



Wildwood Historical Society

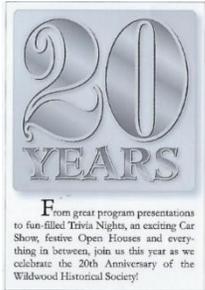
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*GROVER . POND . HOLLOW . CENTAUR . MELROSE . FOX CREEK . ORRVILLE
ALLENTON . WESTLAND ACRES KELPE . MONARCH . SHERMAN . GLENCOE*

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



From great program presentations to fun-filled Trivia Nights, an exciting Car Show, festive Open Houses and everything in between, join us this year as we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Wildwood Historical Society!

November Newsletter-From your President-Sandra K. Becker Gurnow

A HUGE REMINDER Our meeting this month is on **Sunday November 17 at 2 p.m.** It is NOT on the usual date. Our speaker is Christopher Alan Gordon who was to speak to us at the May Meeting and then we didn't have the meeting due to a HUGE thunderstorm that night that scared us all into staying home. His topic is: "Fire, Pestilence, and Death: St. Louis, 1849". He is from the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis. I think it will be a great presentation and I hope we have a huge audience on a Sunday afternoon.

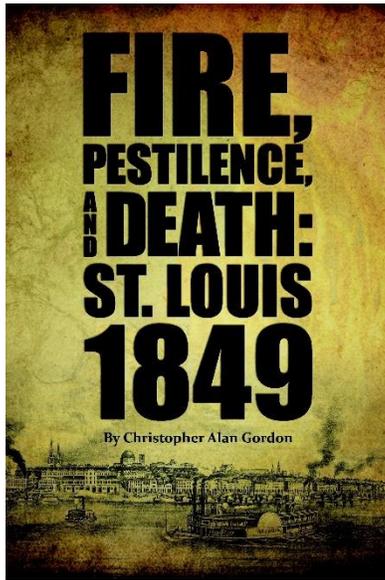
We have good things happening. We have a renter again in the Hencken House. We will be having a new roof going on the small annex to the Barn/Museum.

We have our **CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** on **Sunday December 15 from 1-4 p.m.** and it will also be our Celebration of 20 years as Wildwood Historical Society and 10 years of owning this wonderful historical property which we are working hard at restoring and making even more historical with our Museum, Meeting Hall and restoring the Hencken House (eventually). It all takes time and money. We need our members to please bring appetizers and desserts for this Open House.

If you need an extra tax deduction for the end of the year, keep the Wildwood Historical Society in mind.

Best Regards,

Sandy



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, - 2 P.M.

In 1849, St. Louis was little more than a frontier town, swelling under the pressure of rapid population growth, creaking under the strain of poor infrastructure, and

often trapped within the confines of ignorance and prejudice. The cholera epidemic and Great Fire of 1849 were both a consequence of those problems and—despite the devastation they brought—a chance for the city to escape them. This book draws on the incomparable archives of the Missouri Historical Society, including newspaper accounts, letters, diaries, city and county records, and contemporary publications, to reveal the story of 1849 St. Louis as it was experienced by people who lived through that incredible year.

The tale that emerges is as impressive as the city it depicts: full of all the drama and excitement of a great narrative and brimming with vivid accounts of momentous events whose causes and effects are still debated today. No St. Louis history buff will want to miss it.

(Source: Missouri History Society website)



Please join us for a

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

on SUNDAY,

December 15,

from 1 to 4 pm

APPETIZERS AND DESSERTS SERVED





The 2020 Calendars are in

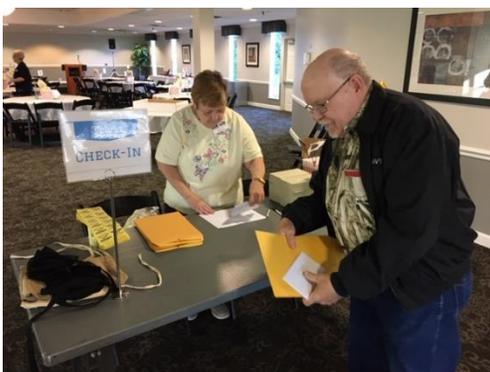
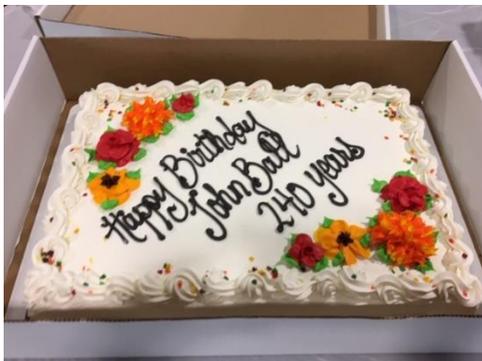
You may pick up your calendar at the November meeting. They are in WHS Hall with a list of deliveries and number of calendars per delivery site.

Martha left a sign-out sheet for deliveries.

TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

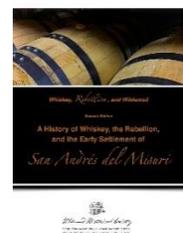
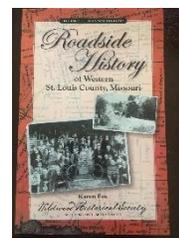
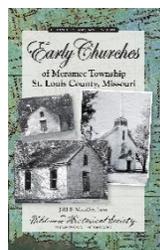
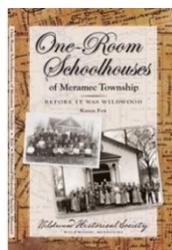
On October 18th we teamed up with the Ballwin Historical Commission for our first Trivia Night at the Ballwin Golf Course Clubhouse. In addition to the silent auction items and numerous door prizes, there was even a birthday cake to celebrate the birthday of John Ball, the founder of the City of Ballwin. Thanks go out to all the volunteers from both Ballwin and Wildwood who helped make the event a success by donating their time and talents.

Marilyn Weber's 3-greats grandfather



CHRISTMAS GIFT LIFTS – BOOKS FOR SALE

- One Room Schoolhouses*
- Eary Churches*
- Roadside History*
- Whiskey Rebellion*



OCTOBER VISITORS

Oct 23, 2019

Martha, Sandy, and Rich

Thank you for the wonderful tour of the Wildwood Historical Society. I really appreciate your time and expertise especially since my group was so small. You have such a wealth of artifacts and knowledge! It was such a treat to hear all the facts about the equipment. Rich does a really good job of explaining things. Martha is a wealth of knowledge about the area and the Hencken house. She also did a great job explaining things. I have always admired the jewel of the Wildwood Historical Society; our tour reminds me all the more of your good work. You are providing a legacy for the community. I will see you all soon. Thank you so much.

Thank you again for a very nice visit.

Have a great day!

Valerie Mertz



Rachel Fledderjohn (Eagle turquoise shirt), Ella Alt (darker blue shirt)
Kate Doyle (Pink shirt), and Valerie Mertz





Veterans' Day

Veterans' Day celebrates all who served in the United States Military, whether in peacetime or war.

As a historical society, part of WHS's Mission is to preserve the stories of all of our residents, past and current. A vital portion of that is preserving and telling the stories of our veterans. Over the past 20 years, WHS has been able to share our veterans' stories because they or their families have shared them with us. We invite all veterans and their families to consider sharing their stories with us for preservation of their service for future generations.

I know as the Historian of a National WWII Veterans' Group how vital the mission is to preserve their stories, not only of their service but the years that followed. We are very fortunate in the St. Louis area to be the location of the Soldiers Memorial Military Museum. That institution has a program in which they collect oral histories of St. Louis-area veterans and their families. On the national level, there are similar programs through the National Archives and each of the Historians of the individual branches of United States Military. Also, many Veterans' Groups, national and local, have programs to collect their veterans' stories and photos. The Center for American War Letters at Chapman University in California collects letters written by/to veterans during wartime.

Please consider honoring your veteran with a donation of a story of his/her service. The donation of original documents are not necessary - it is the stories themselves which are vital to save. For more modern times, copies of photos often enrich those storylines.

However you choose, please honor your family's veteran(s) this November.

--Jill Siebert VonGruben

WHS PROGRAMS FOR 2019

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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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.

1888.11.02- Meramec Tp, marriage license: The following marriage licenses have not been returned for record, as required by law, and will be reported to the grand jury next week, unless immediately returned: William Jefferson and Judith Watson, both of Meramec township, issued March 28, 1888.

1888.11.09- Melrose, Court: Fred Ossenfort appointed Judge of Election in Precinct No. 21, Melrose, in place of Henry Hencken, Jr., and Jan A. Vandover in place of G. W. Anderson, in precinct No. 17, Fenton.

1888.11.16- Melrose, Politics: The John Walter Republican Club will have a jollification at Melrose Hall tomorrow night, when its broom, appropriately decorated with blue ribbon, will be hung up until some future occasion shall call it into service again.

1888.11.16-Gumbo, Sale: Gottlieb Albrecht, administrator of the estate of Samuel Albrecht, will dispose of the personal property belonging to deceased, at auction, at his late residence 1 ½ miles west of Gumbo P.O., commencing Tuesday, November, 27, and continuing daily until all is disposed of. Besides numerous articles of farm machinery, a large number of mules, cows, hogs, and a lot of wheat, potatoes, apples, etc. will be among the articles sold. See posters for further particulars.

1888.11.23-Meramec Tp., Court: Official bond of Adam Kesselring, as Constable of Meramec township, in the sum of \$3,000, with Michael Bouquet and Peter Kerth as securities, filed and approved.