



# Wildwood Historical Society

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

## July 2015 Newsletter

### July Program

Our July program is one you don't want to miss! You may have heard of Honor Flight, an organization that flies veterans from around the country to Washington, D.C., for a memorable day of visiting memorials and being recognized for their contributions to our freedom. In May, area residents Mick Schott and Wil Harris, accompanied by guardians Terry Schott and Tom Kelpel, participated. Join us to see photos and videos and hear memories from their special day. Following the program, we will hold an ice cream social. WHS will provide the ice cream; please bring your favorite topping.

#### July Program

**Tuesday, July 21, 2015**

**Program at 7:00 p.m.; ice cream social following**

**WHS Meeting Hall**

**18750 Highway 100**

**Wildwood, MO 63069**

### August Program

"The Wabash, Frisco & Pacific (WF&P) Railroad organization was originally formed in 1939, when a group of railway enthusiasts acquired a 12 inch gauge steam locomotive (Engine #171) and the use of a 30-acre estate located on the southeast corner of Brown Road and Natural Bridge. The railway developed to the point where it had a mile of track, four steam locomotives, a telegraph and a telephone communications system between stations, and an electropneumatic signal system. Trains were operated by regulation timetables, and train orders governed them just as our standard gauge counterparts." (From [www.wfpr.com/history.html](http://www.wfpr.com/history.html))

If you would like to learn more about this railroad (a resident of Glencoe since 1961) and its history, please come to the program on August 18!

## Upcoming Programs

**August 18** – WF&P Railroad history at 7:00 p.m.

**September 15** – TBA; annual election of trustee

**October 20** – TBA

**November 17** – WHS Antiques Roadshow at 7:00 p.m.

**December 5** – WHS Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m.

## Summer Sales–Calendar Ads!

Now is a great time to sell those calendar ads. Labor Day and the start of school means busier schedules.

We ask every member–please set aside just a few hours to ask those you do business with to sponsor an ad. How about a minimum of five contacts per member? It really is simple and easy; *anyone* can sell ads. You can ask your vet, dentist, auto repair shop, bank, hairdresser, and more.

- The ads are inexpensive, only \$75 for a business card ad or \$145 for a double-business card ad.
- The ad serves for the whole year in calendars distributed throughout the area. Our calendars are very popular and get into the hands of over 1,000 people or businesses.
- You demonstrate support for your community and non-profit historical society. As a small organization, we are very dependent on volunteers and fundraising to continue our mission. We are asking you to help us achieve that.

For more information, please contact Paul Eckler ([paul.eckler@att.net](mailto:paul.eckler@att.net) or 636-273-5398).

From the article “Follows of Duden” by William Bek; published in Missouri Historical Review (1920)...thank you to Karen Fox for sharing this.

*Herman Steines' diary entry for July 16, 1837: “The heavy rain has caused all the creeks and rivers to flood the low lands, so the mail carrier was not able to make the trip from Jefferson City since July 10. The Missouri and Meramec are flooding the low lands and are doing much damage.”*

## Hencken House Renovation

We have some wonderful volunteers renovating, repainting, and freshening up the circa-1852 Hencken farmhouse. Thank you to everyone who is lending a hand! The farmhouse will be available to rent in August for \$1,200, plus electricity and trash/recycle pick-up. If you or someone you know might be interested, contact Lisa Kelp ( [kelpfamily@gmail.com](mailto:kelpfamily@gmail.com) or 636-458-2860). Below are some pictures of what's been happening; thank you to Martha Bunch for providing them.



## Officers

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## Trustees

**Helen Gaehle**

**Rich Hardt**

**Donna Kummer**

**Jim Martin**

**Chuck Weber**

## Editor

**Anna Kelpé**

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## Society Website

[www.wildwoodhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.wildwoodhistoricalsociety.org)

## Facebook

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

WildwoodHistoricalSociety

## Peek Into Our Past

The *Watchman* county newspaper published news from towns in our area in the late 1800s. Enjoy this month's "Peek Into Our Past."

*7/18/1884 – THE FIFTIETH YEAR*

*I had the pleasure of meeting last Sunday afternoon some of the oldest residents in Meramec township, at the residence of Charlie Paffrath, more familiarly known as "Uncle Charlie" or as he likes to be called, "Dutch Charlie." The assembly was for the purpose of celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. Paffrath's residence in Meramec township. I noticed among the old citizens present: Professor Fred Steines and family, Julius Hardt and wife, Fred Ossenfort and family, Michael Bouquet and wife, Herman Jaeger, Wm. Lautz, John Paffrath and wife, R. C. Allen and wife, Olla Steines, and others. Uncle Charlie entertained his guests in royal style. After partaking of an elegant supper and emptying a number of bottles of wine and beer the assembly was called to order and R. C. Allen was called on for a few remarks he having known Uncle Charlie for over twenty-five years. After which Professor Fred Steines made some remarks in German, at the conclusion of which three cheers were given Uncle Charlie. Mr. Paffrath who is now seventy-five years old is as active as a man of thirty. He has been a widower for a number of years and it is my impression that the next gathering at his residence will be a wedding, for he is a great ladies man and a favorite of all the good looking ones where ever he goes. It was the wish of all present that they live to meet Uncle Charlie on many of such occasions.*

*7/16/1886 – This is probably a new place in St. Louis County to many of her old citizens. Maple Grove is located on the Manchester road, twenty-five and one-half miles west of St. Louis, in a prosperous and thriving country, surrounded by fine farming lands, which are all under cultivation.*

## WHS Membership Information

WHS memberships are due on a calendar-year basis and run through December 31, 2015. Thanks for your support!

Individual – \$25

Couple – \$30

Family with children through age 22 – \$35

Benefactor – \$100

Lifetime – \$500

**Please make your check payable to:**

Wildwood Historical Society

P.O. Box 125

Wildwood, MO 63040

Please include a note with your current e-mail address, phone number, membership level, and member's name(s).