



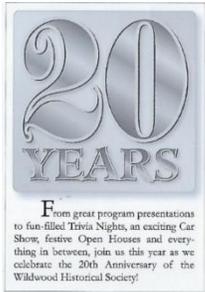
## *Wildwood Historical Society*

*18750 Hwy 100 (Manchester Road)  
Wildwood, MO 63069  
1 driveway west of Stovall's*

*Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 125,  
Wildwood, MO 63040*



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



## **SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **September Newsletter-From your President-Sandra K. Becker Gurnow**

Seems like the months are going by faster and faster the older I get. Does anybody else feel that way?

We had a FULL DAY at Celebrate Wildwood. We talked to a lot of people that either knew about us or didn't, and some that didn't know we existed. We are doing EVERYTHING we can to make ourselves known. The best ways besides our Facebook page and Website is our books. We sold a lot of the new Roadside Books, Church Books and School Books. And our terrific Archivist, Librarian, Author Jill VonGruben signed LOTS of the Celebrate the History of Wildwood Missouri books. It just keeps getting better and better as Jill adds more local history. When the final book is published there will be a \$15.00 donation for each book. The donation goes toward future reconstruction of the Essen Log Cabin which the City of Wildwood recovered AFTER a man had illegally taken it down and was going to sell the logs a couple of years ago. Nothing is numbered or anything. It is going to be a real puzzle to reconstruct.

Coming up at this month's meeting will be Marc Houseman, Director of the Washington Historical Society. He will be telling us REAL GHOST stories of the house he and his wife Tina live in in Washington, MO. Come join us!

See you September 17 at 7 P.M.

Regards,

Sandy

## 2020 CALENDAR ADS



The 2020 Calendar subject is World War II. This is a great opportunity to honor a family veteran with a personal business card sized ad for \$75. At this time we still have space for three ads. But hurry. We must go to press soon. Contact Paul Eckler at 636-273-5398 or [paul.eckler@att.net](mailto:paul.eckler@att.net).

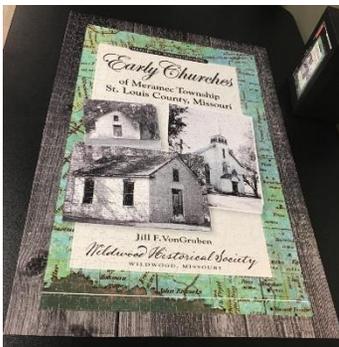
### Historic Flooding at a Historic Place



The morning of Monday, August 26, saw near rainfall of at least 6 inches in a very short time on the grounds of our Society. Fox Creek came out of its banks. The rain itself caused surface flooding across the grounds. None of our buildings suffered any damage, though the rock basement of Hencken House did fill with water. The sump pump did its job and drained the huge volume of water. A big thanks to Fred Bunch who then cleaned up the mud left by the water in the basement.

Friday afternoon, August 30th, Mother Nature tried again with another rain dump, but only with 4 inches that time.

We're going to have to let things dry out before grounds cleanup and reclamation can begin.



The Miller Haus (dog-friendly) coffee-shop in Grover are featuring the work of our Society, by making puzzles out of our calendar and book covers!

Puzzle

Book Cover



# Trivia Night

Proceeds benefit

Ballwin Historical Commission  
Wildwood Historical Society

- Tables of 8 \$160
- Limited Singles \$20
- 10 Rounds / 10 Questions
- 50/50 Drawing
- Heads or Tails
- Mulligans Available
- Silent Auction
- Bring your own Appetizers
- BEER & SODA Included
- Outside drinks prohibited*



October 18 - Friday

Doors open at 6 ~ Trivia starts at 7

Ballwin Golf Course & Club

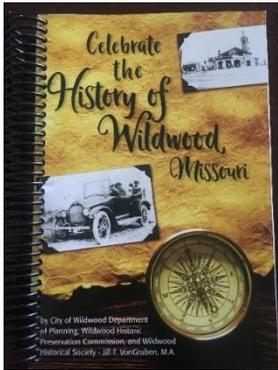
333 Holloway Rd  
Ballwin, MO 63011

Sign up online at:  
[www.ballwin.mo.us](http://www.ballwin.mo.us)  
Click on Online Registration  
Adult Activities

OR

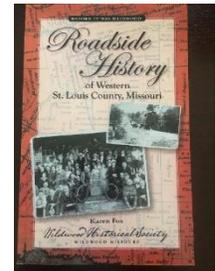
Make check payable to:  
City of Ballwin  
Send payment to:  
Hedy Boone,  
Superintendent of Recreation  
1 Ballwin Common Circle  
Ballwin, MO 63021

QUESTIONS ?CONTACT  
Hedy Boone  
[hboone@ballwin.mo.us](mailto:hboone@ballwin.mo.us)  
636-227-2874



Celebrate Wildwood 2019 was held on Saturday, August 24th. The weather was incredible for this outdoor event. The latest book chapter of our joint project with the City, *Celebrate The History of Wildwood, Missouri*, was released that day. 300 copies were distributed that day. The new chapter covers the era of 1920-1990 and is being well received. For those who want a copy of this latest edition, there are copies available at Wildwood City Hall and at our Meeting Hall.

August 24th also saw the release of another title in our Society's Before It Was Wildwood series: *Roadside History of Western St. Louis County, Missouri* by Karen Fox. It's premier was also very successful and has been well received.

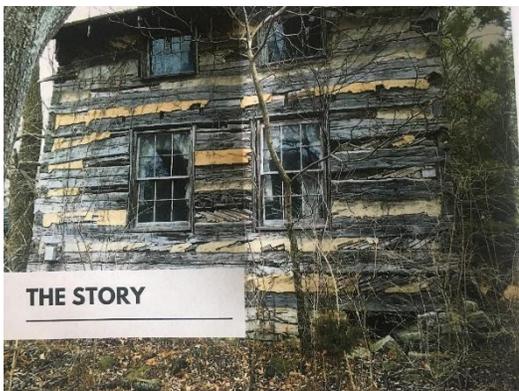


*Thank you*

We have so many people to thank for making the day a success: Martha Bunch, Sandy Becker-Gurnow, Rich Hardt, Lynda Kamp, Marilyn Weber, Mimi White, Joyce Mercer, Jill VonGruben and Fred Bunch.

Again, thanks to all who made this day such an incredible success.

## The Essen Log Cabin



The cabin had been donated to the City of Wildwood for dismantling and erecting at a city location. But before the dismantling could occur, over the Thanksgiving Holiday 2015, the historic Essen Log Cabin was destroyed during a theft of its logs. The logs were recovered, and the thief was arrested. But during the theft, the roof, windows and foundation were destroyed.

Fast forward to 2019. The City has hired a company to tag and identify the logs and to develop a plan to erect the cabin.

This will occur on September 17th (9/18 is rain date) on the upper level of the parking garage which is next to the Wildwood Hotel. The public is invited to come see the process in action.

*On August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Bellrose/Hoehne family used our Meeting Hall to provide a Funeral Dinner for the out-of-town members of their brother, uncle, and cousin, Theodore (Ted) Hoehne who passed away August 26. About 40 people were served. They toured the museum and enjoyed all the displays and picture boards.*

*Those in attendance at our August 20<sup>th</sup>, meeting were: Sandy Becker-Gurnow, Lynda Kamp, Jill VonGruben, Dave VonGruben, Martha Bunch, Marilyn Weber, Chuck Weber, Helen Gaehle, Paul Eckler, Rich Hardt, Joyce Mercer, Marilyn Stark, Jim Lindsley, Mim White, Mary Luke, Kathie Fitzgerald, and Mary Bellrose.*

## *WHS PROGRAMS FOR 2019*

**September-17-Marc Houseman-Director of Washington Historical Society talks about Real Ghost Stories from the house he and his wife Tina call home**

**October 15- Clark Beim-Esche *RETURNS*- with more stories from his book,"Calling on the Presidents: Tales Their Houses Tell". He was here last August and he has lots MORE stories!**

**October 18-TRIVIA NIGHT-co-sponsored by Wildwood Historical Society and Ballwin Historical Society**

**SUNDAY-November 17- 2 P.M.-Christopher Alan Gordon, Writer at the Missouri Historical Society-Fire, Pestilence, and Death : St. Louis 1849 (POSTPONED FROM MAY)**

**SUNDAY-December 15, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.-CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE-with Appetizers and desserts**

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## *Trustees*

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Rich Hardt

Paul Eckler

Donna Kummer

Chuck Weber

## *Society Website*

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

## *Facebook*

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

## **A PEEK INTO OUR PAST**



The Watchman and the Advocate county newspapers published news from towns in our area from the late 1800's thru the mid 1950's. The two became the Watchman-Advocate with the merger around 1903.

**Editor's note: Articles copied in their original form.**

**1888.09.07-St. Louis County, Fair:** The Old Settlers' tent is ready for occupancy, and it would be an excellent thing for all the old settlers who have old heirlooms in their possession, to have the same out in their tent. Let there be the old-fashioned spinning wheel, the cradle in which grandfather first sprawled as a helpless babe. Let each old settler bring at least an old-fashioned cane bottom chair, to settle down on. Let the rusty firelock and the powder horn be brought down from the garret, and let the young ones see the contrast. If there should be an old bar-shear plow on exhibition it would prove very interesting at this time. Let the old settlers' tent be a center of attraction by having all kinds of old time articles collected. There is probably not one of the old time families but have something antique and venerable to show. Let us fix up a snug corner and fill the same with old-fashioned furniture and household goods. Old settlers, you are invited to assist in presenting to the young generation a true spectacle of old time life. Bring on everything of interest, even if it should be only an old chair 150 years old. It will speak for itself.

**1888.09.14-Meramec Tp., Court:** Martin Bukowski having failed to open the Hensler private road, as per order of Court, it is ordered that the Sheriff proceed to open said road immediately, the cost of the proceedings to be paid by said Bukowski.

**1888.09.28-Pond, Organization:** "The Meramec Protective Association" was permanently organized at Pond School house, on Thursday of last week, with about twenty-five members to begin with. Chairman, R. Taylor; Vice, G. B. Baxter; Secretary, F. J. Wright; Treasurer, Anton Deutchman; with Captain W. Harrison at the helm of the working corps.