



# Wildwood Historical Society

GROVER · POND · HOLLOW · CENTAUR · MELROSE · FOX CREEK · ORRVILLE  
ALLENTON · WESTLAND ACRES · KELPE · MONARCH · SHERMAN · GLENCOE

## September 2014 Newsletter

### Bus Tour Reservation Time!

Our annual bus tour is quickly approaching on Saturday, October 25! This year's theme is the three parklands in Wildwood – the original “wild woods”. We'll be visiting and learning the histories of Rockwoods Reservation, Greensfelder County Park, and Babler State Park. It's sure to be a great tour so reserve your spot soon.

To reserve your spot:

1. Email [matthewkelp@gmail.com](mailto:matthewkelp@gmail.com) with your desire to attend.
2. We will email you back our reservation form. Please fill it out completely and mail it – with a check for the appropriate amount – to our P.O. box.
3. Once we have received your form and check, we will send you a confirmation email. Then all you have to do is come enjoy the tour!

\*If you do not have email, please contact Helen Gaehle at **636-220-6720** or **314-346-0884**.



Rockwoods Lime Kiln



Greensfelder Roundhouse



Babler Horse Stable

**Note:** *The Wildwood Historical Society Newsletter* was not published in August due to an extremely busy Kelp family schedule.

## **September Meeting – Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.**

Our annual election will occur, along with our monthly meeting titled *Reflections on Past Year, Direction for Next Year*. As a society, we will discuss and review the leadership transition in the past year and our plans for 2015. Due to the topic, we suggest non-Society members do not attend. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16, at 7 p.m. in our meeting hall.

## **October Meeting**

Occasionally, we like to look back at a program from past years. October's meeting will feature a Civil War funeral filmed at Bethel Cemetery on July 18, 1999. The re-enactment ceremony took place at the grave of Benjamin F. McDaniel, great-grandfather of current WHS trustee Larry McDaniel. Besides the service, you'll hear WHS leaders from our early days interviewing those attending the ceremony and see a tribute from Larry in his re-enactment uniform to his great-grandfather Benjamin. We hope you can join us to watch this film from the past days of WHS on Tuesday, October 21, at 7 p.m.

## **“Celebrate Wildwood” Tent**

Our booth at the Celebrate Wildwood event on Saturday, August 23, had many visitors, especially considering the heat. We gained 13 new email addresses and hope to see some new faces at future meetings. Congratulations to Melissa Greenstein and her family for winning the raffle basket! Thanks to Martha Bunch, Jill VonGruben, Marilyn Weber, and Lisa and Anna Kelpé for giving time to make a successful day.

## **Thank you!**

Longtime Society member Rusty Pendleton celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in July and we all helped him celebrate at July's meeting. Rusty would like to thank everyone who came and thought of him on a very special milestone. Here's to 90 more great years, Rusty!

## Upcoming Meetings

We have some great topics coming up. We hope you can join us! All meetings will be at the meeting hall (18750 Highway 100 in Wildwood) at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

**September 16** – *Reflections on Past Year, Direction for Next Year*, annual WHS elections

**October 21** – Film of Benjamin McDaniel's Civil War funeral re-enactment

**November 18** – Annual WHS Antiques Roadshow

**Saturday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.** – Annual WHS Christmas party!

**January 20** – Genealogy Ideas by Steve Claggett & Sandy Gurnow

**February 17** – Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House* Sites by Anna Kelp

**March 17** – *Oysters to Angus: Three Generations of the St. Louis Faust Family* by Elizabeth Terry

**April 21** – *B&B Theatres: "Bringing Hollywood to your Hometown since 1924"* by Wildwood B&B's general manager Paul Farnsworth

## 2015 Calendar

We still *really* need your help selling ads for our 2015 Civil War-themed calendar. These sales are an important fundraiser for us, so we appreciate all the support and help. You don't have to spend extra time and you don't have to be trained – simply ask at the next business or store you visit if they will purchase a \$75 ad *and* support the Society. It's that easy! Contact Lisa Kelp at 636-458-2860.

## Franklin County History Fair

Society member Sandy Gurnow will represent us at the Franklin County History Fair on Sunday, October 26. We'll donate a cemetery book for the silent auction/door prize at the fair. Thanks for volunteering, Sandy!

## Author Book Talk

If you're interested in learning more about the Civil War in Missouri – whether you know nothing or a lot – consider attending an event on Wednesday, September 3, at 7 p.m. at the Kirkwood Public Library (140 East Jefferson in Kirkwood). Historian Jim Erwin will be there to discuss and sell his new, thoroughly-researched book *The Homefront in Civil War Missouri*. For more information, call 314-821-5770 ext. 1012.

## Officers

**Lisa Kelpe**, President

(636)458-2860

kelpfamily@gmail.com

**Martha Bunch**, Museum Director

(314)920-2249

martha.j.bunch@gmail.com

Vice President

To be filled at September's election

**Matthew Kelpe**, Secretary

(314)393-2040

matthewkelpe@gmail.com

**Dave VonGruben**, Treasurer

(636)458-3098

dvgruben@gmail.com

**Jill VonGruben**, Archivist

(636)458-3098

jfvvgjfv@gmail.com

## Trustees

**Helen Gaehle**

**Sandy Gurnow**

**Rich Hardt**

**Jim Martin**

**Larry McDaniel**

## Editor

**Anna Kelpe**

(314)393-2021

annakelpe11@gmail.com

## Society Website

[www.wildwoodhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.wildwoodhistoricalsociety.org)

## Peek Into Our Past

The *Watchman* county newspaper published news from towns in our area in the late 1800s. Enjoy this month's "Peek Into Our Past."

*9/4/1885 – During the storm last Thursday night the house of Mr. Chas. Wardenberg, at Orrville, was struck by lightning and all the inmates knocked senseless for a short time; but fortunately no one was seriously injured.*

*9/9/1887 – A grand fish-fry was participated in by a party of young ladies and gents who gathered on the banks of the Meramec last Saturday for a day's pleasure. Indeed it will be a day long to be remembered by the little group that assembled on that delightful occasion. Seldom has the old hills and lovely valleys re-echoed the sounds of such merry voices. All seemed to say welcome, thrice welcome. Those present were Mrs. Dick Warfield, Misses Emma Steffens, Agnes Taylor, Emma Essen, Lizzie Sampson, Messrs. Victor Smith, Bolky Henchen, Frank Ornyomouseng and Fred Essen.*

*9/9/1892 – The St. Louis Cycling Clubs all made runs in the county last Sunday. The South Sides and Cycling Club rode to Ballwin Saturday night. Sunday the South Sides visited Melrose and were entertained at dinner by H. Y. Paffrath.*

*9/1/1893 – Miss Minnie Stellar opened her school last Monday with a large attendance. Both teacher and pupils are ready for a good year's work.*

## WHS Membership Information

WHS memberships are due on a calendar-year basis and run through December 31, 2014.

Individual – \$25

Couple – \$30

Family with children through age 22 – \$35

Benefactor – \$100

Lifetime – \$500

**Please make your check payable to:**

Wildwood Historical Society

P.O. Box 125

Wildwood, MO 63040

Please include a note with your current e-mail address, phone number, membership level, and member's name(s). Thanks for your support!