



# Wildwood Historical Society

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

## August 2015 Newsletter

### August Program

Our August program will feature the Wabash, Frisco & Pacific Railroad. From their website, "The WF&P Railway organization was originally formed in 1939, when a group of railway enthusiasts acquired a 12 inch gauge steam locomotive (Engine #171) and the use of a 30-acre estate located on the southeast corner of Brown Road and Natural Bridge. The railway developed to the point, where it had a mile of track, four steam locomotives, a telegraph and a telephone communications system between stations, and an electropneumatic signal system. Trains were operated by regulation timetables, and train orders governed them just as our standard gauge counterparts. Because of rising land values adjacent to Lambert St. Louis Airport, the railway was forced to move, and its last run was conducted on July 19, 1959. After being in storage for two years, we relocated [to] Glencoe, Missouri, in 1961. Since that time, we have laid more than a mile of track, and built numerous buildings, including the car barn in 1976 and the roundhouse in 1992. We are constantly in the process of rebuilding locomotives, cars, expanding track length and maintaining all of the facilities necessary for the operation of the railroad."

Perhaps you have visited this wonderful attraction. If you have an interest in trains, railroads, or the history of this great organization, please join us on August 18!

#### August Program

**Tuesday, August 18, 2015**

**Program at 7:00 p.m.**

**WHS Meeting Hall**

**18750 Highway 100**

**Wildwood, MO 63069**

### September Program

If you enjoy reading the "Peek Into Our Past" monthly newsletter feature, you won't want to miss September's program! Selections from the *Watchman* (1881-1899) focusing on prominent names and places in the Meramec Township area will be shared with the group. Who knows? Maybe some of your ancestors' names will be mentioned! Please join us in the meeting hall on September 15 for some entertaining articles from 130 years ago!

## Upcoming Programs

**August 18** – WF&P Railroad history at 7:00 p.m.

**September 15** – Peek Into Our Past with the *Watchman*; annual election of trustee at 7:00 p.m.

**October 20** – Fiber Art & History of the Society's Kreienkamp Loom by Debbie Wert at 7:00 p.m.

**November 17** – WHS Antiques Roadshow at 7:00 p.m.

**December 5** – WHS Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m.

## Summer Sales–Calendar Ads!

Now is a great time to sell those calendar ads. Labor Day and the start of school means busier schedules.

We ask every member–please set aside just a few hours to ask those you do business with to sponsor an ad. How about a minimum of five contacts per member? It really is simple and easy; *anyone* can sell ads. You can ask your vet, dentist, auto repair shop, bank, hairdresser, and more.

- The ads are inexpensive, only \$75 for a business card ad or \$145 for a double-business card ad.
- The ad serves for the whole year in calendars distributed throughout the area. Our calendars are very popular and get into the hands of over 1,000 people or businesses.
- You demonstrate support for your community and non-profit historical society. As a small organization, we are very dependent on volunteers and fundraising to continue our mission. We are asking you to help us achieve that.

For more information, please contact Paul Eckler ([paul.eckler@att.net](mailto:paul.eckler@att.net) or 636-273-5398).

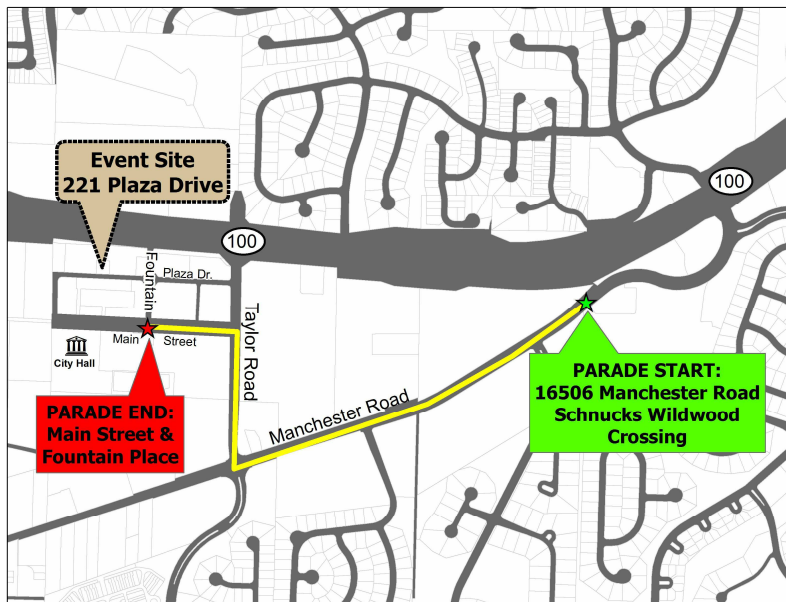
## Rent the Hencken House

Do you know someone looking for a place to live? The Society's circa-1852 Hencken farmhouse will soon be available! We are asking \$1,200 per month, and the renter will be responsible for the electric and trash/recycle pick up bills. If you're interested, contact Lisa Kelpel ([kelpfamily@gmail.com](mailto:kelpfamily@gmail.com) or 636-458-2860).

## Celebrate Wildwood

The Wildwood Historical Society is very excited to be a part of the upcoming Celebrate Wildwood event. This annual celebration, commemorating the founding of the city of Wildwood (2015 is the 20th anniversary), will take place August 28-30 this year. Starting with fireworks and patriotic music by the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America on Friday night, this is a weekend event you don't want to miss. The Society will be represented on Saturday, August 29, in a few different ways. We will have a booth with displays, a cool giveaway, opportunities to purchase a cemetery book or plat map, information about the Society and our museum, how to become involved, and more. We will also be participating in the parade, which starts at 9:00 a.m. With the theme "Horses to Horsepower", look for our banner, a miniature horse, and a 1949 Ferguson tractor. Following the parade, in addition to the horse and tractor being on display, we'll have a couple of historic cars around our booth area. Whether you're a car guy, history-loving mom, or horse-loving kid, you'll be able to experience it all at our booth! We can't wait to see you at Celebrate Wildwood. Come visit us on Saturday, August 29!

### Parade Route



### Schedule

**CELEBRATE WILDWOOD**  
ART | MUSIC | CULTURE

**AUGUST 28, 29 & 30**  
WEEKEND EVENT

**FRIDAY | 6:00-9:30pm**  
CONCERT (U.S. Air Force Band) 6:45pm  
WINE & BEER GARDEN 6-9:15pm  
FIREWORKS (courtesy of Meridian Waste Services) 9:30pm

**SATURDAY | 9am-9:30pm**  
FOUNDERS' PARADE 9am  
OPENING CEREMONY 11am  
MUSIC (Back Street Cruisers), 11am-3pm  
FOUNDERS' CAR SHOW, SCOUT-A-RAMA, BOUNCE HOUSES  
ART FESTIVAL 11am-9pm  
FARMERS' MARKET  
WINE & BEER GARDEN, DELICIOUS FOOD  
CONCERT (SMASH Band) 6:45pm  
FIREWORKS (courtesy of Meridian Waste Services) 9:30pm

**SUNDAY | 11am-3pm**  
ART FESTIVAL  
WINE & BEER GARDEN, DELICIOUS FOOD  
MUSIC (Sky West Trio)

FOUNDERS' DAY  
WILDWOOD

**WILDWOOD TOWN CENTER**  
221 Plaza Drive, Wildwood, MD 43040  
celebratewildwood.com

## Officers

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## Trustees

**Helen Gaehle**

**Rich Hardt**

**Donna Kummer**

**Jim Martin**

**Chuck Weber**

## Editor

**Anna Kelpé**

(314)393-2021

annakelpé11@gmail.com

## Society Website

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

## Facebook

[www.facebook.com/WildwoodHistoricalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/WildwoodHistoricalSociety)

WildwoodHistoricalSociety

## 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."

*8/1/1884 – Erich Essen was to have given a picnic in his grove during the past week but we are informed that on account of the rain it was not a success. Erich may himself be disappointed occasionally but he will not disappoint his friends. He intends to try again.*

*8/9/1889 – Salvador De Mendonca, who was Brazilian Consul General to the United States for the last fifteen years, has recently been appointed Minister to the United States from Brazil. Mr. Mendonca is a brother-in-law of Lorenzo Redman, postmaster at Grover, St. Louis County.*

*8/23/1889 – The residence of Mr. W. E. Kortkamp, near Allenton, was destroyed by fire last Friday morning. Mr. Kortkamp and his three sons were sleeping in the building, and were awakened by the falling of the roof just in time to escape with their lives. Loss, about \$4,000; insurance, \$2,000.*

*8/8/1890 – P. P. Lewis, of Crescent, killed a rattlesnake with thirteen rattles last Friday. It was a monster reptile - one of the largest found in the county for many years.*

*8/18/1893 – Herman Kraus, the butcher of Pond, and John Kesselring, butcher of Orrville, came near having a serious accident. Kraus coming from the east with a cow and Kesselring Brothers coming from the west with a cow where they met at Mr. Albrecht's store. Mr. Kraus jumped out of his cart to lead his horse and cow off the road, but dropped the lines and his horse commenced jumping until he broke the harness and got away from him and jumped over Kesselring's cow, but John had a hold of his cow and there is no getting away what John has a hold of. John got his hand injured and one side of his mustache pulled off. There are no bones broken, but it will give butchers a lesson for the future not to mix up three butchers and two cows.*

## WHS Membership Information

WHS memberships are due on a calendar-year basis and run through December 31, 2015. Thanks for your support!

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).