



SEK Museum Alliance

### 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

Ray Rothgeb, Independence Museum and Arts Center, Independence

### Secretary

Leanne Githens, Wilson County Historical Museum, Fredonia

### Treasurer

Terri Harley, Girard History Museum, Girard

### Communications Chair

Gina McBride, Historical Society & Museum, Caney

### E. Region VP

Ed Born, Osage Mission – Neosho Co. Museum, St. Paul

### W. Region VP

Carol Staton, Historical Cherryvale Museum, Cherryvale

### Member

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

### Contact us at:

[sekmuseums@gmail.com](mailto:sekmuseums@gmail.com)

## SEK Museum Alliance Newsletter

Fall 2021 Vol. 1, Issue 2

Keeping you informed about all things museum in Southeast Kansas

### What's New?!

#### Mark Your Calendars! – Nov. 13



### MEETING NOTICE!

Our next Alliance General Meeting is a must-attend for those of you searching for ways to engage young people in the history of your community and in the museum community at large! (Isn't that ALL of us?!)

#### Meeting details:

**Date/Time** – Nov. 13, 8:30 AM registration, meeting begins promptly at 9 AM – NOON

**Location** - St Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 202 S Liberty St. Cherryvale, KS 67335

**\*Educational Program:** "Kansas History, Government, and Social Studies Standards for Museum Educators." presented by Austin Williams, Curriculum Coordinator for the Kansas Historical Society. Austin will discuss how museum educators can incorporate K-12 events and programs, such as National History Day and the new annual Classroom Based Assessment, into their programming and resources.

**\* Board elections** will be held

**\* Brief Freedom's Frontier** presentation

**\* The 2022 SEK Museum Alliance Project** will be presented

**\* A soup/chili lunch** will be available for a small donation

**\* SEKMA coffee mugs** will be available to purchase for yourself or for your museum to sell for profit

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

### More About Austin Williams - -

Austin R. Williams is an educator, historian, and digital storyteller with vast experience working with diverse learning populations in public, K-12, collegiate, and museum settings; sensitive to multicultural issues and committed to engaging and promoting the quest for knowledge in a multitude of platforms.



Specializing in public history, curriculum development, and documentary filmmaking, his debut film "The Ordinance Project" won the Celebration of Courage Award for best feature-length documentary at the 2018 Out Here Now Film Festival and the Audience Choice Award at the 2019 Kansas International Film Festival.

In describing his current position, Austin states, "The Kansas Historical Society is the state agency that provides curriculum and resource materials on Kansas state history. As Curriculum Coordinator, it is my privilege to work with educators, archivists, archeologists, and librarians to ensure that KSHS resources are incorporated into K-12 classrooms across the state. In short, I help Kansas teachers meet their state required social studies coursework."

We look forward to learning from Austin Williams on Nov. 13!

## Mug Sales Promotion: Profit for You, Profit for Us – Promotion for All!

Are you looking for a way to make a bit of \$\$\$ for your museum, as well as promote the Alliance? Then the Mug Sales Promotion may be just the thing for you! These mugs are available for purchase at the Nov. 13 meeting. They are priced so that the Alliance makes a modest amount and then each museum can mark them up as they wish for their own profit. The more you purchase, the greater the discount to you, as well as the increased profit margin for your retail sales. They are available just in time for Christmas gift-giving, or for thank-you gifts to museum and community volunteers.



## Survey to Complete by Nov. 13



Have you been responding promptly to the online surveys being sent by email? The results of each one provides valuable information the Alliance Board needs to be able to build the organization that all of you need and want. If you have not already received the latest survey about preferred general meeting times, days of the week, weeks of the month, etc., you will be receiving it shortly. It must be completed by Nov. 13. These surveys are limited to 10 questions and don't take long to complete. Thank you for responding in a timely manner!

## "Day Trippin' Driving Tours – SEK Museums & More" – 2022 SEK Museum Alliance Project

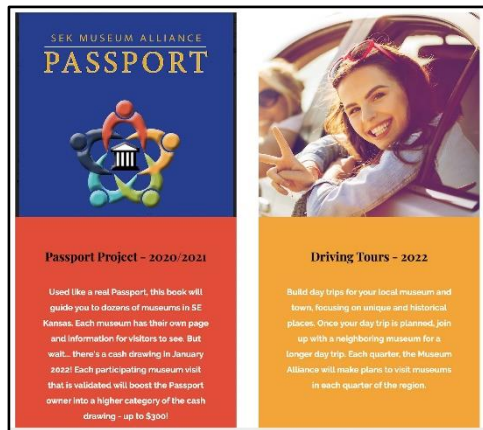
We're so excited to present our 2022 Project! *Day Trippin' Driving Tours* are a way for you to provide tourism value to your community by extending interest beyond the walls of your museum, as well as extending the time visitors spend in your community. At the November meeting and beyond, you will learn how to plan a successful tour:

- Tour stops to include, i.e. historic homes, buildings, landmarks, churches, WPA projects, cemeteries, businesses, etc.
- Tour basic logistics to consider and plan for, i.e. length of tour, number of people you can accommodate, tour price, bathroom stops, lunch possibilities, etc.
- Tour advertising plans

Carol Staton with the Cherryvale Museum has valuable experience with this type of tours and can help us get started. This is going to be fun!



## We Have a Website!



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

Have you checked out our fabulous website? Gina McBride has been hard at work creating a website that 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. When you see Gina, thank her for the time and creativity it takes to create and maintain the website. We appreciate you, Gina!

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



## Board Elections to be held at November Meeting

November is the designated month for elections to the SEK Museum Alliance board of directors. Just as a reminder, the board consists of 3 members from the West Region (elected by West Region members), 3 members from the East Region (elected by East Region members), and 1 At-Large member (elected by all members).

In the interest of continuity on the board and to better support ongoing projects, the board has determined that the Regional board terms shall be 3-year terms, with no more than 1 board member from each region up for election/re-election each year. To establish these staggered terms, this year's election will be for all 3 members from each region, with one being a 1-year term, one a 2-year term, and one a 3-year term.

The At-Large term is a 2-year term and is elected by all members, following the election of the Regional Members.

The board officers for the coming year will be elected by the board members following the November meeting.

Nominations will be accepted up until the time of voting.



## KMA Conference – Nov. 3, 4, 5, 2021 – Plan to Attend

The 2021 KMA Conference will be held in Lawrence, November 3-5, 2021. In addition to the in-person conference, there is a virtual option for some of the content being offered. Join the Kansas Museum community for dynamic sessions, focused networking, and inspiring speakers, including:

- Chris Reich – Chief Administrator, Office of Museum Services IMLS
- Seth Spillman – Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, The National Cowboy Museum & Western Heritage Center
- C.J. Janovy – Journalist, Author, Director of Content for KCUR Public Radio

The SEK Museum Alliance is getting noticed by KMA! We're doing exciting things and it's energizing to be a part of the larger museum community.

For registration information, visit their website, [www.ksmuseums.org](http://www.ksmuseums.org)



## Notices



### Future Meeting Dates:

**Feb 12, 2022, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Location - Chanute

Educational Program: "Take Control of Your Presence on TravelKS.com." Presented by Kelli Orendere, Industry Relations Manager for Kansas Tourism

**Apr 09, 2022, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Location – Sedan

Educational Program: "Digging in the Morgue - A News Writer's Perspective." Presented by Andy Taylor, Editor of the Montgomery County Chronicle

### Passports – A few are still available!

As 2021 comes to an end, the Passport Project contest ends as well with the drawing to be held after the first of the year. There still are some Passports available which can be acquired at the November meeting. Don't forget that the information in the Passport will still be useful to promote area museums, even after the conclusion of the contest.



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



## SEK Museum Alliance Meetings – Learning, Sharing, Supporting Each Other



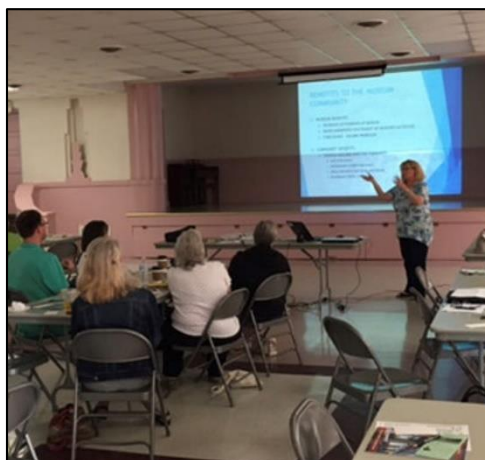
*If you've never attended an Alliance Meeting, you're missing something special! Bring several board members with you to learn together.*



**Next Meeting:**

**Nov. 13**

**Cherryvale**



**Educate**

Teaching our museums best practices