

OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2012

Guess Who is Coming to the Olathe Historical Society?

Calendar

January 19, 2012

General Meeting

Program: Bill Nicks as Octave

Chanute

Heritage Center

7:30 p.m.

February 13, 2012

Board Meeting

Heritage Center

7:00 p.m.

Here are your clues:

- Born in Paris in 1832
- Self-trained engineer
- Designed the Kansas City and Chicago stockyards
- Platted the town of Lenexa, Kansas, in 1869
- Designed and built the Hannibal Bridge over the Missouri River in 1869, establishing Kansas City as the dominant city in the region
- Retired in 1890 and began a new career in aviation designing and building gliders
- Served as a mentor to Wilbur and Orville Wright

The correct answer is...Octave Chanute!

Join us January 19, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center for a presentation by Bill Nicks, aka Octave Chanute. Since 1996, Nicks has been a variety of "characters", including Wilbur Wright, Dr. James Naismith, and Dwight Eisenhower. He also leads historic bus tours in the metropolitan area. You can find out more about Nicks at <http://www.historykc.com>.

Thank-you to everyone who helped with the Holiday Homes Tour on December 3, 2011. In spite of the drippy weather, everyone enjoyed visiting and learning about the homes and the Kansas School for the Deaf. We couldn't have done it without the support of the house coordinators, volunteer guides, and of course, the gracious homeowners who welcomed us into their homes.



Olathe Film Series Off and Running!

The film series, "Olathe—The City Beautiful" has received a lot of local interest. Greg Sheffer, film director, approached the Olathe Historical Society about six years ago with the idea to create a film series to be shown in schools and made available to the community that told the story of people, places, and events that shaped the history of Olathe. Twenty topics were chosen for the film series.

From the beginning, one of the major supporters for this project has been Maron Moore. She first chose to sponsor the film "The Bricklayer" because she witnessed the event personally in 1925. She also sponsored the film about the Mahaffies ("A Place Called Home") and the film about Marshall Ensor ("Renaissance Man").

In October 2011, three of the films that have been shown on the city's public TV channel were nominated for and won regional Mid-America Emmy Awards for director, cinematography, and historical documentary. Maron Moore has chosen to sponsor the remaining films in the series. Volume One of the series is available at the Heritage Center, the Ensor Farm and Museum, and the Deaf Cultural Center. It is also available online at <http://www.olathehistoricalsociety.org>. Volume Two is under way with topics including the Kansas School for the Deaf, J.C. Nichols' childhood in Olathe, and Arts and Entertainment in Olathe.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact Maureen Donegan at modoneg@hotmail.com.

OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD MEETING

HERITAGE CENTER

December 12, 2011

ATTENDING: Bob Courtney, Maureen Donegan, Margaret Endecott, Lisa Karstetter, Jane Jones, Vicki Holdman

MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 10, 2011 Board Meeting were read and approved.

FINANCIAL

Treasurer's report was read and approved. Membership dues renew March 1 of each year. Membership forms are available at the Heritage Center.

CORRESPONDENCE

A **Thank You** note was received from **Emily Baker** of the Olathe Public Library for the gift of the DVD, "Olathe, the City Beautiful" to add to the resources in the Kansas Room.

OLD BUSINESS

Items for donation to the Olathe Historical Society may be left in the Research Room at the Heritage Center. Index cards on the table need to include the name, address and phone number of the giver.

Lisa Karstetter reported that the Cannon Copier is under a service contract for annual maintenance and immediate service if needed.

HOUSE TOUR – DECEMBER 3RD, 2011

Thank You to each one who served in any capacity for our Bi-annual Homes Tour! The homes were **BEAUTIFUL** as well as each host and hostess. Each of you made this day a success!

Following are the list of homes on the tour for this year. Thank you to each homeowner for your willingness to share your home and its beauty and unique characteristics with our community.

- 104 East Elm the Schnetzer Home
- 515 South Chestnut the Vaughan Home
- 509 South Chestnut the Nance Home
- 540 East Loula the Potter Home

- 450 East Park School for the Deaf Administration Building and
- 455 East Park the Deaf Community Center

A motion was made and approved to frame copies of the artwork from the Homes Tour for each homeowner.

Plaques for each homeowner have been ordered and will be presented at the general bi-monthly meeting.

Two potential homes have been volunteered for the 2013 Homes Tour. Make plans now to attend. The first Saturday of December is the date to set aside.

"OLATHE – THE CITY BEAUTIFUL" FILM SERIES

A donation has been made to the Olathe Historical Society for the funding of the film series. More information will follow at a later date.

Lisa Karstetter has volunteered to maintain a spread sheet of the inventory for the film series and other merchandise available from the Olathe Historical Society.

All Olathe Public Schools, along with Cedar Lake Village, Hoeger House, Ensor Museum, Deaf Cultural Center and others have or will receive copies of the DVD for their libraries as a donation from the Olathe Historical Society.

OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY – WEBSITE

Please note the change in address for our website: www.OlatheHistoricalSociety.org.

We invite you to visit the site and learn how to purchase our "OLATHE-THE CITY BEAUTIFUL" DVD.

Discussion on adding merchandise available for online purchasing including the book written by George Bauer, "TRAILS, RAILS, AND TALES", which was published by the Olathe Historical Society along with the Kansas City Star.

Homes Tour **MUGS** from our current and past homes tours, maps and other items.

These items will be made available as soon as preparations are made for packaging and other needed information is acquired.

JOHNSON COUNTY HERITAGE TRUST FUND GRANT – “I’VE PAID THE BILL”, “QUANTRILL’S RAID ON OLATHE”, “SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF” AND “WALNUT GROVE ONE ROOM SCHOOL”

Bob Courtney and Maureen Donegan attended several meetings and gave much information to boards granting funds for the above mentioned films, kiosks, preservation of documents and restoration of buildings to further the work of saving and giving information on the history of our city. Funds have been received and progress is under way!

PROMOTIONAL BUDGETING

Business cards to be distributed at presentations of the films at various venues have been suggested. These cards have been ordered and will be available soon.

Fliers to be placed in the Heritage Center for information pertaining to the Olathe Historical Society, meeting dates, times, website, and who to contact are being prepared and will be available soon.

NEW BOOK OPPORTUNITY - “IMAGES OF AMERICA – OLATHE”

The Olathe Historical Society has been asked to become involved with preparing pictures and written material for the future publishing of a book about Olathe. Many cities in our state currently have a book about their city and our hope is to complete the information necessary for Olathe.

The company publishing these books asks for at least 200 photos of each city and each must be identified as to location, building or people. The Historical Society has many photos in its possession but this is a time consuming job as research needs to be done. If you are interested in helping please contact Bob Courtney and 764-2494.

FAMOUS OLATHEAN CARDS

The picture of famous Olatheans of history, Events that have taken place in Olathe or Places of interest in Olathe are on one side and information of their fame is written on the back side. These can be made available to school children and at Olathe events. Susie Nightingale has volunteered to help with this project. Be watching for their debut!

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made and unanimously approved to **THANK** Keith Johnson of **JOHNSON’S COUNTY GAZETTE** for his generous support and advertising in his paper for the benefit of the Olathe Historical Society.

It has been decided to **move the March meeting** from the week of Spring Break from the schools to the 2nd Thursday of March which would be **MARCH 8TH,2011.**

NEXT GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2011 7:30 PM HERITAGE CENTER

Bill Nicks will give a portrayal of **OCTAVE CHANUTE** and how this man contributed to Olathe’s history. This is sure to be an informative and enjoyable meeting!

NEXT BOARD MEETING – HERITAGE CENTER – FEBRUARY 13, 7:00 PM

ADJOURNED



Maron Moore with the 3 Emmy’s earned by Greg Sheffer for the “Olathe..The City Beautiful” film series

Olathe Historical Society

Officers and Board Members

Officers

President	Bob Courtney (11-13)	764-2494
1 st Vice President	Lisa Karstetter (10-12)	783-4626
2 nd Vice President	Jayne Jones (11-13)	764-8039
Secretary	Margaret Endecott (10-12)	782-0269
Treasurer	Vicki Holdman (10-12)	764-5076
Historian	Anne Seitz	768-6954

Board of Directors

Mary Cochran (11-13)	829-5078	Susie Nightingale (10-12)	785-760-1274
Maureen Donegan (11-13)	782-0960	Ann Johnson (11-13)	829-2299
Maron Moore (11-13)	764-1824		

Olathe Historical Society
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