

# OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

May 2014

## Calendar

May 8, 2014

**General Meeting**

**Tour of the new Mahaffie barn**

**7:30 p.m.**

June 6, 2014

**Sunflower Wickets**

**Mahaffie Fundraiser**

**1 p.m.**

**Contact Leah Major or Tim Talbott at**

**913.971.5111 for more information or**

**to register**

June 9, 2014

**Board Meeting**

**Heritage Center**

**7:00 p.m.**

July 17, 2014

**General Meeting**

**Olathe: The City Beautiful**

**Film Series**

**Heritage Center**

**7:30 p.m.**

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact Maureen Donegan at [modoneg@hotmail.com](mailto:modoneg@hotmail.com). If receiving the newsletter by email, be sure to set your inbox settings to recognize my 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>



Join us for a tour of the new Mahaffie Barn on May 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Please meet in the parking lot in front of the Mahaffie Farmstead instead of the parking lot at the Heritage Center. Wear comfortable shoes!

The new barn was made possible with a generous donation from long-time benefactor, Maron Moore of Olathe, KS. The focus of the new barn will be to provide better housing for the Mahaffie livestock and to connect visitors to the living history and agricultural programs of the site. Visitors can engage more easily with the animals, have an opportunity for year-round learning programs, and will be able to view the 1860s farm equipment and horse-drawn vehicles housed at Mahaffie.

Please join us for a fun and educational evening!

## We Need You!!

The Olathe Historical Society and the Olathe Historic Preservation Board are looking for people just like you who are interested in preserving the history of Olathe! Many volunteer opportunities exist including:

- Processing and donations of photographs and artifacts (OHS)
- Helping with the Historic Homes Tour (OHS)
- Assisting with newsletters and website (OHS)
- Updating the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory with current information on Olathe structures (OHPB)

If you are interested in helping with any of these activities contact Bob Courtney or Maureen Donegan.

## OOPS!

The most updated mailing label list for the OHS was lost when a flash drive stopped working. I have reconstructed the list from other records, but I might have missed some new members or reverted to an older address that was previously updated. Please contact Maureen Donegan with any corrections. Thanks!

OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING  
MAHAFFIE HERITAGE CENTER  
APRIL 14, 2014

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 10, 2013 meeting were approved as read.

The minutes of the March 13, 2014 Annual Meeting were approved as corrected.

CORRECTION TO THE MARCH 13, 2014 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING:

Mary Ann Brooks of Platte City, Missouri will be with us at our November Pot Luck meeting. She will look at our treasures and give us an approximate value.

Jayne Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President read the slate of officers.

Ann Johnson was elected to the board for another 2 year term.

NOTE:

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

FINANCIAL

No report given.

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you note from the Friends of the Library for the donation of 3 Volumes of the Olathe Beautiful film series to be given as door prizes at the "Novel" tea.

A thank you note from the Olathe Chamber of Commerce for the renewal of membership of the Olathe Historical Society.

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

President Bob Courtney was recently shown a book on the Olathe Naval Air Station which he then requested and was given permission to copy. Thank you so much for your time and hard work, Bob.

Bob received a textile donation from Carol Dunn of children's clothing handmade from the 1870's. This outfit along with leather shoes was worn by Robert Bartlett. The handmade items were featured in a window display during an Old Settlers celebration in downtown Olathe and the window won an award in 1979.

Governor John Anderson is featured in the recent Good Samaritan Lutheran Society newsletter.

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 11 a.m. in the morning will be a dedication of the 6 Governors plaques to their new location to the Santa Fe Street fountains between Chestnut and Water Streets.

OLD BUSINESS:

FILM SERIES

A portion of Volume 4, including films on Old Settlers, Mid-America Nazarene University, Urban Renewal, and Early Olathe Churches will be shown at the July meeting in the Heritage Center. It is hoped that Volume 4 will be available for sale at Old Settlers this year.

The debut of this Volume 5 on the Olathe Naval Air Station is planned for January 2015!

A new script writer, Phil White, will work on the film "Civil Rights in Olathe". It will be part of Volume 6 in the series.

Ben Paynter worked on many of our previous film series volumes but has moved from the area and recently has an article in the PRESERVATION magazine.

Volumes 1, 2 and 3 are currently available at the Heritage Center and Feeney's Hallmark. Volume 3 is also available at the Deaf Cultural Center. You can also visit [olathehistoricalsociety.org](http://olathehistoricalsociety.org) to place an order.

LIBRARY TEA REPORT:

Karen Sutton thanked each one for their input and help with the table decorations for the "Novel" tea celebration. It was a wonderful event to raise money for the Olathe Public Library and its many programs.

The Covered Wagon logo used on the table by Ann Johnson will be sent to Maureen Donegan for use in our newsletter.

SUNFLOWER WICKETS:

Sunflower Wickets is becoming an annual event sponsored by the Mahaffie House Foundation for the benefit of improvements at the Mahaffie House and Farmstead site.

The event will take place on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 1 p.m. in the afternoon, across the street from the Mahaffie House at the Olathe Community Center park.

As sponsors of the tournament, the Olathe Historical Society will be represented by 4 teams of 2 including Bob and Lila Courtney, Jayne Jones and Maureen Donegan, Ann Johnson and Karen Sutton, and a team TBD.

This event is for the entire community to enjoy! It is played by the Old Croquet Rules and is followed by an awards ceremony. Come and enjoy the day!!!!

#### OLD SETTLERS:

September 4, 5, and 6 are the dates for Old Settlers this year. The OHS will again have a booth where information and the DVDs of the Olathe film series are available. The booth will be shared with the Olathe Alumni Association.

The theme for this year's celebration is "UNDER THE BIG TOP".

#### DISPLAY CASE:

The display case in the Olathe Historical Society Room at the Heritage Center will soon have a new exhibit of photos and artifacts from the OLATHE NAVAL AIR STATION. An 8 foot long propeller from a plane that might have been used during this period along with memorabilia of interest used during the time Olathe Naval Air Station was in operation in Olathe and the impact it made on our city can be viewed.

Item of Interest: Clarence Admire was the last person to retire from ONAS.

#### HISTORY BOOK OF THE OLATHE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

The Olathe Alumni Association has determined through its research that the work and expense to produce a book would not be feasible at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Several homes have shared a desire to be on the 2015 Bi-Annual Historical Homes Tour sponsored by the Olathe Historical Society. Be watching for the location of each one.

*Below: OHS table decorations at the NovelTea*



Karen Sutton, Board Member, and others have volunteered to learn the ins and outs of the information needed to carry on the Homes Tour as the leadership changes during the years.

Bob and Lila Courtney recently attended a leadership workshop and learned that we need to have people in place to take care of our position if and when the need arises.

#### PROGRAM IDEAS:

Bill Nicks portrays several people of interest: Wilbur Wright, Dr. James Naismith, Dwight Eisenhower, Octave Chanute.

It is hoped we can invite him to one of our meetings in the next few months to share his information on one of his characters with us.

Ken Roberts gives a "Then and Now" presentation!

The next general meeting will be May 8, 2014 at 7:30pm. We will tour the new Mahaffie Barn and will meet in the parking lot in front of the Mahaffie House. Please dress for walking.

The new barn, a gift from Maron Moore, is going to be user friendly to children, adults and animals housed there. Many programs will be developed for it's use.

Please join us for a fun and educational evening.

#### NEXT BOARD MEETING:

June 9, 2014, 7 p.m. at the Heritage Center.

## Olathe Historical Society

### Officers and Board Members

#### Officers

President	Bob Courtney (13-15)	764-2494
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Lisa Karstetter (14-16)	783-4626
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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**