used for the first grade program given by us to the school and for the third grade program which takes place on site. A big thanks to all!!!!

Our “men” have not only provided snow and ice removal and look forward to spring grass mowing. They continue to help with odd jobs that are always at hand. They aided the museum in moving the marble counter from the savings and loan just a few feet north, but this was a major job and resulted in more room at the south end for wheelchair traffic. Thanks, Don, Jim, Dan, and Lloyd.

Donations from the community continue to arrive. We received the sign which for many years identified the Tonganoxie Fire Department. It will be installed in the firehouse as will our complete collection of Leavenworth county license tags. Any one willing to help with this installation? Among other items is a cookbook from early Congregational Ladies which came to us from Meg Young, granddaughter of Fred Zoellner, who resides in Texas. We received small composite pictures of Tonganoxie High School classes of the 1950s and article of Tom Beatty donated by Ed and Carol Slawson.

You can see that we rely on the community to give us items that are important to them. They need not be antique but could be of more recent years. Feel free to contact us.Museum

Chili Supper, February 21, 2019



The chili supper was a great success. As always, we had a great crew of volunteers - over 48 volunteers, including Boy Scouts from Troop #357. The chili supper is one of our primary annual fundraisers - ***We count on the profits to help pay museum operating costs.***

Many thanks to all of those who donated baskets for our raffle - Fun and Fabulous Floral, S&S Body Shop, White Birch Agency (Realty Executives), The Downtown Drugstore, Legends Healthcare, Heartland ArtWorks and First State Bank & Trust. The baskets were beautiful and added a touch of spring to the end of winter. All of the baskets had some remarkable item. Many thanks to everyone who came to the supper, bought raffle tickets, volunteered, and made the day fun!

Upcoming Fourth Tuesday Programs:

A 4th Tuesday programs begin at 7 PM. They are held at the Reno Church. After the program refreshments are served in the basement of the church.

- March 26 “Orphan Trains,” presented by Leanne Chapman—This program will be this coming Tuesday. It will be filmed for viewing at a later date.
- April 23 “When Kings Reigned,” Barbara Higgins-Dover
- May 28 Show’n’Tell - bring an artifact or a family story. These are always fun and everyone has a great time.
- July 23 **Program to be determined, but there will be a program this year in July**

Other Upcoming Events:

Memorial Day Breakfast, Monday, May 27, 7:00am to 9:30am. This is a fund raising event.

Annual Picnic, Saturday, June 22 at 6:30pm. More details to follow.



Uses of the Buffalo Trunk

Susy Ross has donated a trunk for use with school programs. This trunk is full of objects and pictures that will enable us to provide quality educational programs to students for years to come. We are so very honored that Susy would put this trunk together and gift it to us. And we are also very grateful to Larry Ross, who contributed several artifacts and support, and to Mike and Belinda Adams, who donated several artifacts, including a buffalo bladder - very cool!

Stop by the museum sometime and we will show you this very special gift.

Pictures of chili feed



Wade Davis, Delaware Historian

Wade Davis, a noted Delaware Indian historian, used his knowledge in living history and interpretation to lecture about the Delaware Indians who lived in the Tonganoxie area on the Delaware Reservation before the founding of the town of Tonganoxie.

He talked about the day-to-day life of the Delaware, using historical objects and stories. Davis' presentation, "The Grandfathers in Kansas: The Material Culture of the Delaware on the Frontier 1829-1867," was an outstanding program. Mr. Davis had numerous Delaware artifacts to support his program. He had guns, bows and arrows, cooking utensils, blankets, dried bricks of tea which resembled a plug of chewing tobacco.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed his program, and after his lecture, many asked him questions about the Delaware and about some of the artifacts he brought to the program.



FOURTH TUESDAY REFRESHMENTS

March 26, 2019 Nancy Pearce, Mary Ketchum and the Walters family

April 23, 2019 Jim and Janet Stuke, Arlene Meyer, and Gladys Walters

May 28, 2019 Maryann Needham, Connie Torneden, and Janet Burnett

After the program these people will provide the deserts. This function is always fun. These programs are free as is the desert. It is a good time for visiting and catching up.

