



Mission Statement

The Mission of the SEK Museum Alliance is to work together to support the museums of Southeast Kansas through promoting their events and activities, sharing resources, and providing learning opportunities to advance our unique histories.

SEK Museum Alliance Board President

Leanne Githens, Wilson County Historical Museum, Fredonia

Secretary

Carol Staton, Cherryvale Historical Museum, Cherryvale

Treasurer

Jolene Born, Osage Mission-Neosho Co. Museum, St. Paul

Communications Chair

Gina McBride, Historical Society & Museum, Caney

E. Region VP

LeNoir Rowland, Mem-Erie Historical Society, Erie

W. Region VP

Marcia Taylor-Trump, Howard Benson Museums, Howard

Member

Ray Rothgeb, Independence Historical Museum & Art Center, Independence

Contact us at:
sekmuseums@gmail.com

SEK Museum Alliance Newsletter

Spring, 2022 Vol. 3, Issue 1

Keeping you informed about all things "Museum" in Southeast Kansas

What's New?!

Mark Your Calendars! – April 15, 2023

Meeting details:

Date/Time – April 15, 2023 - 8:30 AM registration, meeting begins promptly at 9 AM – NOON

Location – Hosted by Woodson County Historical Society, Yates Center, KS. Meeting to be held at Catholic Hall, 107 E. Bell, Yates Center, KS.

***Educational Program:** Leslie VonHolten, Director of Grants and Outreach, Humanities Kansas will give a presentation on "Successful Grant Applications", with a discussion on types of grants and the grant writing process.

PLEASE RSVP on the website, <https://www.sekmuseums.org/>

"Successful Grant Applications" Action Grants – Humanities for All Grants – Culture Preservation Grants – Speakers Bureau Grants

Humanities Kansas offers many different types of grants, but sometimes we fail to utilize this resource because we are unsure of how to write the grant, and what is needed to apply. Leslie VonHolten, will provide us with information related to Humanities Kansas Grants and instruct us in the process to apply for those grants. What a wonderful resource for SEK Museum Alliance members

Leslie VonHolten has been with Humanities Kansas for six years. Raised in a military family she claims Franklin County, Kansas as her hometown. She has a Bachelors in Art History and English Literature, and a Master in Public Administration.



Dues Benefit All Museums!



Southeast Kansas Museum Alliance (SEK MA) offers Individual, Institutional, and Business/Industry memberships. Paid membership supports the viability and sustainability of the SEK MA. Members represent a range of museums and organizations, professionals, and museum operators in a 15-county region of Southeast Kansas. The SEK MA is dedicated to nurturing collaboration among museums, supporting museums by promoting their events and activities, sharing resources, and providing learning opportunities that advance the unique histories of the region.



Annual Membership Fees:



Institutional:

- Annual budget less than \$10,000: \$25.00
- Annual budget greater than \$10,000: \$50.00
- Business/Industry: \$100.00

Individual: \$20.00

Membership is for the calendar year. To join SEK Museum Alliance, complete the SEK MUSEUM ALLIANCE APPLICATION, scan and send the form to SEKMuseums@gmail.com or mail it with your payment to: SEK Museum Alliance, P.O. Box 381, Independence, KS 67301. Or click the link below to pay your dues on line.

<https://form.jotform.com/222405001657041>

Video Project Committee Members are Working Hard on our 2023 SEKMA Project –

The SEKMA board created a committee in February, 2023 to determine the feasibility of a video project for 2023. Committee members are: Ashley Hovell, Chair, Carl Brenner, Kirk Sharp, Mike Wood, Ray Rothgeb, Gina McBride, Kurtis Russell and Leanne Githens. Initial items the committee evaluated were: What is the effective length of a video? How much would it cost? Would all museums be included? How would I use the video in my community and/or tourist area? They consulted with the Kansas Tourism Department and determined a target market.



From these committee meetings a recommendation was made to the SEK Museum Alliance Board. The Board voted to approve the recommendation of the video committee to proceed with the video and the creation of a new Passport and update the SEK Museum Alliance Web Page to include tourism information for the museums in SE Kansas. A sneak peek of the updated Web Page will be shown at our April meeting, and a update on the Video Project Committee's recommendations.

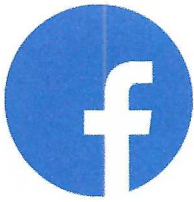
The Board would like to express our appreciation to Gina McBride for all the work she does on the SEK Museum Alliance Web Page. She does an excellent job, and we have a high quality Web Page thanks to her.

Look At Us Go!!

Thanks to the hard work of Jolene Born we received our 501 c 3 status on January 5, 2023. Another milestone to add to our list of accomplishments.



Stay Connected and Up-To-Date!



<https://www.sekmuseums.org/>

Have you bookmarked our website? It communicates what our organization is all about. This is the place to look for the latest information about future meetings, ongoing projects, minutes from previous meetings, and much more.

Join us on Facebook at "SEK Museum Alliance" to share history, tips for museum operations, resources to share, etc.

Notices



Future Meeting Dates:

September 9, 2023 -

November 4, 2023

Can you host one of the meetings above. Let us know.

Possible Shirt Sales Coming Soon

What's your thoughts

*THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE SEK
MUSEUM ALLIANCE AND BEING A VIBRANT PART
OF THE MUSEUM COMMUNITY*



Successes and Challenges!

As expected, there are recurring themes on the Challenges side – need more visitors, volunteers, funding, space, upkeep of aging buildings, etc., etc. While solutions are sometimes difficult to find, at a minimum, knowing that you are not the only museum struggling with a particular issue is a help.

The Success column is always encouraging and exciting! Despite the challenges, small and not-so-small museums are making things happen. Just a few include:

- Parsons – Moving Farm related items to new Farm Museum- adding new displays
- Caney – Successful Kansas Day celebration for Caney 2nd grade school students and added a 1924 Fire Dept Hose Cart
- Cherryvale – Promotional advertising of the Bender Room in conjunction with Parson Sun
- Chanute – Re-established Travelogues
- Galesburg – Continue to remodel old building, electrical replaces, walls repaired and painted
- Allen Co. – Added a new museum assistant curator (new baby)
- Osage Mission – Steam Engine Repainted, Partial installation of Indian Grave Monuments
- Wilson Co. – Planning for a Summer History Camp
- Woodson Co. – Re-roofed the entire museum complex
- Independence -Addition of full-time director, Launch of IHMAC Forever Capital Campaign
- Franklin – "Making Spirits Bright" inaugural fundraiser sold out – huge success - Next event is a shrimp boil
- Howard - Adding space to the Doll Museum

This sharing time at the general meetings provides resources to help you meet your challenges, or gives you an idea you hadn't thought about. Just another reason to join us at the meetings!