



OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2015

Calendar

January 7, 8, 2015

Acquisition Committee Meeting
Volunteers welcome to help evaluate
significance of new acquisitions.
This is a fun way to get involved!
Heritage Center
10 a.m.

January 15, 2015

Premiere showing of
Olathe Naval Air Station
Olathe Community Center
7 p.m.

February 19, 2015

Board Meeting
5:30 p.m.
Heritage Center

March 12, 2015

General Meeting – Annual Elections
7:00 p.m.
Heritage Center

April 16, 2015

Board Meeting
5:30 p.m.
Heritage Center

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact the Olathe Historical Society at olathehistoricalsociety@gmail.com If receiving the newsletter by email, be sure to set your inbox settings to recognize this email as not being junk mail. Newsletters and meeting announcements can also be found on the Olathe Historical Society website at <http://www.olathehistoricalsociety.org>

Olathe Naval Air Station Premiere Olathe: The City Beautiful Film Series

Please join us for the premiere showing of the latest film in the Olathe: The City Beautiful film series. Produced by Emmy-award winning Greg Sheffer, the film tells the story of the Olathe Naval Air Station. Included in the film is an interview with former astronaut and U.S. Senator John Glenn who trained at the Olathe Naval Air Station.

Please note the change in start time and location for the premiere.

The program will be held at the new Olathe Community Center in conference room B on Thursday, January 15th. The start time will be 7 p.m.



Newsletter Mailing Update

Beginning with the May issue of the Olathe Historical Society newsletter, newsletters will only be mailed through the post office to dues-paying members of the historical society. March 1st is the renewal date for dues each year and your bargain rate of \$10 per year helps to offset the rising costs of mailing the newsletter. If you prefer, you can change your subscription to email by contacting us at olathehistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Newsletters will continue to be posted on the OHS website at <http://www.olathehistoricalsociety.org>.

**OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2014**

Bob Courtney, Lisa Karstetter, Maureen Donegan, Jayne Jones, Ann Johnson, Anne Seitz, Mary Cochran, Karen Sutton, Vicki Holdman, Mary Jo O'Brien, Margaret Endecott

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 13, 2014 meeting were read and approved.

NOTE:

Minutes of today's meeting are not yet approved. If corrections are needed they will appear in the following bi-monthly newsletter.

FINANCIAL

Treasurer's report was given and accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Melissa DeBoer, a student at Kansas University, contacted Bob for information about the old Olathe Post Office in the 100 Block of South Cherry Street. Through his research and help from Mary Cochran, they discovered additions had been made to the original building and other information that was useful to her.

The Olathe Reading Circle invited Bob to show the Olathe Historical Society Film on the Kansas School for the Deaf at their recent meeting. They graciously gave a monetary donation to the Historical Society.

John Zimmerlee was in possession of many photos of John Wayne and contacted Bob about what or where they might be donated. Bob directed him to John Wayne's home town of Winterset, Iowa and their historical society.

Roger Messersmith sent Bob and Lila a lovely Christmas card that included his artwork. Roger will be the artist for the mugs for the 2015 Olathe Historical Homes Tour.

Chris Montgomery of Lewistown, Michigan was selling a Hyer Boot Company tape measure with instructions for measuring your foot for a "Hyer Boot". Bob was able to purchase the item on E-bay for under \$10.00. We all get excited about the finds "out there" that we are able to add to our collections.

A lady from Utah contacted Bob about a small Dresden china dish with a picture of the Park Cherry Building and made for the Ott Company, Olathe, Kansas. They currently had it in their possession and wondered if the Historical Society might be interested in acquiring it. Bob was able to purchase it at a small cost to add to our collections.

An invitation and notice was received concerning the Gardner Historical Homes Tour held Saturday, December 7th. Bob and Lila Courtney attended as well as members of the Board, and all felt it was a success.

Bill Asher, amateur historian, from the state of Washington contacted Bob for information concerning a woman named Clinta Campbell who was with the "Waves" during World War II and was killed in a plane crash at the Olathe Naval Air Station in 1944. If you have any information please contact Bob (913) 764-2494.

A member of the Mettus family contacted Bob wanting to donate a framed photograph previously in the possession of Oscar Smith of Olathe. The photo was taken at the Commissioning Ceremonies for the Olathe Naval Air Station on October 1, 1942.

Our President Bob Courtney says "You never know who you might be talking to when the phone rings at my house!!!"

Maureen Donegan recently had an inquiry from Jake Rink, who will be a part of a Kansas bagpipe band, looking for Scottish heritage in the original settlers in Olathe. Maureen found that the ancestors of Josiah Hayes, one of Olathe's early citizens, had come from Scotland.

OLD BUSINESS

FILM SERIES

VOLUME 4: Old Settlers, Mid-America Nazarene University, Civil Rights, Early Olathe Churches
It is hoped that Volume 4 will be available for sale soon.

VOLUME 5: Olathe Naval Air Station
The debut of this volume is planned for January 2015!
Volumes 1, 2 and 3 are currently available at the Heritage Center and Feeney's Hallmark and Volume 3 is also available at the Deaf Cultural Center. Also visit <http://www.olathehistoricalsociety.org> to place an order for all of the volumes.

2015 HISTORIC HOMES TOUR will have 5 homes on the tour December 5, 2015

Karen Sutton and Jayne Jones have volunteered to help Bob and Lila Courtney coordinate the 2015 Historical Homes Tour.

2015 is the 150th Anniversary of the Mahaffie House which will also be open during the Olathe Historic Homes Tour.

Thank you to Michelle Staley who served as the “appraiser” for our “Trash and Treasure” meeting in November. She did a great job and our hope is she will return. As well as being an appraiser, she has a booth at “My Granny’s Attic Antiques”.

Bruce Rogers who is the publisher of “Discovery Publications, Inc.” a newspaper/magazine about antiques and area stores was also in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

A new display will be in the display cases in the near future. Currently on display are many pictures and artifacts from the Olathe Naval Air Station, including an 8 foot long propeller.

A grant has recently been approved by the Heritage Trust Fund of Johnson County for the making of the film, “Railroads in Olathe”.

The Acquisition Committee will meet at 10:00am on Wednesday, January 7th, 2015, and if necessary again on Thursday, January 8th, 2015.

A photo of the Commissioning Ceremonies for the Olathe Naval Air Station on October 1, 1942 has recently been acquired from the late Oscar Smith possessions.

March of 2015 will be yearly elections: The following will be voted upon in the coming year.

Bob Courtney – President

Jayne Jones – 2nd Vice President

Vicki Holdman – Treasurer

Board Members: Mary Cochran, Maureen Donegan and Maron Moore

Margaret Endecott and Karen Sutton will coordinate for a program for our May meeting.

We plan to have a new film to show at the July meeting.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

The next general meeting will be Thursday, January 15th, 2015 and the debut of the film OLATHE NAVAL AIR STATION. We will meet at 7:00pm...please note the earlier starting time.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Thursday, February 19, 2015, 5:30pm at the Heritage Center.

ADJOURNED

Join the Olathe Historical Society

Contact Information

Name	
Street Address	
City, ST Zip Code	
Phone	
E-Mail Address	

Dues

March 1st is the renewal date for Olathe Historical Society Dues. Individual dues are \$10/year, Sustaining Membership is \$25/year, and Lifetime Membership is \$100. Dues can be mailed to the Olathe Historical Society or brought with you to our next general meeting.

Please mail this application and your enrollment check to:

Olathe Historical Society
1200 Kansas City Road
Olathe, KS 66061

Thank you for joining the Olathe Historical Society! For more information, please visit our website at www.olathehistoricalsociety.org.

Olathe Historical Society

Officers and Board Members

Officers

President	Bob Courtney (13-15)	764-2494
1 st Vice President	Lisa Karstetter (14-16)	783-4626
2 nd Vice President	Jayne Jones (13-15)	764-8039
Secretary	Margaret Endecott (14-16)	782-0269
Treasurer	Vicki Holdman (13-15)	764-5076
Historian	Anne Seitz	768-6954

Board of Directors

Mary Cochran (13-15)	829-5078	Karen Sutton (14-16)	
Maureen Donegan (13-15)	782-0960	Ann Johnson (14-16)	829-2299
Maron Moore (13-15)	764-1824	Mary Jo O'Brien (14-16)	782-4270

Olathe Historical Society

1200 Kansas City Road

Olathe, KS 66061