



Wildwood Historical Society

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

October 2020

Founded in 1999 - Wildwood, Missouri, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Autumn's Arrival



A Message from the President

The Trustees and Officers met and decided that there will be NO OCTOBER or NOVEMBER meetings 2020 due to the prevalence of the Covid 19.

The December OPEN HOUSE is still pending. We will make that decision sometime around or after Thanksgiving. It will all depend on St. Louis County Restrictions as to how many people we can have in our building at one time. Our 100% capacity is 96. We do have a speaker scheduled who would be a good draw.

I am working on rescheduling our 2020 speakers to 2021. It

is still hard to get some to commit without knowing the future of the vaccine and everything else.

The Archivist and Museum workers have been extremely busy with donations from Rusty Pendleton's estate having to do with WW 2 and also donations from other people.

We hope to see everyone before the Holidays!

Sincerely,

Sandra K. Becker-Gurnow
President



**There will be no
monthly meeting in
October**



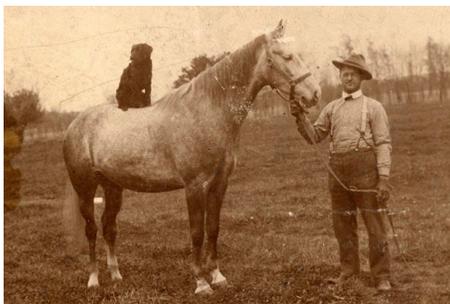
Message from the Museum Director

After 8 exciting and wonderful years at the Wildwood Historical Society as Museum Director, Thursday, December 31, 2020 will be my last day serving in that capacity. I have decided to retire so I may travel East to spent more time with my children and grandchild. I plan to remain involved in the Museum as a volunteer, member and donor.

Hopefully the Museum and Society will continue to thrive under a new Museum Director. Our society relies on many helping hands to succeed, whether you wish to conduct research, write, help with technology, fundraise, offer tours, garden or help with general maintenance, you will be appreciated by a diverse group of fans of Wildwood history.

I want to thank all of you with whom I have had a chance to work, get to know better, and share experiences as you have donated your time, talent and wisdom. A heartfelt thanks to you for your ongoing support of the Wildwood Historical Society.

Martha Bunch
Museum Director
Wildwood Historical Society



Photographic resources

During the COVID-19 quarantine experience, a lot of folks have been going through

old photographs. And at times, there might be little known about the time period the photograph was taken. If you are working with St. Louis area photographs from the late 19th century or early 20th century, we have discovered an online resource that may be of assistance. It is a database entitled "Early St. Louis Photographers." This database lists the name of the photographer, the address for the studio and the years active at that address. Since photographers during this time often moved locations this database gives the dates active for each address of a specific photographer. How does this help date those old photos? During the above mentioned years, home photography didn't exist. For important occasions, families went to photographers' studios to have formal portraits taken. The photographers stamped the name and address of their studios on the photographs. Using this database, a user can locate a photographer and determine a range of years during which the portrait was taken.

The link for this database is:
<https://stlouis.genealogyvillage.com/tracylewis.htm>



Backing Up

Speaking of working with photographs and other genealogical information, it is a vital practice to often backup all of your digital work. Whether a computer is old or new, there is never a 100% guarantee that the computer will start the next time you turn it on or even have it reactivated from sleep mode. Backup, Backup, Backup. You don't want to lose all your work!



Your Museum Needs You

Your museum needs you even if you can't physically be onsite during this Pandemic time. How can you help? First, make sure your WHS membership is current. Second, please consider making an additional

financial donation. Even though we aren't experiencing our normal visitor foot traffic right now, we have been receiving amazing physical and photographic artifact donations. Archiving supplies are a Museum expense, as are the increased need for cleaning supplies, etc. Any and all support you can give us right now, would be greatly appreciated.

Officers

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A Peek Into the Past



The Watchman and the Advocate county newspapers published news from towns in our area from the late 1800's thru the mid 1950's. The two became the Watchman-Advocate with the merger around 1903.

Editor's note: Articles copied in their original form.

1882.10.12-Meramec Tp, court: Notice is hereby given that we the undersigned citizens of Bonhomme Bottom, Meramec Township, St. Louis, Mo, being the majority in interest of the owners of a certain contiguous body of swamp and overflowd lands, extending from the point where Wild Horse Creek enters Bonhomme Bottom, along the bluff and down said creek to Bonhomme Creek in said township and county, intend to make application to the county court of St. Louis County, at the November, 1882 term thereof to be held at Clayton in said county, on the 6th day of

November, 1882, to reclaim and protect said swamp and overflowed land in the following manner to wit: By changing the channel of Wild Horse Creek and turning its waters from the point where they now enter Bonhomme Bottom on the lands of Wm. H. Coleman directly through the lands of said??to the Missouri River. R.G. Coleman M.D., Wm. Rickard, W.P. Bacon, L. Hartung, ?? Tyle, B.H. Stevens M.D., Fred. Schultze, J. Kraus, Wm. Schaeffer, executor of est. of Daniel Kroenung.

1887.10.14-Meramec Tp, roads: Report of Road Commissioner in reference to the macadamizing of Stecker to Kehr's Mill road in Meramec township ,est\$1,050 received and filed.

1887.10.14-Meramec Tp, roads: Julius Rapp reported est. cost of building a bridge across Strong Creek at the junction of Shepard and Strecker roads \$915, received and filed.

1887.10.14-Pond, post office: Pond postoffice has been discontinued and all mail matters heretofore sent to that office should be addressed to Fox Creek.

1887.10.28-Fox Creek, court: Estate of John Letcher; order of partial distribution as follows: Louisa Letcher \$2,750;

Giles Letcher \$550; Wm. H. Letcher \$550; Mrs. Julia Ashbrook \$550; Robert F. Letcher \$550; Julia A. Letcher \$183.33; Fanny M. Letcher and Sarah Letcher \$183.33 each.

1887.10.28-Pond, birthday: surprise sixtieth birthday party for Mr. Fred Bilchmann, five sons and five daughters.

1892.09.09-St Louis County, Property: Real Estate Transfer: Louis C. Fick and wife to Laurence Fick, 70 acs, sec 34, tp 45, r 3 e, w d \$1700