



To Vote
For Lecompton:
www.8wonders.org
or turn to Page 5



CELEBRATION— Paul Bahnmaier, Bonny Fugget, and Tim Rues display the “Vote for Constitution Hall” banner created by Lecompton’s Tallgrass Studio. The campaign for votes runs until Dec. 31, 2007. To vote, go to www.8wonders.org or turn to page 5.

From Our President

Lecompton Historical Society Campaigns to Honor Constitution Hall as 8th Wonder of Kansas

By Paul Bahnmaier

Last spring Tim Rues nominated Constitution Hall, the historic Bleeding Kansas-era building on Elmore Street, to compete in a statewide competition to select the “8 Wonders of Kansas!” Tim’s presentation was brilliant and, consequently, Constitution Hall is one of 24 finalists.

The popular vote will determine “the 8 Wonders of Kansas.” --whichever 8

sites get the most votes win.

To be among the Eight Wonders will be exciting for our community, recognizing the historical importance of Lecompton. Winning will also honor the dedicated work of so many who live in and love Lecompton and who have helped preserve this history and heritage.

Our competition is stiff, including
continued on page 4

***Fourth Annual
Bald Eagle
Rendezvous***

*On the Banks of
The Kaw at the
Democratic Headquarters
Cabin, Sept. 21,22, and 23.
See Poster on Page 9.*

Constitution Hall in Lecompton: A Wonder of History

Editor's Note: This article, written by Tim Rues, Constitution Hall curator, was his descriptive submission that won Constitution Hall a place in the final balloting to become an 8th Wonder of Kansas.

--John Peterson

By Tim Rues

Curator, Constitution Hall, State Historic Site

Constitution Hall, in the small but mighty historic community of Lecompton, has stood for more than 150 years, since 1856, as a testament to the Herculean struggle American waged to break the shackles of American slavery. Without a doubt, the events that transpired inside the walls of this two-story, wood-frame building, that looms large even today over Elmore Street, the main street of this one-time Kansas Territory capital city, were major benchmarks on the road to the American Civil War.

Drafting the proslavery Lecompton Constitution in 1857 in Constitution Hall without a doubt was one of the major dominos to fall leading this country into four years of unimaginable civil war carnage and, in terms of historical importance, the Lecompton Constitution ranks up there in the pre-Civil War historical pantheon of events such as Uncle Tom's Cabin, the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, the Dred Scott Decision, Harpers Ferry, and Lincoln's election.

The Struggle in 1857

Lecompton Constitutional Convention delegates, split between proslavery radicals and proslavery conservatives, struggled from September to November 1857 to hammer out a constitution acceptable to both North and South. The stakes were high for Kansas and for the Union. The North was determined to defeat the Lecompton Constitution and stop the expansion of the peculiar institution of slavery into Kansas and beyond, and the South was equally determined to make Kansas the next slave state in the Union, or secede from the Union if they failed. The Lecompton Constitution ignited a firestorm in the country; it paralyzed Congress, rendered the President impotent, splintered the national Democratic Party into antislavery northern and proslavery southern wings, and guaranteed massive losses for the ruling Democratic Party in the next election including the White House. It catapulted an obscure Illinois politician named Abraham Lincoln into the White House as the first Republican president, and pushed the country ever closer to open warfare.

A Necessary Pilgrimage

Civil War historians and history buffs alike from all over the country and, for that matter, from all over the world make the pilgrimage to Lecompton to visit Constitution



Ellen Duncan's impressionistic painting of the hall hangs on the second floor of the Territorial Capitol Museum.

Hall, birthplace of the famous constitution. A Gettysburg College historian was quoted in a speech he made at Constitution Hall in February 2007 to commemorate the historic 150th anniversary return of the Lecompton Constitution to Lecompton: "It's an important benchmark and an overlooked benchmark in the road to the Civil War, its absolutely awe-inspiring to stand here and know that this document in here for the first time since it was signed."

The past two years have marked two momentous

continued on page 4

Professor Miner's New Book

Wichita State University history professor, and prolific Kansas history author, Craig Miner's new book on the Lecompton Constitution, "Framing Freedom," will be published in Fall '08. It will be an extensive study of American public opinion regarding this constitution. He describes its origins, "it begins in the office of the New York Herald in 1858 when they are setting an article about the Lecompton matter. My point is that everyone in that office and nearly everyone in New York City knew all about Lecompton already. The Herald had run 4,400 articles on Kansas in the four years since the Kansas-Nebraska debate. We knew that Kansas was a major issue leading to the Civil War, but I certainly never imagined the kind of exclusive focus it had in the national press for several years. It became the touchstone for everything else, and the failure of Lecompton really presaged the failure of all civilized accommodation. The Lincoln-Douglas debates were window-dressing after the curtain was really down."

Dr. Miner will be the "Kansas Day" speaker when we kick-off the "Bleeding Kansas '08" lecture series at Constitution Hall at 2 pm on Sunday, January 27. His talk is titled: "Lecompton: A National Obsession, 1858."

Douglas County Commission proclaims official Voting Days
and urges Citizens to back Constitution Hall

A Proclamation for Constitution Hall

WHEREAS: *Constitution Hall is a National Landmark, the highest rank any building in the United States can receive; and*

WHEREAS: *In the historic community of Lecompton, Constitution Hall has stood for more than 150 years as a testament to the Herculean struggle our country waged to break the shackles of American slavery; and*

WHEREAS: *Drafting the proslavery Lecompton Constitution in 1857 in Constitution Hall was one of the major determinants leading this country into four years of unimaginable civil war destruction; and*

WHEREAS: *The Lecompton Constitution ranks with the pre-civil war historical pantheon of events such as Uncle Tom's Cabin, the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, the Dred Scott Decision, Harpers Ferry, and Lincoln's election, establishing its importance in United States history; and*

WHEREAS: *Constitution Hall built in 1856, is possibly the oldest wooden building in Kansas still standing; and*

WHEREAS: *The Lecompton Constitution was debated in Congress during the fall of 1857 and endorsed by President Buchanan, passing the United States Senate 33 to 25, but being defeated in the United States House of Representatives 120 to 112; and*

WHEREAS: *The Lecompton Constitution was mentioned 51 times during the Lincoln-Douglas Debate; and*

WHEREAS: *The Lecompton Constitution split the Democratic Party and contributed to the election of Abraham Lincoln as a minority president and thus the south seceded from the union; and*

WHEREAS: *Constitution Hall, should be considered as a finalist for the "8 Wonders of Kansas"; and*

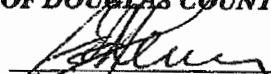
NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County, Kansas, does June 11, 2007 hereby proclaim **June 1 through December 31, 2007** as official

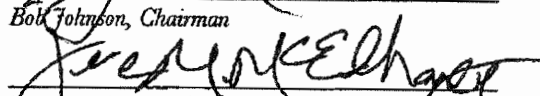
Voting days for the "8 Wonders of Kansas"


and urge all citizens of Douglas County to participate in the voting activities either by online election at **8wonders.org** or by calling in your vote to **620-585-2374** to secure the honored Constitution Hall State Historic Site as an 8th Wonder of Kansas.

Dated this 11th day of June, 2007.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, KANSAS**


Bob Johnson, Chairman


Jere McElhaney, Vice-Chair


Charles Jones, Member

Constitution Hall as 8th Wonder *continued from page 1*

Our competition is stiff, including the Capitol Rotunda's John Steuart Curry mural of John Brown, the Eisenhower Presidential Library and several natural scenic wonders like the Flint Hills. But none other have the historic pedigree of Constitution Hall.

National historians who have mentioned Lecompton in their books include: Doris Kearns Goodwin, Bruce Catton, Kenneth Stamp, and Craig Miner. Mr. Miner writes that Lecompton obsessed the nation in 1858. The fact that Lecompton was mentioned 51 times in the historically charged Lincoln-Douglas Debates reinforces the impact this community had on American history.

To be among the 8 Wonders of Kansas would provide economic development in the form of new businesses which would help the tax base of Lecompton.

Furthermore, being an 8th Wonder would mean Lecompton would certainly be a star attraction in the soon-to-be organized National Bleeding Kansas Heritage Area.

The Lecompton Historical Society urges you to ask your friends, relatives, neighbors and colleagues to vote for Constitution Hall. Just go to www.8wonders.org. You must vote for eight each time you vote. Remember, you can vote three times at each e-mail address.

You may also vote once using the paper ballot on Pages 5-8 or available at Territorial Capitol Museum or Constitution Hall. Anyone any where in the world can vote, but it must be done before December 31, 2007..

The contest is sponsored by the Kamas Sampler Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to promoting the best of rural Kansas. The Foundation's officials say the voting is spirited with about 100 votes coming in every day.

We need a spurt for Lecompton's Constitution Hall. Please consider doing this for Lecompton.

*This is important
Please vote
Paul*

A Wonder of History *continued from page 2*

milestones in the history of Constitution Hall, a National Historic Landmark since 1974 and a Kansas State historic property since 1986. 2006 was the 150th anniversary of the construction of the Hall, and 2007 was the 150th anniversary of the constitution. Notwithstanding its grand opening in 1995, no other recent events have been as historically important for Constitution Hall. It is truly a wonder that after a century and a half the old hall survives, and that after a century and a half the parchment of the old constitution written there survived to come back home on its Sesquicentennial anniversary.

It seems almost impossible how two fragile items, one built out of native Kansas cottonwood, walnut and oak boards, and the other, drafted on parchment, were both somehow able to survive these many years. This grand old hall that is Constitution Hall may very well be the oldest wood-frame structure left standing in Kansas. Constitution Hall is indeed a true Kansas survivor. It has literally weathered every Kansas storm, including political ones. Constitution Hall is a truly unique one-of-a-kind Kansas wonder.

Truly remarkable.

*****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 \$10.00 per year for individual membership and \$14.00 for a family membership. The dues are from December to December. Life membership is \$100 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

- () \$10.00 Annual Individual Membership
- () \$14.00 Annual Family Membership
- () \$100.00 Individual Life Membership
- () \$50.00 Individual Memorial Membership

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It costs Lecompton Historical Society at least 96 cents for a change of address, and the newsletter is returned. The cost for a postcard to notify us of your change of address is 82 cents, and the newsletter gets thrown away.

If you have moved and do not get your newsletter, this explains why.

Voting is easy. You must vote for 8 wonders. ☒ in the blanks, fold the two pages in half and then put on a 41 cent stamp and mail.

8 WONDERS OF KANSAS

A project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation

The 8 Wonders of Kansas recognize that every community has evidence or a story to tell about the 8 Rural Culture Elements of architecture, art, commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history, and people. We hope that you'll not only travel to each of the 24 finalists before you vote but that you will also explore the many places between these sites. Enjoy the journey!

ABOUT VOTING

Please check off 8 nominations and either mail or fax to the Kansas Sampler Foundation, 978 Arapaho Rd., Inman, KS 67546; Fax: 620-585-2217. Please include all information. If the ballot does not have a name and address, or does not have 8 boxes checked it will not be counted. **DEADLINE for voting is December 31, 2007.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST: _____

PHONE: _____ E-mail: _____

**No name, no vote. One entry per person.
620.585.2374 www.KansasSampler.org**

Kansas Sampler Foundation
978 Arapaho Rd.
Inman, KS 67546

Scotch tape or staple here after folding



1 ARIKAREE BREAKS, Cheyenne County is a candidate for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because the deep canyons make this a distinct and scenically dramatic part of Kansas!



2 BALL OF TWINE, Cawker City is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is a legendary icon of Kansas and the largest Ball of Twine in the world still growing!



3 BIG BRUTUS, West Mineral is a candidate for one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is the largest electric coal shovel in the world!



4 BIG WELL, Greensburg is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because the construction of it was an engineering marvel in its day and it is one of the world's largest hand-dug wells.



5 BROOKVILLE HOTEL, Abilene The Brookville Hotel is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of its famous family-style chicken menu that has been serving people since 1915.



6 CHASE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Cottonwood Falls is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is one of the most recognizable buildings in Kansas distinguished by its striking French Renaissance (Second Empire) style and red mansard roof.



7 CHEYENNE BOTTOMS/QUIVIRA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Barton & Stafford counties are finalists as a single entity for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of their vital and international importance as a migratory stop for North American shorebirds.



8 CIMARRON NATIONAL GRASSLAND, Morton County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of its early pioneering advancements in conservation, it contains the longest publicly-owned section of the historic Santa Fe Trail, and it features three ecosystems (shortgrass prairie, sand-sage prairie, and wooded riparian).



9 CONSTITUTION HALL STATE HISTORIC SITE, Lecompton is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because the events that transpired inside the walls of this two-story, wood-frame building were, without a doubt, major events leading to the American Civil War.



10 JOHN STEUART CURRY MURALS, State Capitol, Topeka are a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because Curry was one of the greatest American Regionalist painters and, despite tremendous controversy, he considered the murals in the State Capitol his best work.



11 DAVIS MEMORIAL, Hiawatha is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the grandeur and controversy of this massive marble cemetery memorial.



12 THE EISENHOWER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM, Abilene is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it tells of the remarkable lifetime achievements of Dwight D. Eisenhower, five-star General and President of the United States.



13 FORT LARNED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Pawnee County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is the best-preserved authentic frontier post in the American West.



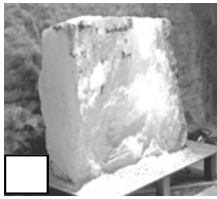
14 GARDEN OF EDEN, Lucas is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is a world-renowned grassroots art site with one of the most fascinating (and bizarre) sculpture gardens in the world.



15 GYPSUM HILLS SCENIC DRIVE, Barber County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the stunning red-colored butte-and-mesa topography.



16 KANSAS COSMOSPHERE & SPACE CENTER, Hutchinson is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is one of the most significant collections of U.S. and Russian space artifacts in the world.



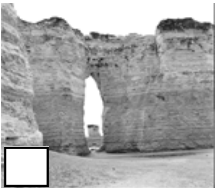
17 KANSAS UNDERGROUND SALT MUSEUM, Hutchinson is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it showcases the natural treasure, salt, that exists hundreds of feet below the Kansas plains.



18 KEEPER OF THE PLAINS, Wichita is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is an awe-inspiring sculpture by well-known artist Blackbear Bosin that honors the region's original citizens and has become a symbol of Wichita.



19 LAKE SCOTT STATE PARK, Scott County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the breathtaking relief carved into the steep bluffs of the Ogallala Formation.



20 MONUMENT ROCKS/CASTLE ROCK, Gove County are finalists for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the scientifically significant fossils these ancient chalk beds have produced and because they have been highly eroded into unusual spires and shapes, making them spectacular landmarks on the plains of western Kansas.



21 PAWNEE INDIAN MUSEUM STATE HISTORIC SITE, Republic County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it is the only museum of an indigenous Indian tribe in Kansas and one of the only in the Central Plains.



22 ST. FIDELIS CATHOLIC CHURCH, (Cathedral of the Plains), Victoria is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the architectural grandeur and the impressive craftsmanship achieved by the Volga German pioneers.



23 ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, St. Benedict is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because of the grandeur of its lavish ornamentation, leaded windows, and murals and the fact that it is the only G.F. Satory-painted church to be fully restored.



24 TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PRESERVE/THE FLINT HILLS, Chase County is a finalist for the 8 Wonders of Kansas because it represents the last significant example of the tallgrass prairie in North America.

Free Event

• Come one, come all

• No Admission Fee

– Fourth Annual –

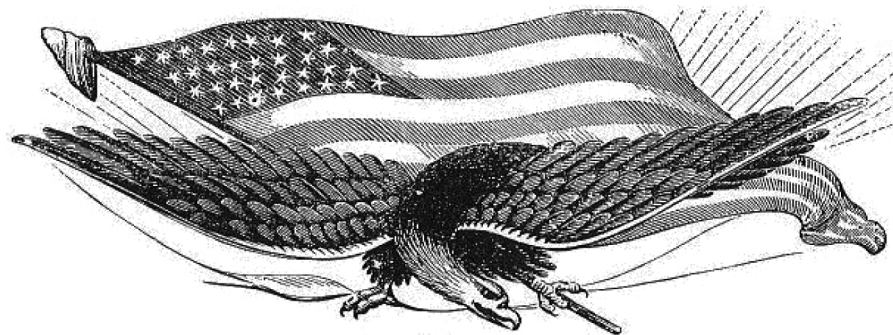
Bald Eagle Rendezvous

Friday-Saturday-Sunday

September 21, 22, 23 2007

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.

Boosway, 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

2007 LECOMPTON RURAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET

The Alumni Association hosted the 84th annual banquet June 17, 2007 in the new gymnasium at Lecompton Elementary School with 121 alumni in attendance. **Helen Frye Hildenbrand**, (1932) was the oldest graduate present. Alumni attended from KS, AZ, CA, FL, IA, MN, MS, NB, NV, SD and TX. **Pauline Baughman Dionne**, (1938) traveled the longest distance from Florida. Special "Thanks" to **Earle** (1956) and **Karen Kasson** (1959) for making and donating the name tags, **Dorothy & Bill Smith** (1953) for providing and operating the sound system. Catering by Dave Kellum of Oakley Creek Catering

The next Banquet will be **June 21, 2008** at the Lecompton Elementary School gym. Everyone with a connection to Lecompton is welcome The 2007 Attendees are listed below. If we have missed anyone, please accept our apology. **See you in 2008!**

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1932
HELEN FRYE HILDENBRAND &
Kathleen Bahnmaier Schneider | RUTH FRENCH LESLIE
Letter from EARL SANFORD | KAREN SANFORD WERTS
ELMER ZEEB & guest |
| 1938
PAULINE BAUGHMAN DIONNE | 1949
FRANCES ROBINSON SANFORD | 1957
Letter from BETTY ALLEN NEWELL |
| 1939
FLORENCE CONNOLE KREIPE | GEORGIA WINGFIELD
(Bill Wingfield, Dec'd) | 1958
CARL BAHNMAIER & Vicki |
| DORIS HOLLOWAY SINDT | 1950
MARGERY SCHMITT
(Jerry Schmitt, Dec'd) | 1959
JOAN LOBB ANDERSON & Pete |
| GEORGE SIMMONS | 1951
LEAH BAHNMAIER SHAW & Ed | LARRY "PETE" BAUGHER |
| 1940
JOE STAUFFER | RUTH ROTHWELL VERVYNCK | LARRY HUGHES & Pam |
| ARLOENE DEKAT SIMMONS | 1952
MARY MYERS MANIS | ROBERT GLENN & Carolyn |
| 1941
OPAL LASSWELL GOODRICK | MARGIE HILDENBRAND | KAREN FISH KASSON |
| MAXINE GLENN DARK | LOIS HILDENRAND CONDLEY &
Leon | J. H VESTAL |
| LURA HOLLOWAY | JANE ROTHWELL CHILDS | JEANIE KENT VESTAL |
| MCALEXANDER
& Marq Christy & Frieda LaDuke | DOROTHY POWELL WOODS &
Ernest | 1960
PAUL BAHNMAIER |
| 1942
RICHARD WALTER | 1953
GEORGE MATHEWS & Rita | RUTH CARR WYATT |
| 1943
ALTA KAMPSCHROEDER WALTER | BILL SMITH & Dorothy | 1961
HAROLD "ED" HUDSON |
| EVELYN HOUK JENSEN & Don | 1954
HELEN FROST HOFFMAN &
Keely Anderson | GLORIA BAUGHER WARD |
| LESTER STAUFFER | PEGGY FORRESTER SANFORD | 1962
DAREL BURD & Debra |
| 1944
ROBERT FLEMING & Martha | NADINE CHILES MANIS | MARGIE HUDSON GISH & Larry |
| IONA HERSHELL SPENCER | 1955
REGINA MYERS ANDREW | HENRY PERSON |
| CHARLES WORLEY | ROSALIE ROGERS BANKS | 1964
DENNIS STAUFFER |
| ERMA WULFKUHLE WORLEY | JOHN BAHNMAIER & Lanna | LEE NORWOOD |
| BETTY CRADY STAUFFER | ROBERT HILDENBRAND | 1965
LINDA STAUFFER |
| BILL LESLIE | JOHN NILSEN & Marilyn | GEORGIA SIMMONS TRAMMEL
& Johnny |
| BETTY WEBER LESLIE | MAYNARD PERSON & Elise | SYLVIA WALTER NORWOOD |
| CLARENCE DANIELS
(Margery Sanford Daniels, Dec'd) | WILLIAM TURNER | MILDRED CHILES LESTER |
| 1945
HOMER LESLIE | DUANE WYATT | 1966
MARY SKINNER STAUFFER |
| A.K. WINTER & Charlene | 1956
CHALICE ROBUCK ELLIOTT | 1967
VAUGHN RUSSELL & Barbara |
| 1946
BEVERLY BAHNMAIER VANDYKE
& Bill, & Norma Svoboda Hamrick | EARLE KASSON | 1968
CHARLES HAAS & family |
| JAMES "BUD" BANKS | LARRY MATHEWS | 1975
DEBBIE ANDREW CORCORAN |
| NORMA CREE WALTER & Melvin | ELSIE BAHNMAIER MIDDLETON | 1983
MICHELLE HUDSON WILLIAMS |
| 1947 | MARTHA RAYBURN SMITH | |

OBITUARIES

McGiffert, Susie L., 76, of Oklahoma City passed away Dec. 30, 2002. She was born Jan. 11, 1926 the daughter of Edward and Olga Lee in Topeka.

She is survived by her husband Bob McGiffert, a son Stephen D. McGiffert and wife Maura of Leawood, Ks., a daughter Mary Fran Hess and husband, Richard of Edmond, Okla. Teri L. Hamill and husband Dave of Mt. Pleasant, SC, seven grandchildren; a sister Barbara Ann Halladay and husband, Bob of Silver Spring, MD.

Susie was a life member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

Memorial services were held Jan. 4, 2003, in the All Souls' Episcopal Church. Interment was in Resurrection Memorial Cemetery.

McGiffert, R. M. "Bob", 84, of Oklahoma City, died April 6, 2007. Bob was born in Kansas City, Ks. Sept. 6, 1922 the son of Bob and Frances McGiffert. He lived in Topeka, until he left for military service during World War II. He was assigned to combat service in Europe, serving in the U. S. Army from 1942 to 1946.

He is survived by a son, Steve and wife Maura, Leawood, Ks., and their children, Patrick and Erin, daughter, Mary Fran Hess and husband Richard, Edmond, OK., and daughters, Rachel and Abby, Daughter, Teri Hamill and husband Dave, Mt. Pleasant, SC., and their children, Bobby, Gracie and Celia.

Bob was a life member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

Memorial services were held April 10, 2007, at the All Souls Episcopal Church, with burial in Resurrection Memorial Cemetery.

Colman, Clare J., died July 27 2007 in Burlingame, CA. Clare was born on a farm west of Lawrence, KS., the son of Willis R. and Nellie Van Neste Colman. He attended Winter School and graduated from Lecompton High School in 1940. He joined Magnolia Petroleum Co.; an early unit of Mobil Oil Corporation in Dallas, TX.

He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars. After residing in New Canaan, CT for over 37 years, he moved to Burlingame, CA.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Katherine (Kay), a daughter Diana Kudeki and her husband Ravil of Burlingame; two sons, Dr. Roger Colman and wife Susan of Newburgh, IN, and Edward Colman of Houston, TX; six grandchildren, one great grandson and a godson and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother Ray Ellsworth Colman and a sister Waneta Jean Willits of Lawrence

He was a member of Presbyterian Church of Burlingame and a Life Member of the Lecompton Historical society. Clare never forgot his roots in Lecompton.

Memorial service was Aug. 25, with burial in Lawrence, Kansas.

Graves, Mae Jean, passed away Jan. 29, 2006 in Colorado Springs, Co. She was born Sept. 9, 1924 in Bartley, Neb., the daughter of Henry and Pearl (Dean) Damm.

She attended grade schools at Deer Creek and Greenwood Valley and graduated from Lecompton High School in 1942. She was a life member of the Lecompton Historical Society.

She married Freeman Edward Graves in the Chapel at Camp Carlson, CO., as he was serving in the United States Army there. He preceded her in death. She is survived by five children, Ronnie, Kenneth, Sharon, Diane, and Richard. Burial was in Colorado Springs, CO.

(We are sorry this is late as we just received this information.)

Stevenson, Edythe Louise Norman, 95, Lawrence died Aug. 9, 2007. She was born Nov. 11, 1911 in Lecompton, the daughter of Henry P. and Nettie F. McClure Leslie.

She married Stanley B. Norman. He died Nov. 20, 1980. She then married Leslie A. Stevenson June 4, 1982. He died June 10, 2001.

She worked at the Douglas County Treasurer's Office for more than 20 years and served many terms as county treasurer.

She was a member of First Christian Church and a 30 year member of the Choir. She was a Life member of Lecompton Historical Society. Edythe was proud of her Lecompton heritage.

Survivors include three stepdaughters, Eloise Kerr, Lawrence; Leona Blaski, Clay Center and Lucille Lundberg, Waterville; two stepsons, Raymond Stevenson, hernando, Fla.; and Mervin Norman, Junction City; two brothers, Bill Leslie, Lecompton and Homer Leslie, Perry. Burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Perry.

New Life Members:

Laura (Blakeley) Cozby
Paul Nickel

Donations to the Territorial Capital Museum

1. 1900 period doll that belonged to Wilma Fleming from her daughter Corrine Fleming Childs
2. Mantel Clock owned by William & Jane Grauel by grandson Robert Andes.
3. 1857 Territorial Map of Douglas County from the Kasson & Beurman Family by Elaine Kasson Long
4. Projector table by Gene and Florence Connole Kreipe
5. Christmas ornaments by Marsha Paslay
6. Painting of a unique winter scene of Constitution Hall by a famous Kansas artist Ernst Ulmer. Arrangements for this anonymously given artifact was made by Kathy and Bruce Liese



This colorful banner hangs on Constitution Hall's east facade. It's a daily reminder to Lecompton residents to support their town and its history. The joy of the 8 Wonders campaign, the creation of the banners and other promotional efforts is creating a huge new interest in Lecompton's past glory and future prospects. The banner was produced by Bob Treanor's Tallgrass Studio of Lecompton.

Lecompton Historical Society

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 Vice President *Rich McConnell
 Secretary *Vicki Roberts Bahnmaier
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 Lecompton, Kansas

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