A Message from our Chairman- Jim Stuke

Now that the Christmas Holiday season is over and the New Year’s resolutions have been made, hopefully one of your resolutions is to become active in at least one of the many activities for our Historical Society.

Our Christmas Party was enjoyed by both members and guests, including special guest Santa Claus, who found time to spend the evening with us. The delightful holiday music was provided by Roz and Nathan McCommon, and many joined in the singing of the Christmas Carols.

The food was delicious, and the decorations made for a festive evening. During the evening activities, Kathy Peak was introduced as President for the next year, June Hagenbuch will be the vice-president, and the newly elected board members are Sharon Farmer, and Connie Putthoff. Connie Torneden will be our new Secretary. Our current board members are Lloyd Pearson, Laurie Walters, and Jim Stuke. Susy Ross is our Museum Director, Don Fuhlhage is the Treasurer, Howard Fields is our Assistant Treasurer, and Jean Pearson is our Assistant Secretary. Thank you for taking these leadership positions. We certainly want to thank Ed Slawson, George Anton, and Jenny Alden for their time and commitment to our Historical Society for the past three years.

As we look forward to the 2013 year, we need to think if there are changes that we need to consider in order to make our society more vibrant, easily recognizable, and more visible to the public. We will continue to have our monthly meeting with outstanding speakers (thanks to Bill Peak), our Chili Feed, and the concession stand at the ball park. These have been significant fund raisers for our Historical Society and we thank the public for their support. We will continue to enjoy the summer picnic, the Christmas party and other similar events. We also provide the “The Back in Time” event as our spring grand opening event. This educational festival provides a view of how life was in the 1800’s.

If you have any other ideas for the board to consider please bring that to the attention of the Board.

The building committee will review our current building space needs, and after a diligent study, make a recommendation to the board for the type of building to construct that will meet our immediate office, exhibit, and storage space needs as well as future needs.

The members of the building committee are Emil Wiley, Perry Walters, Bill Peak, Kathy Peak, Susy Ross, and Jim Stuke.

To quickly summarize, our Society is “alive and well” and needs everyone’s assistance, small or large, to fulfill our mission: to collect and preserve the history of our community.
This photo is Hervey Quisenberry and is seen here as part of a 1922 (yr.?) Tonganoxie composite all school photo. He was a long time resident of Tonganoxie and in business here for most of his life. Hervey was very active in the Congregational Church. He was a boys Sunday school teacher for many years. In his teachings he would offer his personal life experiences in support of his teachings. He was also active in many civic activities and of course he operated the Quisenberry Funeral Home in Tonganoxie. He and Dorothy, his wife, purchased this facility from the Rumsey family of Lawrence, Kansas in 1946.

And now Who is this?

This blond fellow lived most of his life in or around Tonganoxie, KS. He was born in Lawrence, KS but lived the first two years of his life on a farm just outside of Tonganoxie. Now this is a big hint. His father and mother operated a business for over 30 years in Tonganoxie, and his mother was a school teacher. Who is he?

From the President, Kathy Peak

Most of us probably haven’t given this situation much thought, but if you have ever been to a monthly membership meeting you probably enjoyed refreshments after the program. These refreshments are supplied by our members who serve as hosts and hostesses for the meeting. There are only 10 occasions per year when this service is needed, yet our Hostess Coordinator, Jean Pearson, informs me that she has had to call on several of our members more than once in a calendar year. This seems unfair since we have a membership over 100 people.

I am making a personal appeal to all members to do your share in preparing and serving refreshments at our monthly meetings. When you are asked by Jean Pearson to help, please be willing to step up and serve. Better yet, if you haven’t been a hostess in over a year, call Jean at 913-845-3228 and volunteer for the hostess job.

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK 2012 IN REVIEW

Your historical society has been very active this past year and I would like to express my profound appreciation to the people who have worked so hard throughout the year in raising funds, and peoples awareness of our organization. A special thanks goes to Jim Stuke, Board Chairman, who again has done an outstanding job. Some of the activities of this past year are reviewed in no particular order.

Put on the annual chili feed
Hosted a Chamber of Commerce Coffee
Manned a booth a Tongie Days
Participated in the Cemetery Stroll at Hubble Hill
Produced a Quarterly Newsletter
Presented Pioneer Trunk for Kansas Day at Ft. Leavenworth
Manned the Ball Park Concession Stand
Arranged 10 monthly programs, a picnic & Christmas Party
Provided refreshments at the monthly meetings
Painted the church basement & had the driveway graveled
Installed a new flag pole & handicapped parking signs
Sent “get well” and condolence cards to members
Produced the annual spring opening, “Back in Time”
Participated in the St. Patrick’s day & the Annual Fair parades
Interacted monthly with the Chamber of Commerce
Participated in the County Cultural Meetings
Revised the policy manual & updated our strategic plan
Interviewed & made DVD’s of several older people in area.

This list does not include that work by volunteer away from the site, the work provided on Wednesdays for maintenance, museum artifact care, and computer records. Were you a volunteer? Could you be a volunteer? Would you be a volunteer?

WE NEED MORE HOSTESSES FOR THE MONTHLY PROGRAMS. HELP! HELP!

The Leighty Endowment Advisory Committee has notified the TCHS that a 3,150.00 grant was awarded to weatherproof the Bell Tower located in the Reno Methodist Church. The grant was received by Jim Stuke and Lloyd Pearson.
This is to provide a “Heads Up” for the membership to be aware that March 7th is the date set for the annual Chili Feed. Once again this will be held at the Methodist Church on 4th Street. I will be handing out the tickets for the meals at the January meeting. This is necessary because of the early March date for the chili feed. We want to sell a great number of tickets.

The following is a list of items that I will need. Hopefully you will contact me so that I don’t have to call!!

- 10 people to each cook 10 lbs. of ground beef.
- 28 people to each bring two pies.
- 1 person to cook 15 lbs. of stew meat.
- 8 people to each bring 2 lbs. of carrots cut for relish plate.
- 8 people to each bring 2 bunches of celery for relish plate.
- 5 people to each bring 12 cups of potatoes cut in cubes and ready for soup.
- 5 people to each bring 3 cups of carrots cut and ready for the soup.
- 1 person to bring 10 cups of celery ready for soup.
- 1 person to bring 10 cups of cabbage ready for soup.

I need one person to be in charge of decorating the Hall

I will have sign up sheets in January for workers to sign up for the times they can work on the day of the event. You can e-mail (conpult@sunflower.com) or call (913-669-5538) me for the times you can work, any of the jobs you can do and any of the above items that you can bring.

THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP. IT WON’T BE A SUCCESS WITHOUT EVERYONE’S HELP.

TUESDAY EVENING PROGRAMS
every 4th Tuesday at “The Site”
Time: 7 P.M.

1. Jan. 22 The Harvey Girls’ Service with Style-presented by Michaeline Chance-Reay

2. Feb. 26 The Tall-Tale Postcards of Dad Martin and Pop Conrad- presented by Erika Nelson

3. March 26 Imagining the Future of Work at World’s Fairs, 1933-1965 presented by Thomas Prasch

I started out with nothing AND I still have most of it.

WHERE WAS OSHA WHEN WE NEEDED IT???

In the early history of Jarbalo, the young town was located one mile north of the present town. This town, called “Wright’s Station”/Jarbalo, moved to its present location in 1871 due to the influence of the Leavenworth, Topeka, and Southwestern RR. Jarbalo’s early location places it near a saw and grist mill operated by John & Joseph Wright, well known to this area.

This mill has also been said to be located in other areas--but all these locations were similar. It was most likely near if not on the John Brune farm. It was on Stranger Creek and at the time the location was also known as the Solomon Buxton farm.

This operation was well known to the area and has also been described in connection with Springdale. It just depended on who was talking about the mill whether it was located in Springdale or the present Jarbalo.

The mill was owned and operated by John Wright & his brother. It was a very busy place with people coming from miles away to have work done at this mill. Wood was sawed into boards and corn and grain were ground into more useful forms.

On a day in Feb. of 1861, it was a chilly morning with the temperature being just below freezing. The men were getting ready to have the boiler fired. According to Cutler’s History of Leavenworth Co., Mr. Wright had just fixed a belt, when the explosion occurred. He was thrown about 10 feet away from the boiler. Years later a piece of the boiler was found a quarter of a mile away. Several other men were injured. Two men were caught in the belt and thrown some distance. Another had his clothes torn from him. Many bodies were shattered and torn into pieces and segments. It was said pieces of bone, skull, brains, and equipment were scattered over a 1/2 mile. Seven men and one boy lost their lives in this explosion. Historically, this was a significant accident.

An inquiry was held to determine the cause of the accident. As reported in the Leavenworth Times the people on the jury found that It appears from the evidence that the engine in use at the mill was an inferior one, and that none of those who had charge of it were competent engineers. Mr. Wright, one of the proprietors, states that on the morning of the accident, he had the boiler filled with water in the top gauge before getting up steam. After the engine was started the belt that runs the burrs broke several times. One of the bands stopped the force pump because the water was running out at the top of the gauge. Mr. Wright believed the water freezing inside the mill loosened some metal straps and as the ice water became boiling water the engine exploded. A jury on the inquiry determined there was no fault. Where was OSHA when we needed it???
The museum recently received over 100 items from John Jarrott, Jr. These items belonged to Jack’s family, The Rev. Maxwell and Dalia McKenzie, William Sharon and Hazel McKenzie Dutton Bowersox, and Sally Dutton Jarrott Wilcox. All had strong ties to our community. William Bowersox was a carpenter. We now have a table and settee made by him. Hazel was a fine seamstress. We now have her notebook full of measurements of many Tonganoxians and her rhinestone initial pins. Sally graduated with Fred Leimkuhler and we now have a woven shawl made especially for Sally by Fred.

The many items are in the process of being accessioned into our collection. Thank you, Jack, for your wonderful donation.

Almost immediately upon entering the museum, you will observe the Famous Pocket Perm device. If you look close at the wiring coming to the metal object that pinch the hair, you will note that the wire looks bare and could provide a notable jolt of electricity.

When I first saw this weapon I thought it must be some type of electrocution device. However, it was quickly explained to me that this device was used by Almeda in her salon located within her hotel. It was further explained that Carol Wiley Slawson even had this device used on her hair, and she survived!! Carol explained the term Pocket Perm. The operator just took the burned hair and hid it in her POCKET.

This hotel was previously known as the Myers Hotel. Almeda was the daughter of Vern Barber. She was well respected by people in Tonganoxie.

Recently I saw this device in a Turner Classic Movie. Guess what? Yes!, it burned the customer’s hair. And yes the operator took the hair away and put it in her pocket so the lady would not know about the damage until she was long gone.

Now I may be in a little trouble here, but I can’t believe that women did this to impress men.

They had to do it to impress other women.

Funny I don’t remember being absent minded.
In each and every move the Delaware Indians made from the East to Missouri, history repeated itself and in Kansas it was no different, except the degree of escalation of the actions. Emigrants moved in; the white population increased; encroachment by emigrants upon Indian lands occupied by treaties increased and soon the Indians were bought out by the Federal Government and the Indians moved further west.

There was no secret that those emigrating to places in the west were trespassing through large portions of Indian land and this would be a problem. In 1853 the Federal Government formally recognized this problem. Emigration was increasing rapidly. Henry Smith Adams wrote that in 1857 while going to Utah with the U. S. Army, he noted no white people on the trail, but coming back in 1858 he notices several groups of people (men & women) traveling west. In that period of time from 1854 to 1868 (when the Delaware moved to Oklahoma) those social, economic, and political issues escalated.

The impact of emigration on the Indians was extreme. The population of Leavenworth County and the town of Leavenworth exploded. According to Cutler's History of Leavenworth County, one year after the passing of the Kansas Nebraska Act not one acre of Leavenworth County was available for claim. Most of those claims were made by Missourians who came across the Mo. River to claim Kansas for Slavery. The town of Leavenworth according to some was 7-10,000 people. Leavenworth was the largest town west of St. Louis. Of course this land except Ft. Leavenworth was not really available because the Delaware owned it. As more emigrants came the squeeze on the Indians became greater. The squeeze was this. The emigrants/squatters/speculators believed that the Indians had more land than they needed. In 1829 while living in Missouri, a place they didn't like, the Delaware signed a treaty for 2,000,000 (1,000,000 acres & the outlet) acres of Kansas land. In 1859-66 the Indian population was somewhere around 1,000. This suggests that there was 2,000 acres of land for each man, woman, and child.

Public disposal of the Diminished Reserve** did not proceed in the usual method of dealing with public land, Preemption and homestead, was not available. This was Indian owned the land by treaty, and in the Delaware's case when this land was ceded by the Indians it either went directly to individuals, corporations, to be held in trust by the Government or given to the Indians in severalty. The land did not come up for auction as in most other public land dealings. Undoubtedly this was difficult for the emigrants to understand. Many did not care. Disposal of the Diminished Reserve was accomplished via the 1860 treaty and not by auction.

The end result was the emigrants, etc. “walked” on the land and claimed it. They stole horses, cattle, timber, and other property. They burned fields and in many cases the Indians were harassed to the point of fear. The Indian agents were at a loss in dealing with these issues. Some speculators encouraged this action. The Delaware's situation was a “catch 22”. They were not U. S. Citizens so the local police could not be involved. The Federal Government in the form of troops, was the only source of support and that didn’t work. In addition the number of the Delaware Indians capable of physical protection was 235 men, 327 women, and 510 children. Obviously, they were not capable of forming their own “police/protective action”. The Federal Government did compensate with money some of the Indian loses/claims. The bottom line was, by the 1860’s the Delaware were ready to move out of Kansas. At one time they had considered Colorado, but by the time of 1866, Oklahoma was where they wanted to move. The Bleeding Kansas issue and the effects on the Delaware haven’t been discussed much, but The Reservation land was there and there were public roads and trails for public use.

The other factor was the railroad. Soon after 1855, the railroad recognized that something would have to be done to get control of the Indian lands. To this effect Ewing began extensive lobbying with the Federal Government for control of the Indian lands. There were three treaties which had a significant effect on this situation.

The treaty of 1854 ceded to the Federal Government all of the Indian land, except the Diminished Reserve. It provided two things for the railroad. The RR could access the Diminished Indian lands (article 12) if they could pay for the land. The Indians had the same rights in real estate dealings as the white people did. Of course the railroad had no money. The second benefit (article 11) which most likely went unnoticed as a benefit, was if the Indians so desired they could at any time divide and parcel their lands into individual units (severalty). Article 11 in the treaty of 1854 would prove extremely beneficial to the railroad in the treaty of 1860.

The Leavenworth, Pawnee, and Western Rr (here after- The RR) was unable to finance construction of The RR. No Government grant money or private speculative money from eastern or European investors was forth coming.

** Sale of Delaware land north of Diminished Reserve did take place from Nov. 17-Dec. 13, 1856
The efforts to secure funds for the railroad were difficult due to the panic of 1857, resulting from failure of established railroad investments, and the price of grain falling (the price of grain on the world market was effected by the end of the Crimean War causing the Russian soldiers to go home and raise wheat.). The result was the price of wheat and land fell. In addition the North/South situation was always an issue.

The railroad recognized that if they could get possession of the Indian lands, it would be possible to finance the railroad from sales of the Indian land. The unsold land would be collateral for loans. The federal government had greater concerns than financing the railroad. Sectional disputes, slavery vs non slavery, and the Utah Uprising all were considered more serious than Gov't investing in railroads. The RR lobbyist counted on this and intended to use this situation to gain a better position for construction of The RR.

The 1860 treaty between the Delaware Indians and the U. S. Government was directly negotiated between the railroad and the Indians. Never had private negotiation been done with the Indians. The RR convinced the Indians that their land would become more valuable. The Indians approved and then the negotiators took the treaty to Congress for ratification. Most methods of deceiving the Indians had been tried. This move has been considered a stroke of genius, a bold scheme which was successful for the railroad.

The Indians and the railroad negotiated secretly and quietly. “Let sleeping dogs lie.” The goal was to get control of the Indian lands without allowing the opposition to get organized. This was successful.

The treaty of 1860, known as The Treaty of Sarcoxieville, gave each member of the tribe 80 acres of land to be divided in severalty. Some of the indian chiefs, interpreters and others received additional acres of land. The chief’s were also provided an annual salary of $1,500.00. The railroad achieved the right to purchase the remaining Indian land not divided in severalty (223,966 acres), and if the Indians wanted to sell their personal 80 acres of land, the railroad could buy that land just as anyone would buy or sell land. One thing should be noted. Those 80 acres of land divided and given in severalty remained as one contiguous parcel of land.

The Treaty states because the Indians believe their land will increase in value when the railroad is built and because the Indians believe the L, P, & W. RR is the only railroad which can accomplish this, the railroad has a perpetual right to obtain the necessary land from the Indians. The treaty was ratified but the railroads did not get what they had expected. They had 6 months to pay for the land and because of two conditions of the treaty they could not get any money from investors or banks. 1. The railroad had to complete 25 miles of track before they could obtain one half of the land. They had to complete the other 25 miles of track before they could get the other half of land. 2. They had to pay for the land they needed within 6 months using gold or silver. These requirements made it so the banks and investors would not provide them money.

Soon opposition to this treaty became organized. The Indians tribal members believed they had been duped. The Indians believed their four chiefs had been supplied copious amount of alcohol by Thomas Sykes, the commissioner of Indian affairs. Sykes resigned under pressure before he was fired. Charles Journeycake, the Indian who best understood English and probably was in a position to actually know and understand what had happened in Sarcoxieville, swore the chiefs did not understand the treaty and that they were “temporarily bibulous”, and that they had been bribed by the railroads. Journeycake believed that all the Indians were dissatisfied with the treaty.

The new commissioner, Fielding Johnson, supported the Indian’s point that they had been cheated. In addition, John Wright and the Delaware Indians associated with the Baptist Mission also were very unhappy. John Wright wrote numerous letters to significant politicians, including the Department of the Interior. The Delaware hired John Wright’s friend, John P. Usher, to represent them. This action made Ewing’s job complicated. Also, land speculators and many “squatters” were additional obstacles which hindered the railroad efforts. These people believed that if the railroad did not get the Indian land, the they would be able to purchase it at the same low rate.

This photo of the Usher house is located in Lawrence, Kansas. It appears on the outside much as it did when it was built. It is on the National Historic Registry.

During the Civil War 200+ Delaware males were between the age 18 & 45. and eligible to join the army. 170 did join and several were the rank of captain.
To reduce opposition, the treaty provided substantial tracts of land to special groups (mission, schools, & churches).

Ewing went to Washington to lobby the Lincoln politicians that the treaty of 1860 needed modifications. It was difficult for Ewing to overcome Wright's effort to stop the treaty. Ewing provided extensive documents basically countering the negative results. Ewing was able to visit President Lincoln several times. Eventually Ewing was able to convince Lincoln to approve the L. P. & W wishes. Lincoln issued a proclamation favorable to the desires of the railroad. Lincoln was concerned that the newspapers would find objection and directed that if the Indians approved, the railroad could execute the bonds to be deposited into the Indians account. The bonds would be secured by mortgages upon 100,000 acres of Delaware land. It was then after the bonds had been deposited the railroad could begin the process of building the railroad. As published in Thomas Ewing and the Origins of the Kansas Pacific Railway Company, “the company and the President admitted that the Delaware lands had been vastly undervalued and that 123,000 acres which the company was now free to sell or to mortgage to other parties was worth the amount placed by the appraisers upon the original 223,996 acres.”

Lincoln must have known that his proclamation was unfair to the Indians. He insisted that the Indians were free to accept or reject the treaty.

Ewing organized his forces and got the Indian agency support. He presented them with land. July 2, 1861 the agreement was approved by the Indians. The leading person advocating for the railroad was a William P. Dole. The Treaty of 1861 between the United States and the Delaware Indians became ratified on August 6, 1861 and proclaimed in October 1861.

A simple summation of what had taken place up to this point. The railroad couldn’t pay the cost of the land specified in the treaty of 1860. The promotors carried out a new treaty (The Treaty of 1861) negotiated with much lobbying. The result was 100,000 acres of land was placed in trust for the Indians and became the security for the 223,996 acre tract. This allowed the railroad to sell or mortgage a 123,996 acres of land for which they had not paid anything. The treaties of 1860 & 1861 were considered a most ingenious method of cheating the Indians known to date. Many people were involved in the total scam and many acres of land were given for their help in negotiating with the Indians.

Throughout all these negotiations between The RR and the Indians With exception of the Delaware Chiefs and interpreters, the general Indian was a pawn. Each Indian received 80 acres of land. The high chiefs received 640 acres, other chiefs received 320 acres. Some of the other people involved received land for their services. Numerous politicians from many places in the U. S. received land in payment for services, The Indians received more that $1.25 per acre. They received $1.28. The railroad immediately began selling this land for prices very significantly higher that purchase price. The schools, missions and churches also received “quiet money”.

Addendum to The Delaware article: Chief Tonganoxie is most likely not a Chief of the Delaware Indians. His name does not appear on any of the 4 treaties signed by the Delaware Indian Chiefs while they were living in Leavenworth, Co. The other Indian Chief’s names do appear on the documents. The Indian, Tongi-noxie’s, name does appear in one article written about the treaty of 1860. He is listed as only an advisor to Kockatowha Chief of the Turtle Band. After the Delaware Indians moved to Oklahoma, about 10% gave up their tribal rights and became U. S. citizens. Tongi-noxie operated a lodge/hotel established in 1830’s. It was just north of the old Franklin Plant. It may have been that his customers called him “Chief” and the name stuck. It would be similar to an auctioneer being called Colonel, when perhaps the auctioneer had never been in the military. He died in 1864.

This photo is of the Delaware Indian Chiefs and a few other people. But Tongi-noxie is not listed. I have found no evidence in the literature of Tongi-noxie being a Delaware Chief.
Dues for the 2013 year are due in January

Bringing together those people interested in history
and
especially in the history of the Tonganoxie community.

Our mission is to collect, identify, record, reserve and display materials which will help to establish and illustrate the history of the greater Tonganoxie community.

Having a large and active membership is the strength of any non-profit organization. Certainly dues and donation paying members are important even if they do not engage in the activities of the organization, but without a core of reliable, responsible, active members to provide the leadership and to carry out the mission, the organization cannot survive. There is also a supportive role for those who may not be operationally involved. Without a pool of willing members, growth may not be possible and the continued existence of the organization may be at risk due to attrition.

Please provide the following information and return this form with your payment to:

TONGANOXIE COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
201 WEST WASHINGTON ST. P.O. BOX 785
TONGANOXIE, KS. 66086-0785

Membership Year 2013

Name_____________________________________________________ Date______________________
Address______________________________________________________________________________
City___________________________________State____________________Zip Code_______________
Phone No._______________________________E-mail________________________________________

Membership Type
Individual                             $10.00                          Supporter                          $100.00_____________________
Family**                              $15.00                          Sponsor                           $250.00____________________
Individual Life                        $100.00                         Patron                             $500.00____________________

**FAMILY MEMBERS MUST RESIDE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD

Please list the names of the family members _______________________________________________

I wish to make a tax-deductible donation to TCHS                   Amount____$________________
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(NAME)