Kansas Historical Notes

The Wyandotte County Historical Society has been granted permission to establish a museum in Memorial Hall, Kansas City. The county commissioners recently appointed a five-member historical commission, headed by Mrs. Clyde Glandon, to study the history of the area, check historic sites and objects in Kansas City, and make recommendations for preserving and marking historic sites, and celebrating important events. Other members of the commission are: Alan Farley, Don D. Ballou, Ed Ellis, and the Rev. L. D. Boatman. Mrs. Glandon was re-elected president of the society at the annual meeting in Kansas City, November 10, 1955. Other officers chosen include: Harry Hanson, vice-president; Mrs. Harry Trowbridge, secretary; Julia Hawkins, treasurer; Harry Trowbridge, historian; and Farley, Ralph Clark, Mrs. Hazel Zeller, Clyde E. Glandon, Mrs. S. W. Bell, and Mrs. George B. Smith, Jr., trustees.

The Allen County Centennial Commission, created in 1954 to stage the county’s centennial celebration, became the Allen County Historical Society at a meeting of the commission in Iola, October 3, 1955. Directors elected at a meeting October 24, include: Mrs. Bess Baker, Stanley Harris, Mary Hankins, Angelo Scott, Mrs. R. H. Carpenter, Spencer Gard, W. C. Caldwell, Roy Cannon, and Mrs. Audrey McGrew. The directors met in Iola, November 29, and elected Scott, president; Mrs. McGrew, vice-president; Gard, secretary; and Miss Hankins, treasurer.

Three hundred old settlers of Kiowa county gathered at Greensburg, October 6, 1955, for their annual picnic. Officers re-elected at the business session were: H. P. Parkins, Greensburg, president; Bert Barnes, Mullinville, vice-president; Mrs. B. O. Weaver, Mullinville, secretary; and Mrs. L. U. Keller, Greensburg, treasurer.

Ceremonies were held in Osawatomie, October 6, 1955, dedicating a new shelter house in John Brown Memorial State Park to the pioneers of the community, and formally presenting it to the state. Nyle H. Miller, secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, was the guest speaker and accepted the shelter house for the state of Kansas. The building was erected with funds provided by descendants of pioneers of the Osawatomie community.

Raymond Tillotson was elected president of the Lane County Historical Society at a meeting in Dighton, October 10, 1955. Other officers chosen were: Mrs. Elmer Johnson, vice-president; Mrs. Arle
Boltz, secretary; Mrs. R. G. Mull, Sr., treasurer; and Frank Vycital, Walter Herndon, and Arle Boltz, directors. H. Preston Palmer of Scott City, was the featured speaker. Another meeting was held October 20 when Nyle H. Miller, secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, spoke to the group.

Organization of the Southwest Kansas Historical Society was completed at Dodge City, October 12, 1955. Officers elected were: Larry Yost, president; R. Roy Taylor, vice-president; Dr. Francis J. Manno, secretary-treasurer; and James A. Williams, Arthur Nevin, Victor Hull, and J. P. McCollum, directors.

Dedication ceremonies were held October 12, 1955, for a marker placed in Eureka at the site of old Fort Montgomery by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Lucretia Griswold Latimer chapter. Dr. Ross M. Taylor, University of Wichita, was the principal speaker.

Pawnee county pioneers of the 1870's and 1880's were guests of the Pawnee County Historical Society at the ninth annual reunion of the pioneers in Larned, October 20, 1955. Featured were histories of Garfield, Rozel, and Burdett, given by residents of these communities.

John Feller was re-elected president of the Leavenworth County Historical Society at a meeting in Leavenworth, October 20, 1955. Other officers chosen include: Mrs. May Alice Jones, first vice-president; Mrs. Walter Lambert, second vice-president; Lula Baum, secretary; Homer D. Cory, treasurer; and Bert Collard, D. R. Anthony, III, and Byron Schroeder, directors.

Recent activities at Fort Leavenworth include the completion of a study by the Fort Leavenworth historical committee, headed by Col. Louis Buttner, on the history of the Fort Leavenworth area and ways to bring the history to the attention of the public, and the Fort Leavenworth Historical Society's quarterly meeting, October 21. Papers on the history of the fort were given by Lt. Col. Henry S. Parker and Lt. Col. Edward W. McGregor. Col. Charles F. Russe is president of the society.

Nyle H. Miller, secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, was the speaker at a gathering sponsored by the Stevens County Historical Society and the Hugoton Woman's Club in Hugoton, October 21, 1955.

C. M. Cooper was elected president of the Crawford County Historical Society at a meeting in Pittsburg, October 26, 1955. Other
officers are: R. O. Carr, vice-president; Hugh Friel, secretary, and Mrs. Oscar Anderson, treasurer. Directors include: Grover Exley, Mrs. A. J. Jefferson, and Mrs. Cecil Gregg. Peter A. Kelly, Girard, the principal speaker, told of the Aerial Navigation Company which built airplanes and motors at Girard from 1908 to 1912.

B. H. Oesterreich, Woodbine, was re-elected president of the Dickinson County Historical Society at the annual meeting in Woodbine, October 27, 1955. Other officers elected were: Mrs. Viola Ehram, Enterprise, first vice-president; Mrs. Ray Livingston, Abilene, second vice-president; Mrs. Carl Peterson, Enterprise, secretary; Mrs. Walter Wilkins, Chapman, treasurer; and MarionSee-lye, Abilene, historian. The history of the Woodbine area was the theme of the program.

Officers of the Russell County Historical Society include: John G. Deines, president; Judge J. C. Ruppenthal, first vice-president; Luther D. Landon, second vice-president; Merlin Morphy, secretary; and A. J. Olson, treasurer. Other directors include: Mrs. H. A. Opdycke, chairman, William H. Ochs, and Mrs. Dora H. Morrison. The directors voted at a recent meeting to place a marker at the site of the Kitts Fork Indian raid west of Russell; also to enlarge the display in the courthouse lobby and to increase the size of the historical exhibit at the county 4-H fair.

Mrs. Harry Meyer is president of the Shawnee Mission Indian Historical Society, northeast Johnson county, for 1956. Other officers chosen include: Mrs. R. D. Grayson, first vice-president; Mrs. Yolande M. Smith, second vice-president; Mrs. James D. Wood, recording secretary; Mrs. John Blake, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Louis Ricke, treasurer; Mrs. Wm. Schreiber, historian; Mrs. Chas. Houlehan, curator; Mrs. James G. Bell, member-in-waiting; Lucile Larsen, chaplain; and Mrs. John Barkley, parliamentarian. Mrs. Arthur W. Wolf was the retiring president.

Organization of a Butler County Historical Society was begun at a meeting in El Dorado, November 29, 1955. On December 11, the following directors were elected: F. H. Cron, Mrs. Corah Mooney Bullock, Mrs. Ralph Wiley, Mrs. R. C. Loomis, Clarence King, Clifford W. Stone, and Charles E. Heilmann. Cron was elected president by the directors. Other officers chosen were: Heilmann, vice-president; Mrs. Loomis, secretary; and Stone, treasurer.