

PIONEER PRESS

Vol. 37-Issue # 1

June 2019

Save the Date—June 8, 2019 — Seneca Day at the Museums

10 am to 3 pm

Come check out our museums during Seneca Day at the Museums

- Seneca Jail and Residence
- Annex II: Farm, Railroad, Hospital, CCC Exhibits
- Military Temple of Honor
- Seneca Hand Dug Well—City Park
- * Serving Ice Cream Floats at Sheriff’s Residence

Free Will Donation

Quarterly Meeting Highlights

The Nemaha County Historical Society Board of Directors held their May 2019 Quarterly Meeting on May 14.

The board was recently notified that the society did not receive a Heritage Trust Fund grant this year. Even though the society can re-apply, the need for a controlled environment is now. Without the ability to control the temperature in the Military Temple of Honor, access to the museum is limited to times when it isn’t too hot or too cold in the building. This not only affects the ability of volunteers to develop displays but also the ability to have the Military Temple of Honor open for visitors. Since we would like to have our museums open year round, we are seeking ways to fund the purchase of heating and air conditioning for the Military Temple of Honor.

Military Temple of Honor—Go Fund Me Campaign

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.

Go to

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

To help us preserve the military history of Nemaha County.

Golf Tournament a Success
Thank you For Your Support!
Join Us Next Year: April 25, 2020

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2019 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	Jerry Claas

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

Oil Lamp Collection



Mark Freel recently donated about 30 boxes of oil lamps to the historical society museum. These lamps were collected by his brother. They are currently on display in Annex I of the museum.

Amazon Smile

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

Garage Sale

May 30 (3-6 pm) * May 31 (8am-6pm) * June 1 (8 am-1pm)

Community Day at the Museums — June 8, 2019

Tractor Cruise — July 27, 2019

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

Donation — Photo of The Pleasure Club



The Pleasure Club.

On Saturday afternoon from three to five o'clock the Pleasure Club tendered a reception at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Williams to a large number of their friends, who pronounced it an elegant affair, conducted with all the grace and dignity that those of maturer years and much experience in society could have summoned for such an occasion. The rooms were darkened and beautifully lighted, and potted plants artistically arranged added greatly to the attractiveness of the occasion. The refreshing repast was daintily served, and the music, laughter, decorations and flowers formed a most enchanting picture. Little Cora Ousler opened the door to guests and Edith Williams received the cards and announced their arrival to the reception committee, composed of Misses Clara Williams, Ella Pinckney and Helen Williams. The callers were then taken in charge by Miss Jessie Plummer, who ushered them into the dining room. Miss Ima Pinckney had them register and presented them souvenirs. Misses Maude Ford, Eliza Troughton, Jessie Snyder and Minnie Haggard proved skillful and charming attendants upon the tables, while little Rachel Williams managed the finger-bowl *a la française*.

Among the callers were Mrs. L. B. Wright, Mrs. C. E. Pinckney, Misses Cora Marquis, Eva Chapman, Beatie Larimer, Beatrice Fuller, Elletta French, Lotta French, Josie Eagan, Anna Klein, Ella Sperling, Isachi Firschenberger, Emma Smith, Josie Kibbis, Jessie Hunt, Elsie Wells, Minnie Wolford, Olive Johnson, Genevieve Sison, Carrie Humphrey, Alice Nichols, Minnie Stevenson, Nan Stevenson, Myra Stevenson, Julia Novinger, Dorothy Greenwood, Aida Thompson, Lottie Johnson, Alice Conwell, Alberta Seoville, Maude Wells, Lulu Spaulding, Grace Johnson, Zulu Thompson, Eva Collins, Mrs. W. E. Thompson, Miss Mary Conwell, Mrs. A. Snyder, Mrs. S. Conwell.

The Pleasure Club

One of the most delightful social happenings of the year, was the reception tendered by the Pleasure Club at the beautiful and comfortable home of Misses Clara and Helen Williams, last Saturday afternoon, March 1st. For this memorable occasion, by which the Pleasure Club makes its debut to the social whirl, the rooms were so tastefully prepared as to represent that haven of unalloyed bliss and light hearted delight which reigns supreme in the circle of the club. Pyramids of palms and banks of beautiful and rare flowers, whose rich perfumes made one forget all but the beautiful in nature, were exuberant in each room. The dainty and artistic decorations and bunting of flowers, ribbon and satin, were a rich yellow; the emblematic color of the club. The rooms were darkened and colored gas jets placed promiscuously about, which added a delightful charm to the occasion. It was a miniature fairyland, which could only be depicted in word paintings by such fertile minds as Jules Verne. Everywhere seemed to lurk enraptured ecstasy, and a soul inspiring enchantment appeared to capture the guests and suspend their familiarity with the guests and suspend their familiarity with the vicissitudes of life and bring them to a realization only of that which awakens and delights the esthetic faculty, and sweet strains of music, which came from each room, almost impressed one with the belief of being resigned to superhuman influences.

Miss Cora Ousler attended the door and admitted the guests. Edith Williams received the cards and announced the guests to the reception committee — Misses Clara Williams, Ella Pluckney and Helen Williams, who ushered them into the reception room. After a short sojourn in this department, Jessie Plummer escorted the guests to Club quarters, where the secretary pro term Ima Pluckney had them register and then presented them with ribbon souvenirs, from whence they were lead into the dining room, where a sumptuous repast of all the delicious viands and rare edibles of the season were served, a la course, in abundance by four members of the club: Misses Leslie Snyder, Maude Ford, Minnie Haggard and Ellen Troughton. When epicurean tastes were gratified, little Rachel Williams accompanied the guest to the finger bowl, filled with light rose water, and from there they were invited to the parlor, where they were charmingly entertained until departure. Forty of the young lady friends were entertained and they are profuse in their praises of the Pleasure Club.

The Pleasure Club is composed of nine charming young ladies who will surely cut a wide swath in the social circles of this city.

Courier Tribune, Thursday, January 13, 1898

Local Appeal for Flood Relief

Ask the Red Cross to Double Quota

Mrs. C. E. Mathews Gets Wire for Another Hundred Dollars

Although the Nemaha County Red Cross responded almost immediately to the first call for Mississippi Valley flood relief and sent one hundred dollars asked, a later survey of the appalling disaster has induced Herbert Hoover and the Red Cross to send a second appeal asking all communities to double their original quotas.

The executive committee of the Seneca Chamber of Commerce held a meeting Tuesday noon and agreed to lend a hand in furthering the good cause. Seneca will endeavor to raise its share of the Nemaha county fund next Monday night when a benefit picture show will be given at the Royal Theatre. R. E. Karnes, the manager, has agreed to give the entire proceeds to the flood sufferers' fund. The admission will be 10 and 25 c but those who attend may pay as much for the tickets as they like. All organizations are asked to cooperate, Legion, Auxiliary, lodges, churches and social clubs in keeping Monday night an open date.

Other Nemaha county towns are requested to aid Seneca in raising the money. Contributions may be made to L. D. Allen, Seneca State Savings Bank. Mr. Allen was former treasurer of the Red Cross and the bank said it would be glad to turn the funds to Mrs. C. E. Mathews who in turn will remit to flood relief headquarters.

Local Appeal for Flood Relief. The Courier-Tribune (Seneca, Kansas) 5 May, 1927, p. 1



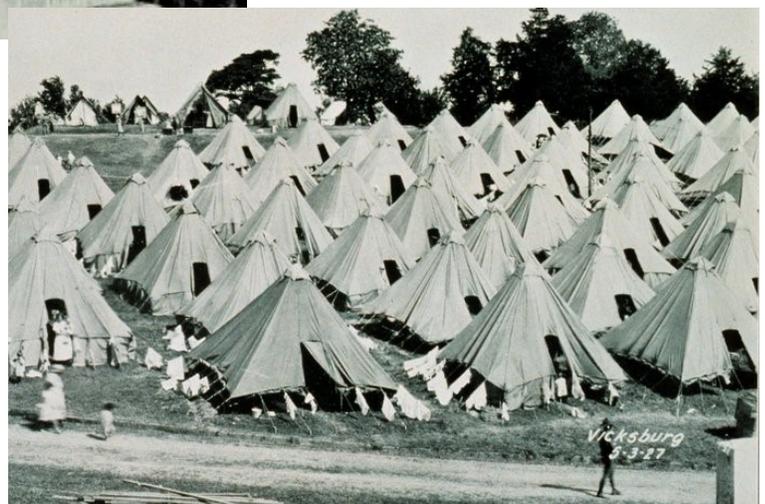
1927 Flood—Cape Girardeau (Wikipedia)



1927 Mississippi Flood—Cairo, IL Highway (Wikimedia)



1927 Flood Rescue—Arkansas (National Weather Service)



1927 Flood—Refugee Camp at Vicksburg, MI (Public Domain Files)

Help Us Continue to Archive Our History — Join — Donate — Volunteer

Military Notes

Last 1917 Contingent Leaves

Tuesday night at 12:01 the last contingent of 1917 registrants left for Fort Riley and Camp Funston to receive military training. Although it was midnight there were nearly as many relatives and friends at the depot as on similar occasions in the daytime. Uncle Jim Countryman and the G.A.R. flag accompanied the boys to the depot. Mr. Countryman has missed just one soldier departure and then he was too sick to walk. The discontinuance of the day motor between Lincoln and Manhattan made it necessary for the boys to go Monday night in order to reach their cantonments on Tuesday. At nine o'clock farewell exercises were held at the City Hall. Speeches were made by Chas. H. Herold, A. J. Morton and Judge W. H. Higgins. Judge Higgins explained the government insurance and allotments. Miss Margaret Worland sang. Two of the sixteen comprising the last contingent, holding the lowest order number, viz: John Weber of Seneca and Roy P. Armstrong of Centralia were sent to Camp Funston to take the places of Ewart Kemplay and John Cosgrove who were recently rejected. Those going to Fort Riley were Ernest J. McClain, Albert Strahm and John L. Palmer of Sabetha, Henry Gockel of Baileyville, Frank B. Wilhelm of Kelly, Guy D. Blood of Goff, Wm J. Greene and David N. Crosswhite of Centralia, Albert W. Mathewson, Walter O. Schneider and Henry J. Osterhaus of Seneca, Wallace W. Heald of Wetmore, David Wilson of Corning and Roy Anderson of Bern.

"Last 1917 Contingent Leaves," Courier Democrat (Seneca, Kansas) Thursday, August 8th, 1918. page 2.

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Soldiers Discharged from Camp Funston

Monday Morning, John Burdick, Joseph A. Kramer, Joseph Kramer of Seneca Route No. 1, Jacob Kramer and Fred Henry arrived home from Camp Funston having received their honorable discharge from the 164th Depot Brigade. Sergeant Joseph Spellman returned Saturday night having been previously discharged.

G.A.R. Elects New Officers

At the regular meeting, December 7, 1918, of George Graham Post No. 92, Department of Kansas, G.A.R. the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz: Thomas N. Riley, Post Commander, George F. Roots, Senior Vice Commander; Granderson W. Johnson, Junior Vice Commander; John W. Larimer, Officer of the Day; James W. Countryman, Officer of the Guard.

The installation will probably be held at the next regular meeting, the first Monday in Jan-

(Courier Democrat (Seneca, Kansas) Dec 12, 1918. page 1.

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Seneca

Seneca, the county seat of Nemaha county, Kansas, is beautifully located on the left bank of the Nemaha river, within a few miles of the geographical centre of the county, and 77 miles west of St. Joseph, Mo., on the line of the St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad, and has a population of about 1200 inhabitants.

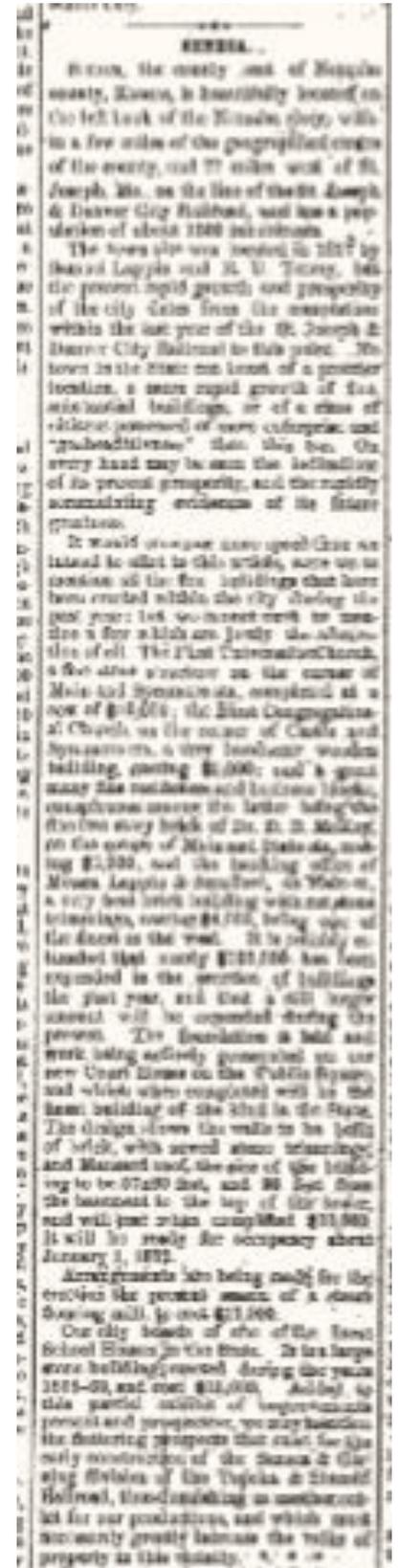
The town site was located in 1857 by Samuel Lappin and R U Torrey, but the present rapid growth and prosperity of the city dates from the completion within the last year of the St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad to this point. No town in the State can boast of a prettier location, a more rapid growth of fine, substantial buildings, or of a class of citizens possessed of more enterprise and 'goaheaditiveness" than this can. On every hand may be seen the indications of its present prosperity, and the rapidly accumulating evidences of its future greatness.

It would consume more space than we intend to allot to this article, were we to mention all the fine buildings that have been erected within the city during the past year; but we cannot omit to mention a few which are justly the admiration of all. The First Universalist church, a fine stone structure on the corner of Main and Sycamore Sts., completed at a cost of 410,000; the First Congregational Church, on the corner of Castle and Sycamore sts., a very handsome wooden building, costing \$5,000; and a great many fine residences and business blocks, conspicuous among the later being the fine two story brick of Dr. D. B. McKay, on the corner of Main and State Sts, costing \$5,000, and the banking office of Messrs. Lappin & Scrafford, on Main St., a very neat brick building with cut stone trimmings, costing \$4,000, being one of the finest in the west. It is reliably estimated that nearly \$125,000 has been expended in the erection of buildings the pat year, and that a still larger amount will be expended during the present. The foundation is laid and work being actively prosecuted on our new Court House on the Public Square, and which when completed will be the finest building of the kind in the State. The design shows the walls to be built f brick, with sawed stone trimmings, of brick, with sawed stone trimmings and Mansard roof, the size of the building to be 57x80 feet, and 96 feet from the basement to the top of the tower, and will cost when completed \$80,000. It will be ready for occupancy about January 1, 1872.

Arrangements are being made for the erection the present season of a steam flouring mill, to cost \$15,000.

Our city boasts of one of the finest School Houses in the State. It is a large stone building erected during the years 1868-69, and cost \$15,000. Added to this partial exhibit of improvements present and prospective, we may mention the flattering prospects that exist for the early construction of the Seneca & Corning division of the Topeka & Lincoln Railroad, thus furnishing us another outlet for our productions, and which must necessarily greatly increase the value of property in this vicinity.

"Seneca," Seneca Weekly Courier (Seneca, Kansas) June 2, 1871, page 1.



2019 Nemaha County Historical Society Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

_____ Individual Membership (newsletter sent by e-mail)	\$20.00/yr	\$ _____
_____ Individual Membership (newsletter sent by mail)	\$25.00/yr	\$ _____
_____ Business Membership	\$35.00	\$ _____
_____ Silver Sponsor	\$50 to \$99.00	\$ _____
_____ Gold Sponsor	\$100.00	\$ _____

Contribution:

Preservation Fund	\$ _____
Building Fund	\$ _____
Military Museum Projects	\$ _____
Memorial In memory of _____	\$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Nemaha County Historical Society is a 501C3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Nemaha County Historical Society, Inc.
113 North 6th, PO Box 41
Seneca, Kansas 66538

2018 PLATINUM BUSINESS MEMBERS

Crestview Country Club
Firekeeper Golf Course

Ohlsen Right of Way
William C. O'Keefe Law Offices

2019 GOLD BUSINESS MEMBERS

Ackerman Lock & Key
Ag Partners
AHRS
Cornerstone Coffee Haus
Courier Tribune
Durland Auto Parts
Eisenbarth Plumbing
Farm Bureau Insurance
First Heritage Bank
Heirtage Real Estate
Holthaus Family
Koch and Company

Lauer-Love Funeral Home
Life Care Center of Seneca
Medical Arts Pharmacy
Midwest Crop Insurance
Nemaha Valley Community Hospital
Nemaha Valley Motors
Rainbow Communications
Ray's Apple Market
S&S Automotive
SBS Insurance
Seneca American Legion
Seneca Sanitation

Seneca Wholesale
State Bank of Bern
State Farm Insurance
Sure Crop Fertilizers
Suther Building Supply
United Bank and Trust

List Your Business Here

Join Today

2019 SILVER BUSINESS MEMBERS

Benskin Motors
Country Place Senior Living
Elk State Bank
Garrett's Country Mart

Heartland Chiropractic
Mitchell Appliance / Radio Shack
Netawaka Fitness Center
Schmitz Deli & Liquor
Stallbaumer Lumber

The Market Greenhouse and Garage
Young Backhoe & Trenching

Nemaha County Historical Society

113 North Sixth Street
P.O. BOX 41
Seneca, KS. 66538

Museum Phone: 785-336-6366
E-Mail: nchs@rainbowtel.net

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED