



OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2014

Calendar

September 4, 5, 6, 2014

Old Settlers Days

Be sure to stop by the OHS booth!
Olathe: The City Beautiful videos will be available for purchase.

September 7, 2014

Noon – 4 p.m.

Grandparents Day at Mahaffie

Grandparents receive free admission with an accompanying paid grandchild admission.

September 18, 2014

General Meeting

7:30 p.m.

Heritage Center

Program: The Legacy of R.A. Long

September 27 & 28, 2014

Wild West Days at Mahaffie

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the 27th

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the 28th

October 13, 2014

Board Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Heritage Center

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact Maureen Donegan at 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>

Long's Legacy



Join us on Thursday, September 18th, to view a video on lumber baron, developer, investor, and philanthropist, Robert Alexander Long. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center. The video comes courtesy of the R. A. Long Historical Society.

Long's legacy includes several buildings in the Kansas City metropolitan area that are now on the National Register of Historic Places: Corinthian

Hall (now home of the Kansas City Museum), the R.A. Long Building (the first all-steel framed building in Kansas City), and Longview Farm. Long was instrumental in the raising of funds to build the Liberty Memorial and in the trend to replant forests that had been cut down for timber. He was influenced by J.C. Nichols in the development of his planned community of Longview, WA. Long privately funded many of the buildings in Longview, including the R.A. Long High School and the Monticello Hotel, recently featured on an episode of Gordon Ramsay's *Hotel Hell*.



Volunteers Needed!!

We are needing a few volunteers to fill in two hour shifts during the days of Old Settlers, Sept 4, 5 and 6

Thursday: Anytime from 12pm-6pm

Friday: Anytime from 11am-3pm

Saturday: Anytime 12:30pm-6:30pm

Share information about the Historical Society and sell DVDs and books. We are in the same booth with the Olathe Alumni Assn.

Call Margaret Endecott if you can help at (913) 626-4104 or text or email mendecott1@sbcglobal.net.

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.

OLD SETTLERS

Old Settlers is September 4, 5 and 6 this year. We will again combine our booth with the Olathe Alumni Association. Volumes 1, 2 and 3 will be available for sale and it is hoped that Volume 4 will be available as well.

Margaret Endecott is coordinating the Old Settlers work schedule of volunteers for this year. There are still several two hour slots available. If you can help out, please contact Margaret.

NEW BUSINESS:

TRICK OR TREAT OFF THE STREETS

The Olathe Historical Society will have a table again at this annual event at Mahaffie. More information on the date and time of this event will be announced later.

PICKERING HISTORY

Anne Seitz traveled to the Kansas state archives in Topeka to locate a history of the Pickering family put together by relatives of the Pickerings. The booklet, "The Story of a Clan" was written around 1938. A copy of the booklet is now in the OHS collection.

COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

The collections committee met on August 6th and 7th to examine items being considered for acquisition by the historical society. Many thanks to the following for assisting in the process: Margaret Endecott, Peg Nichols, Dan McFarland, Tressa Pitts, Bob Duncan, Karen Sutton, Mary Jo O'Brien, Ann Johnson, Max Beets, and Bob Courtney.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

The next general meeting will be September 19, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center.

Please join us for a fun and educational evening.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

October 13, 7 p.m. at the Heritage Center.

ADJOURNED

OLATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Board Meeting

Mahaffie Heritage Center

August 11, 2014

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting were read and approved.

FINANCIAL

Vicki Holdman presented the treasurer's report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Paul Naughton from Los Angeles is looking for information on his grandfather, Marvin "Jake" Hale, an artist in Olathe in the 1940s.

Mary Talbott sent a thank-you note for the gift card.

Jacob Wilson, an Olathe teacher, is writing a paper on bands in Olathe and is looking for primary source material.

Carla Keller of Tulsa, OK is looking for information on her mother, Mildred Marie Patrick, born in 1931, who attended Central Elementary in the 1930s. Bob was unable to find information on her in school graduation records.

Linda McCormick and Sharon Welburn have donated many items from the Waddell family, including Helen Gertrude Waddell's Olathe High School diploma from 1912 and a 1909 high school yearbook.

Bob Millbern donated a dedication pamphlet from the 1909 dedication of the DAR Lone Elm Marker.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Courtney delivered the Stanley High School yearbooks from the Kintigh family to the Blue Valley school district. The district has a classroom dedicated to the alumni called the "Marooner Room". Two of the yearbooks were ones they did not already have in their collection.

FILM SERIES

VOLUME 4 Old Settlers, Mid-America Nazarene University, Civil Rights, Early Olathe Churches
This volume is currently being close-captioned and will hopefully be ready for sale in December.

What's New from the Collections Committee

At the August meeting of the Collections Committee, the group processed items donated by Linda McCormick and Sharon Welburn related to the Waddell family. The items included clothing items, diplomas, yearbooks, and business ledgers from the Olathe Packing Company.

The 1900 Federal Census places Maggie and Henry Waddell in Olathe with their children Florence, Mae, Helen, and Max. Henry Waddell was born in Ohio in 1864 and Maggie was born in Iowa. Waddell's occupation was a farmer.

The three girls were all born in Nebraska, so it's likely that the Waddell's moved to Olathe around 1899 since one-year-old Max was born in Kansas. The 1910 Census adds a second son, Ron, to the mix, born around 1902. In 1910, both Florence and Mae are listed as public school teachers.

Helen Gertrude Waddell married Ross Brown, a butcher and owner of the Olathe Packing Company. The packing company supplied meat to the Harvey House until the company went out of business during the Depression years of the 1930s. Helen and Ross had three children together and Ross remarried after Helen passed away in 1926.



Maggie and Henry J. Waddell in front of their first home in Olathe SE of town in what is now Havencroft. They married on March 13, 1889



Detail of embroidery on a voile dress embroidered by Mae Waddell while in school at Cooper College (now Sterling) 1912-1913



Baby dress worn by Helen Gertrude Waddell 1890s

History Mystery



These 4x5 Speed Graphic negatives are from the camera of Ski Woznisiak, a photographer for the Kansas City Star. The plates and negatives appear to be from the late 1800s-early 1900s. We are looking for someone that might have the expertise to review these items and determine if they have historical value for the Olathe Historical Society. If you can help, please contact historian Anne Seitz.

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 |

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