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BALD EAGLE

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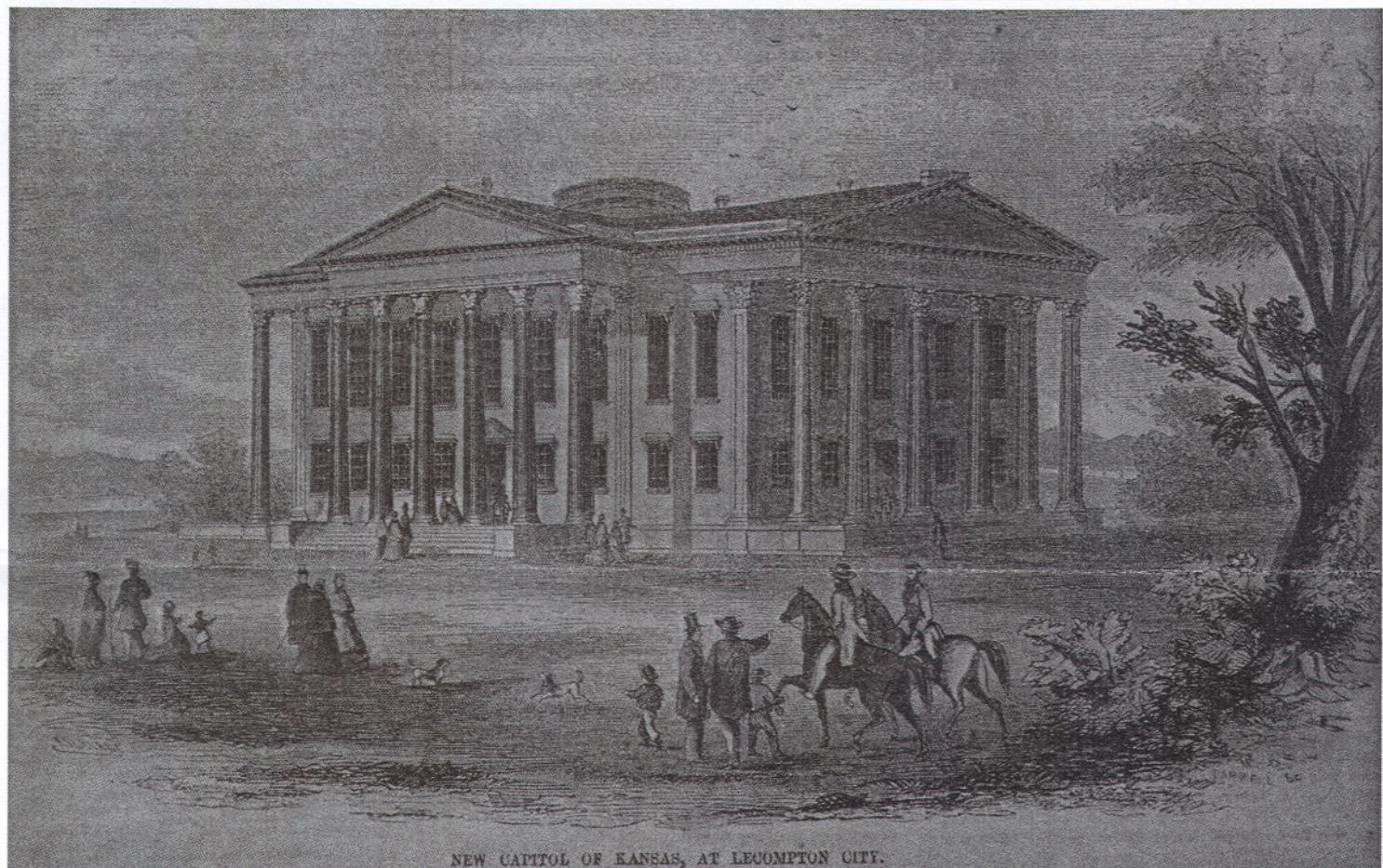


BALD**EAGLE**

VOL. 31, NO.3

LECOMPTONKANSAS.COM

FALL, 2005



NEW CAPTOL OF KANSAS, AT LECOMPTON CITY.

Courtesy Lawrence Journal World

This rendition of how Kansas Territorial Capitol Building was to appear was published in Ballou's Weekly in 1855. See an accompanying article on page 3. The original hangs in the Territorial Capital Museum..

Territorial Capital Museum Documents Chronicle Events of 1855

Editor's Note: Thanks to the Raymond Gieseman Collection at the Territorial Capital Museum, the *Bald Eagle* reprints two documents from those pre-Civil War days 150 years ago when Lecompton was a town of great national significance. On Pages 2 and 3, find a story from the kansashokuslegislature.org website that describes the votes that made Lecompton the capital of Kansas Territory and, then, Governor Shannon's speech at the ground-breaking for the Territorial Capitol Building. For the next three years the *Bald Eagle* will track events of 150 years ago as they occurred here in Lecompton and ultimately framed the national issues that forced the Civil War.

Lecompton Reenactors at Lane on October 30, 2005

Lecompton Reenactors will recreate the ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of the Kansas Territorial Capitol Building, which is now the Lane University building and home of the Territorial Capital Museum. J. Howard Duncan, local playwright, has recast Gov. Wilson Shannon's speech of 1855. Other actors will appear as period players. The performance is scheduled for 2 p.m., Oct. 30, 2005.

2005 Marks the 150th Anniversary of Lecompton Being Named the Territorial Capital of Kansas on the Fourth Vote

Editors Note: *The first Kansas Territorial Legislature met in 1855, its 38 members winners of a vote rigged by nearly 5,000 Missourians who overwhelmed the polls in Kansas. Free-State leaders called it the "bogus" legislature and derided its enactment of pro-slavery. This information came from the excellent website: www.kansasboguslegislature.org created by Mr. Charles Clark, volunteer at Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway, Johnson County, KS. Check it out! Tim Rues, Constitution Hall Administrator.*

Most votes in the 1855 "Bogus" (Territorial) Legislature were unanimous, or nearly so. The choice of a permanent capital was a real contest. Hosting a state capital was the sure making of a town and every legislator wanted his town to be successful. On August 7, the Legislature met in joint session to pick a town. [House Journal, 187]

Mr. Rees nominated his hometown, Leavenworth; Mr. Chapman, his town, Lawrence; Alexander Johnson, St. Bernard, on the Shawnee Reserve in Franklin County; Mr. Strickler, his home, Tecumseh; Mr. McGee, his trading post at One Hundred and Ten Mile; Mr. Harris, Kickapoo in Leavenworth County; Mr. Whitlock, his town Lecompton; Mr. Browne, his town Douglas; and Mr. Richardson, Whitehead in his district. **The first vote:**

Leavenworth	6	One Hundred and Ten	1
Lawrence	2	Kickapoo	2
St. Bernard	12	Lecompton	9
Tecumseh	3	Whitehead	2
Douglas	2		

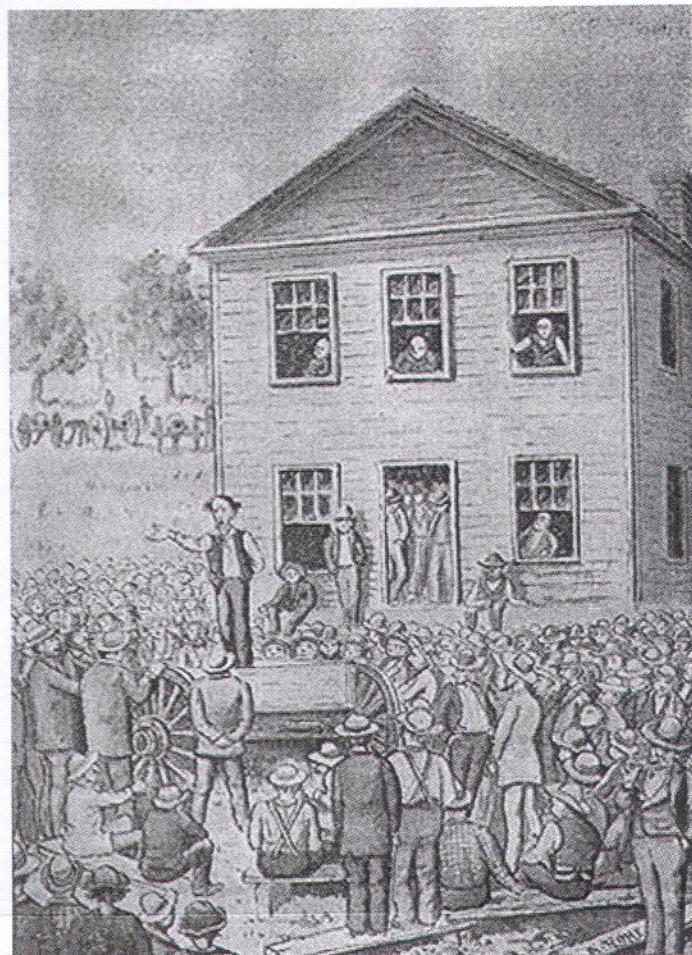
Since no town got a majority, a **second vote** was held:

Tecumseh	5	St. Bernard	13
Lecompton	19	Lawrence	1

Lacking a majority, a **third vote** was held:

Tecumseh	2
St. Bernard	11
Lecompton	25

As the lesser hometown favorites fell by the wayside, Lecompton and St. Bernard emerged as the clear leaders. Lecompton's town company was organized at the Pottawatomie Indian agency with Samuel D. Lecompte, chief justice of the Kansas Supreme Court as president; John A. Halderman, Chief Clerk of the Council as secretary; Daniel Woodson, Secretary of the Territory as treasurer; and

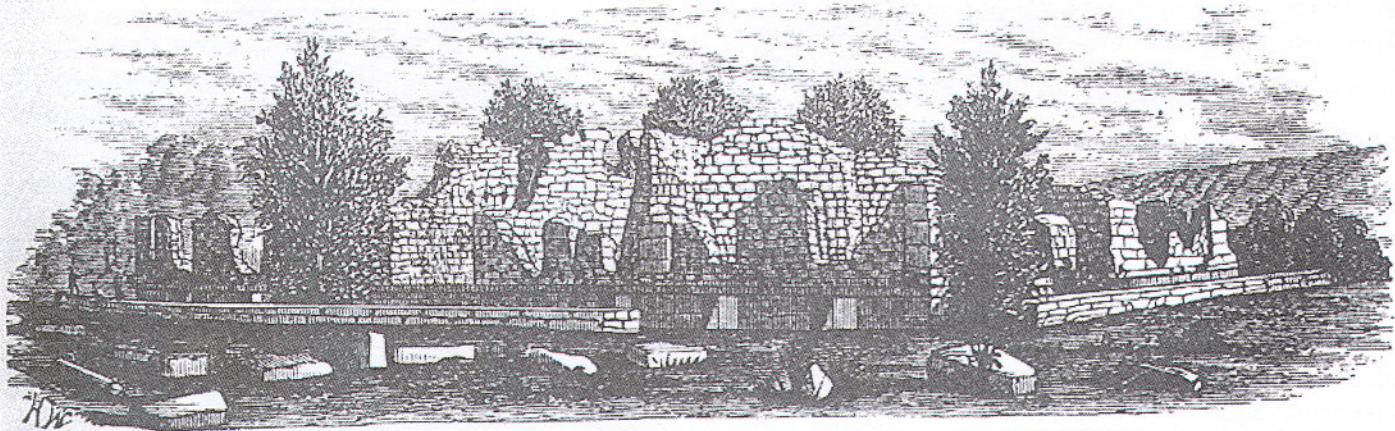


Land Office at Lecompton

Winning the contest for Territorial Capital meant substantial growth for the town. It also meant a ground-breaking for a new Capitol Building (see picture on page one) that was started in 1855.

pro-slavery men, George W. Clark, Chauncey B. Donaldson and William R. Simmons as members. The company held its meetings in Westport and on May 14, 1855, the officers reported that the town site, which consisted of 600 acres, had been surveyed with the intention of making Lecompton not only a large city but also the capital of the state. [Blackmar, Kansas, 128ff] The town company's intention was fulfilled when the Territorial Legislature finalized their selection later in the session. [House Journal, 229]

St. Bernard was founded on the site of Joab M. Bernard's store, and was named for Bernard, the first postmaster. Bernard was a strong pro-slavery man also active in promoting the pro-slavery towns of Buchanan, Missouri City and Centropolis. [Rydjord, Kansas Place-Names, 242] St. Bernard was "extinguished by a raid on Mr. Bernard by free-state men to whom he had become very obnoxious." When Bernard's store was destroyed, there was nothing left of the town and in 1858, the post office was moved to Minneola. [Cutler, History, Franklin County]



RUINS OF THE TERRITORIAL CAPITOL, LECOMPTON.

Photo courtesy of Kansas State Historical Society

This photograph was taken by Alexander Gardner in 1867 and shows what the original 1855 Congressional appropriation of \$50,000 for the Capitol building financed. The election in October 1857 switched the power in the Territorial legislature to the Free-Staters, which meant Lecompton's days as Territorial capital were numbered. In 1865 the state legislature deeded the ruins to Lane University, which completed construction of the building in 1882.

BALLOU'S PICTORIAL "THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY PAPER IN THE WORLD."

The Raymond Gieseman Collection of early U.S. and Kansas Territory maps and documents, housed at the Territorial Museum at Lane University, includes many items of historical significance. One example is a copy of Ballou's Pictorial, The Cheapest Weekly Paper in the World. From an 1855 issue comes this description of the proposed interior of the "Capitol Building," which is now in our Museum.

THE CAPITOL OF KANSAS, LECOMPTON CITY.

"The view of this fine building, now nearly completed, on page 12 of this number, was drawn expressly for us, partly on the site itself, and finished from the beautiful drawings of the architect. The building, which stands on a commanding eminence on Capitol Hill, is of stone, with a tin roof, surmounted with a beautiful observatory, and the whole is calculated to be done and finished in the most thorough and substantial manner. The extreme length is 137 feet, extreme width 93 feet. The body of the building is 109 1-2 feet long by 65 1-2 feet wide, and 62 1-2 feet in height to apex, presenting four fronts, with a colonnade portico on each, 14 feet wide and 65 feet long. All the ornamental proportions on the outside are of iron, and the capitals of the columns are of the Corinthian order, with full modillion cornice. The basement is five feet above ground, and eight feet in the clear, and will be occupied for the offices of the district attorney, marshal, etc. On the first floor above the basement are the supreme court room, library, offices of the auditor, treasurer, librarian, clerk of the supreme court, and three committee rooms for the legislature. On the second

floor are the senate chamber, hall of representatives, and offices of the governor and secretary. The senate chamber is 35 feet by 45 feet, and is to be finished in the Grecian style of architecture. The hall of representatives is 45 by 60 feet, with a gallery, and is to be of the Roman Corinthian order; the arch cornice over the speaker's seta is to be surmounted with three eagles, the coat of arms of the territory, with the territorial motto inscribed beneath them. The supreme court room is to be finished in the Doric style. The whole plan reflects great credit upon the skill of the designer and architect, Mr. Rumbold, of St. Louis, and the energy with which the work is being pressed forward by the authorities is highly praiseworthy



This photograph was taken upon the occasion of the Sesquicentennial of the vote on August 7, 1855 by the Kansas Territorial Legislature naming Lecompton as its capital. What had been started as the new Capitol was finished in 1882 as Lane University. It now houses the Territorial Capital Museum as shown above.

Governor Shannon's Speech at the Capitol's Ground Breaking Ceremony

In the fall 1855, Gov. Wilson Shannon of Kansas Territory presided over a ceremonial ground breaking for the construction of the K.T. Capitol Building. The U.S. Congress had appropriated \$50,000 for the first phase of the construction.

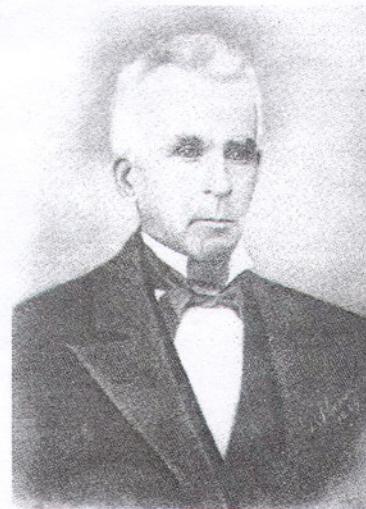
Governor Shannon's remarks:

"Gentlemen: In pursuance of an old and venerable custom, which has long been observed in the civilized countries of the world, at the commencement of edifices designed for public use; we are about to perform the ceremony of breaking the ground for the future capitol of the Territory of Kansas (here the ground was broken.)

"Upon this beautiful plat of ground, surrounded by hill and dale, woodland and prairie, is destined to soon rise a building which in appearance and utility will do honor to the architect and credit to all who are concerned in its design and construction; and furnish to the future legislator of our country and officers of your government all the conveniences necessary to a prompt and proper performance of their various official duties. In twelve months from this, we confidently expect to have the capitol erected and inclosed; presenting an appearance of which the citizens of the Territory may justly be proud—an ornament to this young city, and a visible monument attesting the energy, enterprise and architectural taste and genius of the age in which we live. We have every reason to anticipate that within the same time, you will see, here and there around this capitol, springing into existence as it were by the hand of magic, the comfortable private dwellings, the business houses, the church, the school house and temple of justice, furnishing additional proof of the wonderful energy and enterprise of the Anglo-American race, and at the same time comfortable homes for our citizens, suitable accommodations for all the business transactions of life, for the administration of the law, the propagation of religion and education of the youth of the city. We confidently hope to see in a few years, here where we this day stand surrounded by the primeval forest and natural meadow, a city spring up, around this capitol, which will rival, if not in wealth and population, at least in the intelligence, enterprise and virtue of its citizens, and in all the comforts and conveniences of life, the most prosperous cities of the older and more advanced portions of our country. And why should we doubt the realization

WILSON SHANNON

of these anticipations? Look at the natural resources and capabilities of the country by which we are, on all sides surrounded. Take the Territory of Kansas for two hundred miles North and South and an equal distance East and West, and where will you find on the surface of this globe a country of equal extent, possessing more agricultural capabilities? The capitol of such a territory can not fail to advance rapidly in population and wealth. This city is surrounded in



Copy of a painting of an older Wilson Shannon, attributed to G. Shannon, 1884.

Gov. Wilson Shannon

all directions by a country of unsurpassed fertility, which must to a great extent be tributary to it, possessing at the same time a salubrious climate, with an abundance of rock and timber, easy of access, and all the requisite materials for building up, improving and ornamenting a great city. With these advantages furnished by the hand of nature, with an industrious and enterprising population constantly arriving amongst us, we have every reason, under providence, to predict for this city and the surrounding country a bright and prosperous future.

"Let no jealousies exist between this and neighboring towns and cities, to mar the harmony and good will that ought to exist between members of the same political family. Tecumseh and Lawrence, your former rivals for the capitol, both have their resources and their advantages. They too are surrounded by a country equally rich and productive. Nature has been to them as liberal in her gifts as to Lecompton. They too may justly anticipate a bright and prosperous future. Let no narrow minded jealousy enter into the competition that will naturally exist between cities so nearly located together. Let the competition be an honorable one—a competition in the development of the great and almost unlimited resources of the country, by which each is surrounded—in building and ornamenting cities—in the advancement of education and religion and in cultivation of all virtues of social life. This is a noble and honorable competition mutually beneficial to all, prejudicial to none. I congratulate the citizens of Lecompton and surrounding country, and the people of Kansas on the prospect of a speedy completion of the work which we have this day commenced, and hope that nothing may occur to defeat or postpone the realization of our present prospects and expectations."

Reprinted with permission
from the Lawrence Journal World
Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Bridge Work Has Other Costs

by Mike Hoeflich

This past weekend, Lecompton celebrated Territorial Days. It's a fun celebration that not only brings visitors to the town but also brings the town together. Lecompton is a smallish place. But for a smallish place it has a great deal of history. And it has loyal, civic-minded residents.

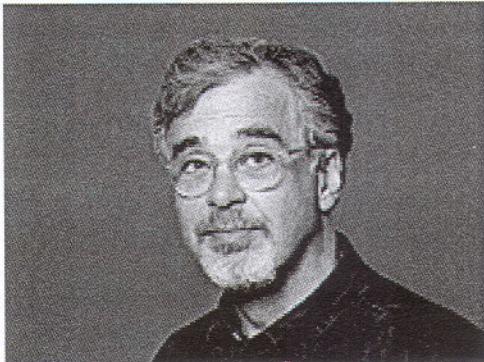
Folks are proud of Lecompton, its traditions and its history. There's the territorial capital museum. There's Lane University where President Eisenhower's parents met. The homes are well tended, and the streets are still a safe place for kids to play.

In recent years the town's also tried hard to revive itself economically. The "Territorial Days" celebration is only one example. There's a new boat ramp to the Kaw River at Lecompton, for instance. There are new signs on the Kansas Turnpike urging travelers to stop.

It's the kind of town that truly is the heart of America. But, suddenly, it finds itself under threat, not by city folks taking over or by West Nile virus carrying mosquitoes. No, the threat faced by the town and people of Lecompton is a combination of needed bridge maintenance and foolish, excessive frugality.

Lecompton sits on the south bank of the Kaw. On the north bank is Perry. They share a school district. Perry-Lecompton High School is actually across the river in Perry. So is a small shopping center and several major employers. County Road 1029 connects U.S. Highway 40 (Sixth Street in Lawrence) to U.S. Highway 24. Route 1029 also connects to the new Lecompton exit from the turnpike.

During the summer, a fair number of folks get off on that exit and take 1029 and the Lecompton bridge to get to Perry Lake, a popular summer destination. A fair number



stop in Lecompton to get gas, buy groceries and see the tourist sites.

The problem is that the Lecompton Bridge over the Kaw needs a new road surface. The powers that be have a choice. If they close the bridge entirely, the resurfacing will take a shorter time and, therefore, be less expensive. If they keep the bridge open, the resurfacing project will take longer and will, of necessity, cost more. There's been quite a bit of support, some would say blind support, for choosing the cheaper alternative. And that is the threat to Lecompton. Even a short closing, which would last months, would wreak havoc on the town of Lecompton (not to mention Perry) and put the residents of Lecompton to immense inconvenience.

If the Lecompton Bridge is closed completely, there'll be no way to get across the Kaw short of driving to the bridges in Lawrence or Topeka, potentially dozens of extra miles each day for residents who have to cross the river to go to school, go shopping, go to the park. And consider the cost of gasoline at today's horrendous prices to drive all those extra miles.

Closing the bridge also will mean that the daily flow of traffic, traffic that often stops in Lecompton to buy things and to see the sites, will cease completely. If officials choose the so-called "less expensive option" of closing the bridge completely, the town and people of Lecompton may well suffer catastrophic economic losses. Just when Lecompton's fortunes have been rising because of the hard work and effort of the townsfolk, a governmental act will set those efforts back. And all of this will occur needlessly.

When economists look at proposed governmental activity they look not simply at the particular cost-savings of the act but also at the costs that the act will inflict on the community as a whole. I would suggest that the economic, psychological and civic costs of completely closing the Lecompton Bridge far outweigh any savings that might be gained by such a closing.

I can only hope that all of the involved governmental bodies think twice before they do something so dangerous to the well-being of this small town. If I may paraphrase and adapt a famous saying attributed to Daniel Webster: "It is a small town. But there are those who love it."

Mike Hoeflich, a professor in the Kansas University School of Law, writes a regular column for the *Lawrence Journal-World*.

Marie Paslay Neill, 99, Remembers Big Springs, Lecompton High Days, A Southwestern Bell Career and Years of World Travels



It has been some life for Marie Paslay Neill, a 99-year-old who enjoyed her 80th Lecompton High School graduation reunion this past June 18, 2005. She's still cute and quick and she can tell wonderful stories about her Lecompton days, but, in truth, she remembers most her 43 years, nine

months and nine days at Southwestern Bell.

"I loved my work," she recalls now.

The Bald Eagle particularly wanted to know about her years when Lecompton High School was in the Lane University building. The building now, of course, is the Territorial Capital Museum. Marie graduated from high school in 1925, two years before the high school moved and the Lane building was closed.

Bloomers on the Basketball Court

"The building looked about the same. I don't think anyone ever got into the basement. I was never down there. The big, long room to the north on the first floor was the study hall," she says. "We played basketball upstairs. What position did I play," the petite woman asks. "I was a guard, of course. I was big. We wore those bloomers down over our knees with white blouses."

She says that she took algebra and geometry and then she took sewing and cooking but she already had learned all about them from her mother. "They even tried to teach me to darn socks," she says, "but I had been doing that for years."

Marie grew up on a farm near Big Springs. Her family lived about a mile east from the grade school in her early years and then moved to the second house on E100

Road, just behind the Methodist church. "You know, Big Springs looks just about the same today as it did then," she says.

An Amazing Mother

"The school house seemed bigger. I spent seven months a year for nine years in that one-room school," she recalls. Her strongest memory of those years was her sledding accident. "There's a big hill behind the school and a bunch of us brought our sleds over. I hit a tree and ripped my knee open. We didn't have doctors and so my Mother fixed it. I still have a huge scar. You know, parents in those days had to do so many things. We had a medicine chest and whatever went wrong, well, your mother had to deal with it. Those women were amazing."

By the time Marie headed to high school her family had moved to a farm about three miles southwest of Lecompton. "Dad was a dairy farmer. We always had 18 or 19 cows. Did I help with the milking? My Dad liked to brag that I was as good as my five brothers and sisters put together."

During her first two high school years she lived with her granddad Zeeb. After he died she moved in with the Day family on Halderman Street. "I helped cook and clean for my room and board," she says.

She says no one dated in those days. "We'd just get together as friends and talk," she says. "Everything happened around the church. I went to the stone Methodist church. Oh, sometimes they would show outdoor movies on the wall of building, but not often." Marie recalls the last names of her best friends—Slavens, Gray, Growel, Baughman and McRay.

Lecompton was quiet, she says. She remembers that it had the telephone office, a bank and the Nace hardware store.

Off to Business School

Marie considered going to KU but says she needed to earn money fast. "I moved to Topeka to go to business school in 1925. After two years a man from the telephone company came to the school and wanted to hire one of us. I was one of five he interviewed, and I got the job," she says. It wasn't surprising as Marie was a top student at the business college.

The job was with Southwestern Bell and thus began the happiest 43 years, 9 months and 9 days of her life. "I loved working. It's why we never had children; I wanted to build a nest egg and I didn't want to quit. In those days if you were married you didn't get hired and if you got married, you lost your job. It wasn't until 1934 that I could get married and not lose my job."

One of Marie's best stories is about how she met her husband, Hobart. "He had a girlfriend who lived next door

to him on Van Buren street in Topeka. I would see him but he never seemed to be having a good time. It was a coincidence that I was invited to a picnic at Lake Wabaunsee and he was there with this girl. He didn't seem to be enjoying the picnic. I was going to get a piece of pie so I asked him if I could get him a piece of pie. He said yes. So I got two pieces and came back but he didn't seem happy with it so I took his piece and shoved it into his mouth, all over his face," she says, breaking into her infectious laugh. "So I livened him up. Before the picnic was over he asked me for a date."

A Real World Traveler

They were married in 1934. He died when he was 64. Marie retired in 1970 and began her career as a world traveler.

"I've been to all 50 states," she says. "I've been to Mexico, Europe—all of those countries...Germany, France, England, Belgium, Holland."

She walks over to the living room's coat closet and opens the door. It's full of slides, and the 99-year-old easily goes to her knees to find the right collection and she stands again, just as easily. She says that she remembers many of the photos but adds, "You know, I'm legally blind."

Her nephew, Lecompton Mayor Roy Paslay,



laughs when told of Marie's eyesight. "She's blind all right," he says, "Just don't play cards with her."

Marie still plays cards. Pitch is her favorite game. She carries a magnifying glass with her and still gets around her comfortable ranch house on Burnett Street in Topeka. She has lived there since the couple bought it in 1952.

"What I miss most is being able to drive my car. But I'll bet there aren't many women like me who never miss church on Sunday," she says. Not only are there not many women like her who don't miss church, there simply aren't other 99-year-olds with such a joy for life and such a great attitude, remembering back on so many experiences.

Marie enjoyed the 80th reunion of her Lecompton High School Class of '25, even if everyone else was younger.. What a standing ovation she received. She deserves another when she turns 100 on January 14, 2006.

-- John Peterson

2005 Lecompton High School Alumni Banquet

The Alumni Association of Lecompton Rural High School celebrated "100 Years of Memories" on June 18, 2005 in the old Lecompton High School Gym. The "Wise Owl Club" was established to recognize attending graduates, age 90 & older. **Marie Paslay Neill, Edythe Leslie Stevenson and Helen Frye Hildenbrand** are Charter Members. **Marie Paslay Neill**, Class of 1925 was the oldest graduate present. Others attended from KS, AR, AZ, CA, NM, OH, IA, MO, MS, NB, WI, **Ed Turner**, San Diego, CA, Class of 1959, traveled the longest distance. **The 2006 Banquet will be June 17, 2006 in Lecompton**. The 2005 Attendees follow:

1925 MARIE PASLAY NEILL & Rick Paslay & Sheila Paslay Robles	1939 FLORENCE CONNOLE KREIPE & Gene GEORGE SIMMONS	OPAL LASSWELL GOODRICK LURA HOLLOWAY MCALEXANDER & Marq Christy
1931 EDYTHE LESLIE STEVENSON	1940 DELMAR BARLAND BILL HODSON & Jean FRITZ MCCLANAHAN	1942 LOUISE WEBBER NORWOOD RICHARD WALTER
1932 HELEN FRYE HILDENBRAND	ARLOENE DEKAT SIMMONS JOE STAUFFER VICTORINE BARLAND VETTER	1943 DOROTHY SULZEN CASTO LES STAUFFER ALTA KAMPSCHRFOEDER WALTER
1935 HENRIETTA SLAVENS ANDERSON & Leo Anderson, Marcella Anderson CHESTER GIBBENS & Ruth	1941 MAXINE GLENN DARK	1944 CLARENCE DANIELS

(Margery Sanford Daniels, Dec'd]
ROBERT FLEMING & Martha
BILL LESLIE
BETTY WEBER LESLIE
IONA HERSCHELL SPENCER & Kathleen
Bahnmaier Schneider
BETTY CRADY STAUFFER
CHARLES WORLEY
ERMA WULFKUHLE WORLEY

1945
RUTH SELCH CORZETTE
& Becky Corzette Meirowflay
GLENN KIRK HENRY
A.K. WINTER & Charlene

1946
JAMES "BUD" BANKS
ANN MORRIS SMITH
GEORGIA WINGFIELD (BILL, Dec'd)

1950
"Red" ANDREW
CAROL MORRIS KIBBEE

1951
BOB DARK
KENNETH KIBBEE
LEAH BAHNMAIER SHAW & Ed
RUTH ROTHWELL VERVYNCK

1952
JANE ROTHWELL CHILDS
LOIS HILDENBRAND CONDELY & Leon
IRENE KIBBEE DARK
MARJORIE HILDENBRAND
DOROTHY POWELL WOODS & Ernie

1953
DONNA HILDENBRAND LEVINGS
JOHN SALISBURY
BILLY JOE SMITH & Dorothy

1954
BURTON HENRY & Carol

1955
VIRGINIA SMITH ALLEN & Robert
REGINA MYERS ANDREW
JOHN BAHNMAIER & Lana
ROSALIE ROGERS BANKS
DEAN LEROY CHILES & Sonja
LOENE SPENA HAMLIN
DONNA HARDING (Roy, Dec'd)
ROBERT HILDENBRAND
JOHN NILSEN & Marilyn
CAROL PLUMB SINGER & Leland
FRED SMITH & Raina
FRANCIE KIBBEE SOETAERT & Bob
WILLIAM TURNER
DUANE WYATT & Ruth (Carr)

1956
CHALICE ROBUCK ELLIOTT

ROBERT HOLLOWAY
EARLE KASSON
LARRY MATHEWS
ELSIE BAHNMAIER MIDDLETON
NANCY CORBETT QUANEY & Martin
KAREN SANFORD WERTS
ELMER ZEEB & Jo Beth

1958
CARL BAHNMAIER
BETTY DAMM CAROTHERS & Don
ROBERT MORRIS
MARY SALISBURY MORRIS
RICHARD SMITH
ELTON SPENA & Virginia

1959
FRANCIS "SONNY" FOLEY & Reta
ED TURNER
KAREN FISH KASSON
JH VESTAL
JEANIE KENT VESTAL

1960
PAUL BAHNMAIER
CAROLYN TURNER CURRAN

1961
HAROLD "ED" HUDSON
SYLVIA GLENN MCCOLLUM & Bill
DOROTHY CHINN MOORE
GLORIA BAUGHER WARD

1962
DENNIS GOWING

1963
LINDA VAN Riper POORT
RONALD STAUFFER & Wendy

1964
KAREN KELLUM ICE
WANDA BECKER MEINHARDT
LEE NORWOOD
JOYCE SCHWEMMER PIERCE
DENNIS STAUFFER

1965
JOYCE BAHNMAIER BEHLKE
DONNA ANDES GOWING
SYLVIA WALTER NORWOOD
PAULA GODFREY JOHNSON & Denny
EDWARD "LEE" KEATING
LINDA STAUFFER
CONNIE NORWOOD STILSON
& Terry
GEORGIA SIMMONS TRAMMEL
& Johnny

1966
MARY SKINNER STAUFFER

1967
RITA SIMMONS MOCK & Robert



Henrietta Slavens Anderson lives in Olathe, Kansas. Chet Gibbens lives in Glendale, Arizona Both are members of Class of 1935

1968
ROY PASLAY

1969
BONNY LESLIE FUGETT & Steve

1970
TERRY HOPE & Dawn
DEBBIE ROBERTS HOWELL
BRUCE INLOES

1974
DEBBIE STAUFFER FUSTON & Claire Fuston

1975
MARY WINTER ICENOGLIE

1977
CAROL SKINNER STEVENSON & Frank

Other Guests

Leroy Barland
Calvin & Nell Hartman
Mildred Chiles Lester
Wanda Chiles Manis
Dennis Nelson
Sam Kennedy & Guest

Free Event

• Come one, come all

• No Admission Fee

— Second Annual —

Bald Eagle Rendezvous

Friday-Saturday-Sunday

September 23, 24, 25 2005

Hours: Fri: 9-5, Sat: 9-5, Sun: 10-4

Bald Eagle River View Park • East Second St. • Lecompton



Sponsored by The First Santa Fe Trail Plainsmen, Lecompton Historical Society, and Constitution Hall State Historic Site.

Booshway, Randy Hittle 785-966-2695 powderpounder@aol.com
Information: Tim Rues 785-887-6520 consthall@kshs.org

Period participants:

Mountain Man, Plainsman, Native American,
Camp Traders, Old-style Musicians, Early-day Skills Demonstrators

Activities:

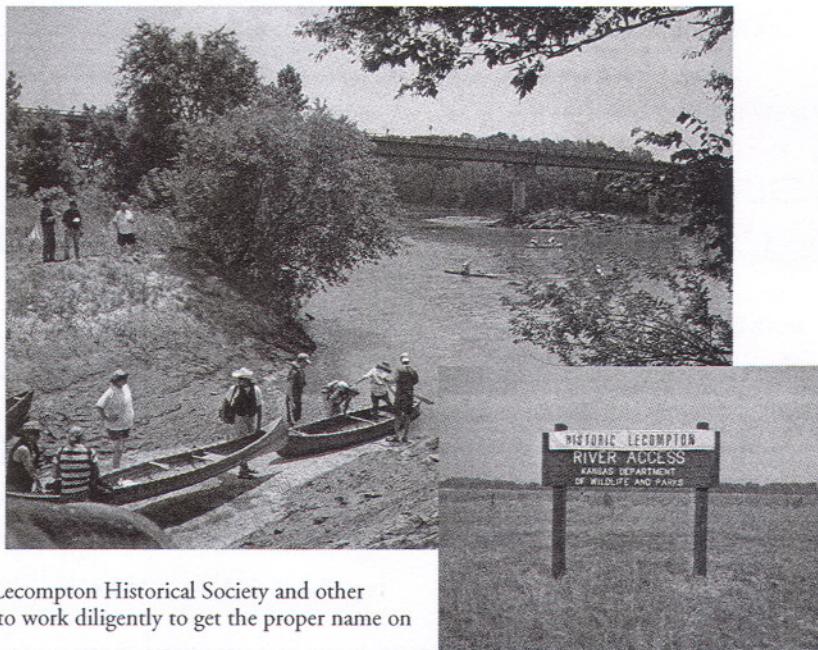
Period Living History Reenactments, Period Primitive Lodge Encampments, Period Trader's Row, "Flintlock Talk" Firearm Discussions and Demonstrations, Tomahawk and Knife Throwing Demonstrations, Flint & Steel Firemaking, Blacksmithing, Flintknapping, Beadwork, Tanning, Gunsmithing, Primitive Camp Cooking Demonstrations, Kids Camp and Games, and much more

Donations to the Territorial Capital Museum

1. Framed Display Sign for Sleigh by Paul & Neva Garber
2. Portrait of Peter Neis Family by Mary Jo Matney Thomas
3. Jones School Attendance Registers 1925-1929 from Marcella Kriepe Anderson
4. Regimental Bio – 21st Engineers Light Railway-A-E-F, WWII Letter of Thanks from King George V, Shoulder badges, buttons & misc WWI Items belonging to Arthur C. Elswick given by cousins, Chester W. Good and Phyllis M. Jones
5. 1965, 1966, 1967 Lecompton Yearbooks & Pictures from former Assistant Coach and Mathematics and Science teacher, Duane & Patricia Ann Robison
6. Purple Heart WWII, Military medals & ribbons, Lecompton business pins, farm books, Police Badge, service ring, miscellaneous items belonging to Sylvester Rothwell by sisters, Ruth Rothwell Vervynck and Jane Rothwell Childs
7. Three unidentified school group pictures, 2 joke and story books from Helen Frye Hildenbrand
8. Bible kept on teacher's desk at Glenn School by teacher, Jessie Trowbridge Winter, from A. K. and Charlene Winter
9. Photograph of Maybell Slavens Hall circa early 1920's.
10. School bell used by Clarence Smith as Principal of Lecompton Grade School to announce the end of recess from Richard Smith.
11. Copy of Halbert family genealogy from the family Bible from Michael A. Thompson.
12. Book, "The Coming Fury", by Bruce Catton containing information on Lecompton and including a map of Kansas Territory with two cities; Lecompton and Topeka, and a map of the State of Kansas with only Lecompton, Topeka and Ft. Leavenworth shown as cities. Given by Paul Bahnmaier
13. Obituaries of members of the John C. Calhoun Family by John McCord, relative of John C. Calhoun, President of the Lecompton Constitutional Convention
14. Photos of early Lecompton, Program from Yarnold School from Teresa Anderson Griffith by brother, Leo Anderson and sister-in-law, Marcella Kriepe Anderson
15. Safe used by August Hildenbrand who operated a hardware store in early Lecompton by Helen Hildenbrand and family.
16. Display case from Rod and Jeanette Hartman Spencer.
17. Gold-plated Winchester Carbine commemorating Douglas Co, Kansas. Engravings on the receiver include Lane University and Constitution Hall loaned by Bruce & Sue Silkey.
18. Hand carved 1st Place trophies from 1983 and 1984 Lecompton Territorial Days Softball Tournaments from Iona Herschell Spencer.

Territorial Days River Dedication

The highlight of June 2005's Territorial Days was the dedication of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Sun boat access ramp to the Kansas River. Former Gov. Mike Hayden, now director of Wildlife and Parks, spoke at the ceremony that mistakenly and surprisingly named the access for Rising Sun, a forgotten hamlet that was on the north bank of the Kansas River directly across from Lecompton. State Representative Tom Sloan was instrumental in securing funds for the ramp. The Lecompton Historical Society and other Lecompton officials plan to work diligently to get the proper name on the boat ramp.



MEMBERS OBITUARIES

Shutts, Betty Jean, 69, Olathe, Ks, died Sat. Jan. 8, 2005, at home.

She was born in Wichita, Ks. Memorial services were held at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

She is survived by her husband, Roger; a daughter, Lucinda (Ron) Cox; two brothers, Robert (Vanice) Hepner and Wayne (Sharon) Hepner; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Bartlett, Merle C. 94, Kansas City, passed away Feb. 13, 2005.

Merle was born Sept. 18, 1910 in Lecompton, Ks. Merle was an Army veteran of WWII serving in the 13th Infantry Regiment, 8th Division, and attaining the rank of Major.

He was a Life member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

He was married to Dorothy K. Bartlett for 60 years. She preceded him in death. He is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Jack Middleton, Sandy, UT., and Barbara and Roger Zink,

Independence, Mo. and three grandchildren, Tracie Glass, San Diego, CA., Jeff Middleton, Sandy, UT. And Holly Morefield, Lee's Summit, MO; and three great-grandchildren, Scott and Nicole Glass and Paige Morefield

Wheatley, Fern, 93, passed away April 27, 2005 in Buckeye, AZ.

Fern was born April 9, 1912, the daughter of Arthur Glenn and Clara Morris Shaffer in Lecompton. She attended the Glenn, Lecompton Grade and graduated from Lecompton High School in 1931. She was a member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

Fern married Arthur Wheatley in 1931 and they moved west to San Bernardino, CA in 1936. He preceded her in death in 1979.

She is survived by two children, Joyce Halverson, Hawaii and Jim Wheatley, Buckeye, AZ., four grandchildren, six great grandchildren and three great, great grandchildren, and one sister Helen Shaffer Burton, Ada, OK

Burial in Montecito Cemetery, Highland, CA.

*****Please Clip and Mail With Your Check*****
THE LECOMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Lecompton, Kansas 66050, is a non-profit corporation for the preservation of historical sites. We are eager for continued membership and new members.

Dues are \$5.00 per year for individual membership and \$7.00 for a couple's membership. The dues are from December to December. Life membership is \$50 per individual, contributions are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to the Lecompton Historical Society, and mailed to Georgia Trammel, Chairman, 11 N. 2064 Rd, Lecompton, KS 66050

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MEMBERS OBITUARIES *continued*

Spencer, Maud H. 96, Melvern, KS passed away June 6, 2005.

Maud was born Aug. 20, 1908, rural Gardner, the daughter of Arthur and Grace Donovan Hermon.

She was a member of the Church of Christ at Stull, Ks., and the Family & Community Education unit of Stull. She also was a member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

Maud married Thurman Russell Spencer, June 6, 1934 in Gardner. He died in 1993.

Survivors include two sons, Philip Spencer, Melvern, and James Spencer, Quenemo; two daughters, Georgia Wingfield, Lecompton, and Bonnie Hinck, Eskridge; 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Burial in Eastview Cemetery at Big Springs, Ks.

Shipers, Wilma Eva, 89, Lawrence, passed away June 17, 2005.

She was born Sept. 27, 1915, in Hazelton, the daughter of James McKee and Eurettie Eva Sherk DeMint. She was a life long resident of Barber County before moving to Lawrence.

She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star

Chapter in Kiowa and also was a member of the Lecompton Historical Society. Her mother Eurettie and Aunt Ermina Sherk both attended the Lane University.

She married Leo Martin Shipers on Aug. 21, 1938, in Fairview, OK. He died in July, 1993.

Survivors include two daughters, Margaret Rose Peterson, Okla. City, OK and Eva "JO" Wallace, Lawrence, five grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; five great-great grandchildren.

Burial in Riverview Cemetery in Kiowa, KS.

New Lecompton Historical Society Life Members:

Gilbert et Simone Hetrick, from France

Life Memorials:

Milton Shipman Winter and
Fay (Young) Winter by their son Wint Winter

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