

PIONEER PRESS

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Historical Society Launches Go Fund Me Campaign



The Nemaha County Historical Society is undertaking a project to establish a Military Museum to honor and preserve the memory of the men and women who have so courageously served our country. A 100+ year old building is already being restored, however our resources are rapidly being utilized. Donations are requested to continue this ambitious project. Seneca is a community of less than 2000 residents with a proud tradition of veterans who have served from the Civil War until now. Donations will be

used exclusively for the Military Museum restoration project. Additional exterior and interior renovations remain to be done, along with extensive HVAC requirements. We would greatly appreciate any donations that could be made to help complete this worthwhile project.

Go to

<https://www.gofundme.com/military-museum-restoration>

Amazon Smile

The Nemaha County Historical Society was recently approved by Amazon to receive donations from Amazon based on shoppers using our link. If you order items from Amazon, please consider using the link below and help us earn funds to support the museum.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/48-0871820>



Announcements

- Annual Golf Classic — April 27, 2019 (Rain date April 28, 2019)
- Community Day at the Museums — June 8, 2019
- Renew Your Membership — Jan 2019

IN THIS ISSUE:

	<u>Page</u>
Go Fund Me Campaign	1
Amazon Smile	1
Announcements.....	1
Our Museums	1
Museum Activities	2
Tidbit of History	3
Minutes Oct. Board Meeting.....	4, 5
N.C.H.S. 2018 Business Members	6

2018 OFFICERS

President:	Anita Heiman
Vice-President:	Karen Holthaus
Secretary:	Patty Byers
Treasurer:	Raymond Thieme
Membership:	Alma Ackerman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alma Ackerman	Karen Holthaus
Anita Heiman	Ilene Enneking
Dr. Jason Showman	Patty Byers
Raymond Thieme	Joyce Olberding-
Robert Ackerman	Roger Brown
Cathy Holthaus	

N.C.H.S. VOLUNTEER STAFF

Diane Rottinghaus, Director:	785-336-2690
Ilene Enneking	Archivist-Curator
Karen Holthaus.	Research & Obituaries
Raymond Thieme.	Scrapbook

CURATOR COMMITTEE

Karen Holthaus	Ray Thieme
Alma Ackerman	Ilene Enneking

OUR MUSEUMS

Sheriff's Residence / Historic Jail / School Room
113 N. 6th, Seneca, KS 66538

Temple of Honor Military Museum
33 N. 6th, Seneca, KS 66538

Annex 1—113 N. 6th, Seneca

- Archives
- Burger Display
- Rotating Displays
- Obituaries
- Glass Negative Collection

Annex 2—113 N. 6th, Seneca

- Agricultural Displays
- Civilian Conservation Corps
- Beautician
- Medical
- Railroad
- Photography
- Seneca Public High School

Phone: 785-336-6366
Email: nchs@rainbowtel.net

MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

THANK YOU!

For supporting Community National Bank's Community Day in the Park.



VETERANS DAY



This year, students from Kelly Williams' government class prepared articles for a display at Nemaha Central Elementary Middle School for their Veterans Day activities.

The following students worked on this project: Riley Bontrager, Abby Yunghans, Austin Gerety, Matthew Baumgartner, Hunter Steinlage, Garrett Randel and Hunter Lierz.



Connect with Us

Web site: <http://nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com/>

Facebook: [Nemaha County Historical Society](#)

[Museum Catalog](#): Archive link on web site

[Donate via PayPal](#)—Link on web page under NEWS

[Join Us](#)—link on web page under NEWS

[Genealogy](#) – Link under PEOPLE

[Go Fund Me—Military Museum Project](#)

[Amazon Smile](#)—Help us earn money while shopping

TIDBIT OF HISTORY

100 Years Ago

Kelly News

This week the United War Work Campaign is on. Every one must get ready. Let us show that we stay with the boys until they come marching home.

When the news that the armistice was signed, everyone was filled with joy, every flag was brought out and every gun was emptied; all the bells were rung. It meant the Peace that we have all been longing for.

Centralia News

Word comes to Centralia friends from his parents in Downs that Raymond Crum was severely wounded and captured by the Germans. Will Searing, Ira Bonjour, Albert and Ray Spicer, Frank Green and Evan Tietz are among the reported wounded.

Word came to Wm Green last Wednesday that this son, Bryan was killed in action September 27. Mr Green has two other sons in France now, James Green and Frank Green. Frank and Byran were volunteers early in the war and went across in May.

Centralia celebrated all day Monday. The celebration began with the blowing of the whistles and ringing of bells when the news of the signing of the armistice came in the morning. In the afternoon a program of speeches and singing and band music was carried out. ... There was a party in the

The War Is Over

The Germans have signed the armistice and fighting is over. Now don't sit down and think you have done your share. Remember your boys and friends are Over There. Time drags on their hands now. They want to come home and see the folks again. Of Course this takes time. Why not have your photo taken at the Strathman Studio and send it to him. It will make him feel a lot better. He has done his share; now you do yours in making him contented till he comes home, by sending him your photo and

Celebrated in Grand Style

Monday morning at five o'clock the steam whistle at the Seneca Electric Light Plant aroused from slumber the people of this city, announcing the signing of the armistice that suspends hostilities until the decision of the peace congress is made. Fred Porter, night operator at the depot, received the first message shortly after two-o'clock but it was not until five that he thought the news sufficiently confirmed to give it out publicly, the town prematurely celebrating in line with the large cities of the country, last Thursday evening. Bells began to ring early in the morning and a collection was taken for the benefit of the ringers, kept them ringing all day until six in the evening. There being no school, the boys of the town conceived the plan of decorating each vehicle with the Stars and Stripes. They purchased stocks of all the merchants and held up every conveyance without a flag, allowing them to pass only with the colors flying. A committee of business men decided to close up shop at noon and join the celebrators and they kept closed all afternoon. At two o'clock there was a parade led by the Seneca Concert Band, Seneca Fire Department; decorated autos and other vehicles in line. Major J. H. M Williams of the State Guards drove his new Wallis Tractor drawing the old bus filled with small boys. The "Kaiser" in effigy was dragged through the streets and finally burned in a bonfire.

The parade stopped in front of the bandstand. Charles H. Herold introduced the Rev. Father Wasinger, pastor of St. Augustine's church at Fidelity who gave a brief eloquent patriotic address.

The hilarity increased in the evening and prominent citizens were given free rides on the shoulders of the State Guards. In bearing aloft Postmaster McCliman, they were forced to call for re-inforcements.

Five minute talks were given by prominent local war workers at the City Hall and the Victory Girls and Sts. Peter and Paul's Parochial school girls, furnished music.

The Courier Democrat (Seneca, Kansas), Thursday, November 14, 1918. pages 3 and 6

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHT

Civil War Items Received

Over the summer, the museum received a donation of Civil War era artifacts and letters that belonged to David H. Ferguson (1839-1930).

David Ferguson lived in Seneca from 1908 until his death. He operated the feed mill.

Most of the letters are correspondence with Col. John Fonda regarding war time memories. Col. Fonda was writing a history of the 118th Illinois Volunteer Infantry in which David Ferguson served.



Eagle Scout Project

Jonathan Stallbaumer is working on an Eagle Scout project to create a new outdoor display area for farm implements.



OCTOBER QUARTERLY MEETING

Following a light dinner at 5:00PM, President Anita Heiman called the meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Anita Heiman, Raymond Thieme, Alma Ackerman, Robert Ackerman, Cathy Holthaus, Karen Holthaus, Ilene Enneking, Joyce Olberding, Jason Showman, and Patty Byers. Director Diane Rottinghaus was also in attendance.

Secretary Report

Patty submitted the minutes from the August 14, 2018 Quarterly Meeting, the Called Board meeting of August 28, 2018, the Called Board meeting of September 25, 2018, and the Called Board meeting of October 16, 2018. Minutes from each meeting had been previously emailed to each board member. Robert moved and Karen seconded the motion to approve each of the minutes as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Raymond presented the Financial Report for the third quarter. The beginning balance in the checking account was \$60,068.37. Income for the third quarter was \$106,004.28. Expenses for the third quarter were \$129,111.41. Ending balance was \$22,229.69. NCHS investments include the "general fund cd" in the amount of \$5,000, as well as the Temple land sale cd in the amount of \$10,000. In addition, the Dorothy Pearl Murphy investment with Edward Jones currently totals \$15,043.00. Also, NCHS earns interest only from the \$40,000 burger Trust Funds. Restricted matching grant funds for the HTF grant total \$30,000. Patty moved and Alma seconded the motion to accept the Financial report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

President:

Anita thanked the group for getting things done around both the jail and sheriff's residence and the Military Museum.

Grants:

Cathy submitted grants in August to Katrina at the HTF grant fund. She is the one who makes suggestions on grant applications. Cathy has not yet heard back from Katrina but will get in touch with her within the week. Cathy asked board members for letters of recommendation for the Temple of Honor which will be submitted with the HTF grant.

Curator:

Ilene announced that the Veterans' Day Open House at the Military Museum will be November 11, 2018 from 11AM-3:00PM. She also advised that high school students are using some of our military materials for their display for their Veterans' Day presentation at the school. She told board members that she is gathering pictures of Nemaha County fallen soldiers which will be displayed at the Military Museum. Ilene also informed the board that Suther Building Supply donated the materials and Regis Feldkamp volunteered to build the new book cases at the Military Museum. Ilene also told the board that she wants to purchase the kitchen cabinet located at the Military Museum for \$50. There was no objection.

OCTOBER QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING cont'd

Fundraising:

Jason announced that he would like to open a Go Fund Me account for improvements to the Military Museum. His suggested goal is \$250,000. The Go Fund Me account will be posted on Facebook, and if everyone Likes and Shares the page we will have much greater exposure. Bob moved and Raymond seconded the motion to accept Jason's efforts to set up a fundraising account through Go Fund Me. Motion passed unanimously.

Accessions:

Karen reported that there have been lots of donations to be accessed this quarter. She noted that now the difficulty is deciding which donations to accept.

Miscellaneous:

Raymond announced that the new laminator was paid for by a donation. He also said the City of Seneca has turned off the water in the Temple building. Also, new American flags have been installed at both the sheriff's residence and the Military Museum. American flags are available through Eisenbarth Plumbing for \$12.

Tours:

Diane reported that she has had more tours this year than ever before. Many tourists are from long distances and all are amazed at what we have. Diane has been available for tours on Tuesdays and also by appointment. She is working with Kelly Williams at NC High School and his students who are developing a project for Veterans' Day.

Membership:

Almas reported that we currently have 49 "email" members and 50 "print" members, with 15 complimentary members. She also reported that during September & October, we have reached 958 people through Facebook, with 272 followers.

Maintenance:

Robert explained that the concrete for the Eagle Scout project was poured on Saturday. The concrete truck broke the drain line, but they will fix it. He also suggested that since we have a highway sign already, we might be able to use the sign outside of Annex I. For other maintenance remarks, please see the attached sheet.

Memorials:

Joyce reported no new memorials, but announced that in recognition of Robert Ackerman's contributions to the Military Museum, his name will be inscribed on a plate for the Friends of the Temple of Honor plaque.

Travel and Tourism:

Patty let everyone know that NCHS has been reimbursed for advertising of the Golf Tournament and Tractor Cruise.

Research and Newsletter:

Marcia submitted a report saying that she has been working on finding those Nemaha County residents who were killed while serving in the military. Those names will be used in a memorial at the Military Museum. She has also been working on how Nemaha County has affected the major wars.

Bancroft:

Patty received an email from Rodney Brown saying that there are no new developments.

Old Business

Tractor Cruise:

Chairman Richard Schmitz has asked that a donation to the Bancroft Museum be made since the Tractor Cruise route this year included a stop at the Bancroft Museum. Alma moved and Ilene seconded the motion to notify Bancroft officers that NCHS will pay their insurance premium in lieu of a cash donation. Motion passed unanimously. Anita will contact Bancroft and let them know.

Boy Scout Project:

Raymond will now be in charge of the museum's portion of the project since Ackerman's will be in Texas. A question as to who pays for the concrete pad was raised, but no answer was given.

Community Day at the Park:

Karen reported that the day was successful, and that we used 6 gallons of ice cream for root beer floats. Community Bank donated \$2000 to NCHS from the event.

Highway 36 Garage Sale:

Alma reported that the Highway 36 Garage Sale was quite successful and recommended that we participate again next year.

New Business

2019 Seneca Day at the Museum:

Patty reported that Kylee Luckeroth would like to hold Seneca Day at the Museum on June 8, 2019. The board was in agreement that we should participate.

STEP:

A STEP representative stopped in. She will return to talk about investments at our first quarterly meeting in 2019.

Election of Directors:

Nominating Committee members are Cathy Holthaus, Ilene Enneking, and Patty Byers.

Horseshoe Counter and Soda Fountain Agreement:

Cathy told us that the agreement is between Duryea's and NCHS. Anita will get the agreement signed.

Amazon Smile:

Alma brought up the Amazon Smiles program that could help NCHS gain donations from Amazon purchases. After discussion, it was decided that NCHS could open a charge account with a very low credit limit so donations could be made into that specific account. Raymond was going to check into it.

Consortium:

Anita reported that the Museum consortium is now meeting regularly and towns are pleased with the progress.

Adjournment

Submitted by Patty Byers, Secretary

2018 GOLD BUSINESS MEMBERS

Ackerman Lock & Key	Lauer Love Funeral Home	SBS Insurance
AHRS	Life Care of Seneca	Schmitz Drive Thru Liquor & Deli
American Legion	Medical Arts Pharmacy	Seneca Dental Practice
Benskin Motors	Midwest Crop Insurance	Seneca Realty
Cornerstone Coffeehaus Suites	Nemaha County Co-Op Association	Seneca Variety
Courier Tribune	Nemaha Valley Community	Shopko
Durland Auto Parts	Hospital	Seneca Wholesale
Eisenbarth Plumbing	Nemaha Valley Motors	State Bank of Bern
Elk State Bank	Netawaka Fitness center	SureCrop Fertilizer
Nemaha County Farm Bureau	William O'Keefe Law Offices	Suther Building supply
First Heritage Bank	Ohlson Rightaway & Maintenance	United Bank & Trust
Garret's Country Mart	Picture This	VFW
Heartland Chiropractic	Prairie Band Casino	Young Backhoe & Trenching
Helena Ag Enterprises LLC	Rainbow Communications	
Heritage Real Estate	Ray's Apple Market	
Koch & Company	S&S Automotive	

2018 SILVER BUSINESS MEMBERS

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NEMAHA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Nemaha County Historical Society

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We are on the Web at:
www.nemahacountyhistoricalsociety.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED