



Heritage

The Wichita-Sedgwick County
Historical Museum Association

Spring 2018
Jami Frazier Tracy, editor

Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives

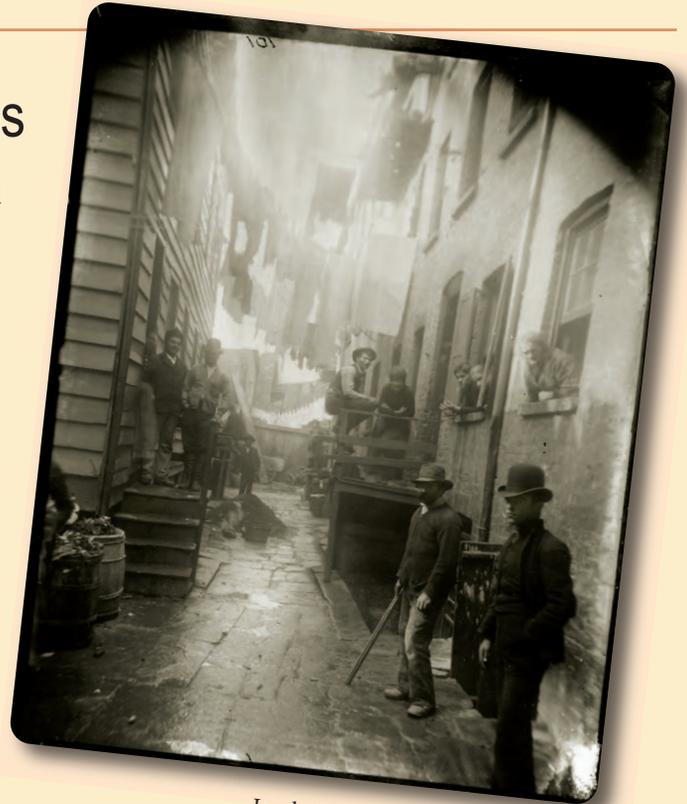
Jacob Riis (1849–1914) was a pioneering newspaper reporter and social reformer in New York at the turn of the twentieth century. His then novel idea of using photographs of the city’s slums to illustrate the plight of impoverished residents established Riis as a forerunner of modern photojournalism. *Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives* features photographs by Riis and his contemporaries, as well as his handwritten journals and personal correspondence. *Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives* opens June 16 at the Historical Museum.

New York City was the epicenter of America’s thriving economy, but spawned the worst slums on earth. The Danish-born Riis immigrated to America at the age of twenty, and after four years of living in poverty, he started a successful career as a newspaper journalist for the *New York Tribune* and the *Evening Star*. Riis worked at night as a police reporter, often seeing the less

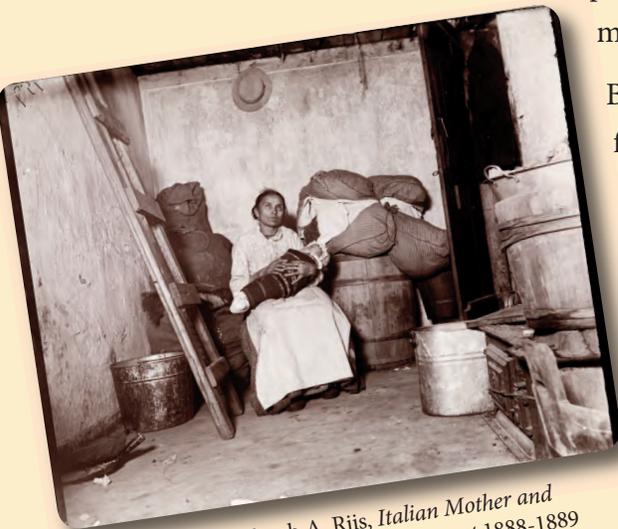
polished side of New York City, the new home to many immigrants from throughout Europe.

By taking photographs to accompany his newspaper articles, Riis first began documenting the lives of the impoverished and the places they lived and took refuge. With the development of flash powder, he was able to illuminate nighttime images of those living and working in alleyways, tenements, and sweat shops, among other squalid places in the city. His interests in writing about “how the other half lived” grew, and over his lifetime Riis wrote many books about the urban poor that included his photographs.

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Jacob A. Riis, *Bandits’ Roost*, 1887-1888;
From the Collection of the
Museum of the City of New York.



Jacob A. Riis, *Italian Mother and Her Baby in Jersey Street* 1888-1889

On view Saturday, June 16 – Saturday, August 11

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Next year we celebrate the Museum's 80th anniversary and the fact that it is one of America's best local history museums! Our Museum, built through public support by multiple generations, gives us something every community needs but few have. Thank you for your appreciation of our local history and for your support as museum members, volunteers, and funders. I ask that you spread the word with a "family pass" or personal invitation to those who have not visited before. They will enjoy our many exhibits, programs and events, and appreciate the setting of the old City Hall and Heritage Square.

Thanks to you, the Museum continues a tradition of providing a world class experience, advancing the understanding and exploration of the rich historical and cultural heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas.

Eric M. Cale
Museum Director

Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives

Feeling that more could be done, Riis gave his first lantern slide lecture (a precursor to today's digital presentations) featuring his photographs in 1888. He captivated audiences with stories of his experiences and began to tour the country delivering lectures, often in a crusade to advocate and bring about changes for the marginalized.

Through his lectures, many books, and even his friendship with President Theodore Roosevelt (former Police Commissioner of New York), Riis advanced social reform in early twentieth-century America. His efforts led to increased awareness about the city's underbelly and improved living conditions for children and adults. Riis considered himself a writer first, and his powerful images were not appreciated fully until a large trove of his glass negatives, lantern slides, and other photographs were pulled from the attic of his former home on Long Island in the 1940s, long after his death in 1914.

Exhibition includes immersive life-size photographs, as well as artifacts and personal documentation

Visitors to the exhibition will experience a Riis presentation—immersive life-size photographs, as well as artifacts and personal documentation. The exhibition is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities. *Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives* is adapted from the exhibition *Jacob A. Riis: Revealing New York's Other Half*, organized by the Museum of the City of New York. The exhibition was curated by Bonnie Yochelson and co-presented by the Library of Congress. It was made possible with major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Terra Foundation for American Arts, as well as support from D. Euan and Merete Baird, The Malkin Fund, Ronay and Richard L. Menschel, Queen Margrethe and Prince Henrick's Foundation, C. Flemming and Judy Heilmann, Kan and Lotte Leschly, The Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, and the John L. Loeb Jr. Foundation. It was adapted and toured for NEH on the Road by Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Special programming for the Riis exhibit includes:

- ☀ Wednesday, May 23rd, 10-11am – **Senior Wednesday, “Orphan Trains in Kansas”** with Marilyn Holt. The “orphan trains” brought poor children from the eastern cities to rural Kansas from 1867 until the 1920s. Firsthand accounts of orphan train riders challenge our picture of childhood in the “good old days.” Marilyn Holt is a member of the Kansas Humanities Council Speakers Bureau and an independent historian who consults on Kansas history.
- ☀ Friday, June 15th, 5-8pm – **Members Only Opening Reception**
Join us for members-only tours of the exhibit! Short lecture by Jane Rhoads, “Wichita’s Other Half” at 6pm. Refreshments served.
- ☀ Saturday, June 16th, 1-5pm – **Exhibit Opening** – Free and open to the public.
- ☀ Wednesday, June 27th, 10-11am – **Senior Wednesday “History of Photojournalism”** with Lisa Parcell, PhD. An early photojournalist, Jacob Riis used photography to bring national attention to the impoverished living in New York City. Riis’s stories of the people living in squalor and poverty in New York, paired with his photographs of the darkest corners of the city, started a social movement that resulted in tenement reform.
- ☀ Saturday, June 30th, 2-3pm – **“History of Photojournalism”** with Lisa Parcell, PhD. An early photojournalist, Jacob Riis used photography to bring national attention to the impoverished living in New York City. Riis’s stories of the people living in squalor and poverty in New York, paired with his photographs of the darkest corners of the city, started a social movement that resulted in tenement reform.
- ☀ Tuesday, July 17th – Friday July 20th, 1-3pm – **The (Hi)STORY in a Photo** – Pioneering newspaper reporter Jacob Riis used photography to captivate audiences and spur change in the late 19th century. Attendees will explore *Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives* and discover the history of photography, see how photos are made, and learn how to use them to tell a story.
- ☀ Wednesday, July 25th, 10-11am – **Senior Wednesday “Wichita’s Other Half”** with Jane Rhoads “Wichita’s Other Half” looks at charitable institutions that existed in Wichita from 1870-1915. During this period the first care for the needy was by neighbors. But as time progressed, numerous charities to aid the less fortunate developed. By the end of the period, 1915, many of the institutions we know today were active in helping fellow Wichitans.
- ☀ Saturday, August 4th, 2-3 pm – **“Child Labor in America: The Epic Legal Struggle to Protect Children”** with Dr. John Fliter. Child labor law strikes most Americans as a fixture of the country’s legal landscape, involving issues settled in the distant past. But these laws were the product of deeply divisive legal debates stretching over the past century – and even now are subject to constitutional challenges. Dr. Fliter is the author of the new book, *Child Labor in America: The Epic Legal Struggle to Protect Children* and an Associate Professor and University Distinguished Teaching Scholar, Department of Political Science, at Kansas State University.
- ☀ Wednesday, August 22nd, 10-11am – **Senior Wednesday “Secure the Shadow ere the Substance Fade: Wichita’s Pioneer Photographers 1870 – 1884”** with Jami Frazier Tracy, Curator of Collections, Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum. The process of photography was just a few decades old and still evolving when Wichita was founded in 1870. Discover the photographic artists who worked in the burgeoning town of Wichita, and see the moments they captured in time.

The Museum is grateful to the *Wichita Eagle*, KSN-TV, Radio Kansas, Lawrence Photo Print & Frame, Dean Bradley & Patrick Habkirk, and Lee & Ron Starkel for their support of the exhibit and its programming.

Ice Cream Social featuring Books!

The Museum's Ice Cream Social Sat. May 5th 1-5pm in Heritage Square, features activities, tours, contests and ice cream. The public will enjoy reduced admission of \$2 per person; members can bring their guests with free admission as always.

During this year's Social, enjoy events celebrating new books published through the efforts of the Wichita State

University History Department, *Luke the Longhorn* graphic novel for young readers, and *Wichita Rock & Roll 1950-1980*. The authors will be at the Museum to sign books, which will be available for purchase.



HONORING YOUNG HISTORIANS

MAY 6, 2018
2pm

*Special keynote address
by Ken Spurgeon of Lone Chimney Films*

Each year the Museum's educators work with young people interested in local history. Among the resulting projects are special exhibits featured in the Courtney and Marcellette Davis Gallery. Opening on May 6th is an exhibit created by Andover High School Senior Cassandra Wefald interpreting a collection of Sheet Music assembled over a lifetime by Museum member Faye McCoy.

Young Historian's Club

It is remarkable how many young visitors are captivated by history. Summer, winter, and spring break programs provide unique opportunities for these enthusiasts to engage for special activities, but it's become apparent that many are interested in more frequent engagement. The Museum Educators have responded with monthly meetings of the "Young Historian's Club." Contact the Museum by email for schedule and more information at wschm@wichitahistory.org

WICHITA RIVERFEST

Admiral's Armada at the Historical Museum,
Sunday, June 3, 1 - 5 p.m.

Enjoy free admission to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum with your Riverfest button and discover Wichita and Riverfest history!



*Admiral
Windwagon
Smith XLV
Tim Norton*

Fred Wassall

Midwestern Mystic

The art of Fred Wassall is the focus of a new exhibit at the Historical Museum in the Lois Kay Walls Gallery. Born in Birmingham, England in 1904, Wassall studied at the Brighton School of Art before immigrating to the United States in 1926, settling in Wichita. Though Wassall considered himself a fine artist, he supported himself as a window dresser in his new community. Stints at Sanger Brothers and Rorabaugh's Dry Goods led to an Advertising and Display Director position at Walker Brothers department store. Hired in 1934, Wassall would spend the next four decades creating award-winning windows for Walker's, with designs noted for their bold, modern style and experimental elements.

Fred married Irma Baier in 1930, and they quickly established themselves as members of Wichita's "bohemian" community. Irma, noted poet, classical guitarist, and dancer, and Fred, avant-garde artist and skilled designer, were striking and unconventional figures in Wichita's creative circles.

Wassall's artwork ranged from modern surrealism to the exotic, sometimes combining the two. Wassall traveled widely, and corresponded often with artists he admired, developing relationships with Mexican muralist Diego Rivera and Spanish surrealist Salvador Dali, among others. Wassall counted among his closest friends Enrique Riveron, a well-respected Cuban modernist painter who had settled in Wichita in the 1940s. Fred Wassall continued to paint and design until his death in 1970.

This exhibit runs through April 2019 and has been generously funded through the Lois Kay Walls Foundation.

"Mr. Wassall paints. He adventures at times into surrealism, that species of the graphic arts which is away beyond photography – and portraiture in oil – the art which seeks to portray not an object but an idea."

Victor Murdock, Editor, the Wichita Eagle, April 20, 1939



Fred Wassall in his studio, circa 1940.



Fred Wassall feature in the August 1941 issue of Display World

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

An exciting opportunity is now available for businesses to support the Museum by purchasing an annual membership. Not only does the membership support the Museum's varied programs and exhibits, it provides many opportunities for company employees, including:

- Free admission to the Museum and Heritage Square for employees and their guests
- Invitations to special membership events
- Free admission passes for clients
- 10% discount in the Museum's gift shop

The Museum thanks our current Business Members for their support, including the following:

A to Z Accounting	Hephner TV & Electronics	Nifty Nut House	Sweet Allie B's
Aero Plains Brewing	High Touch Technology	Old Town Architectural Salvage	The Trust Company of Kansas
Ambassador Hotel	Hillside Nursery	OneSource Technology	Visit Wichita
Bever Dye, LC	Hyatt Regency	Platt, Adams & Bradley	Watermark Books & Café
Builders, Inc.	IMA Financial Group	Radio Kansas	Wells Fargo Advisors
Candle Club	Intrust Bank	ReMax Premier	Westar Energy
Cero's Candy	Juliana Daniel Antiques	Senseny Music	The <i>Wichita Eagle</i>
Cozine Memorial Group	KMUW	Star Lumber & Supply (Goebel Foundation)	Wichita Festivals
Dillon's	KPTS	Sullivan Gang Creative	Wichita Independent Business Association
Dondlinger Construction	KSN-TV		
Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview	Kings North American		
Fidelity Bank	Lusco Brick & Stone Company		
Frame Guild	McClelland Sound, Inc.		
Golden Realtors	Midwest Hearing Aids		

In addition, company principals will receive the biannual Heritage Newsletter, Museum mailings and email notices of upcoming events. All business members will be recognized on the Museum website and in the Heritage Newsletter. Patron members will be given special recognition on the Museum's first floor. What a wonderful way to support the Museum that supports the community by preserving our local history!

For additional information including levels of membership, contact Sally Buch, Development Director, 316-265-9314.

Museum Elects Trustees

At the Annual Membership Meeting on March 21st, Museum members unanimously elected the slate submitted by the Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees.

New Trustees welcomed: Jim Bothner, Sam Chandler, Orin Friesen, Andee Higgins, Kay Janssen, Donte Martin, Steve South, Robin Spurrier, Roger Turner, and Dave Unruh.

Officers elected at the following Board of Trustees meeting were: President David Hawkins, 1st Vice President Richard Honeyman, 2nd Vice President Joanne McClelland, Treasurer Martha Linsner, and Secretary Patty Armstrong.

Trustees accepting a second term: David Crockett, Bruce Gilkeson, Richard Honeyman, David Mitchell, and Terri Moses.

Trustees continuing to serve: Paul Buchanan, Vickie Churchman, Dr. Cheryl Golden, Cynthia Hand, Ron Ingle, and Dale Richmond.

The Board bids farewell to outgoing trustees Dean Bradley, Myra Devlin, Jay Fowler, Jack Kellogg, Jeff Longwell, Janet Meyer, Vernon Miller, Kent Shawver, Jim Skelton, and Alice Smith.

We thank these trustees for their many contributions, including participation in monthly meetings, service on committees, and a wide range of other activities that benefit the Museum.

WELCOME TO RECENT MEMBERS

We are pleased to acknowledge recent Museum members. Membership is an important way to support the Museum financially and a great way to stay apprised of exhibits, programs, events and progress. While not listed here individually, our gratitude also goes out to the many who have increased their level of membership or who have contributed through an annual gift or supported an event, all of which has led to the increase of programs and exhibits over the past year.

WHIMS ANNOUNCES NEW OFFICERS, SPECIAL GIFT

The Wichita Historical Museum Society (WHiMS) committee announced a special gift funding the Museum's initiatives in Collections and Education for 2019. WHiMS provide support to the Museum in ways that reflect our mission and vision, enhance visitor experience, and attract the public. The committee provides a dynamic connection to many Museum volunteers. Connect with WHiMS by attending regular meetings and on Facebook under: "Wichita Historical Museum Society."

President – Gail Williams

Vice President - Robyn Young

Recording Secretary - Nancy Mendel

Treasurer - Jeanne Urban

Advisor - Deborah Oller, immediate past president

Corresponding Secretary - Nancy Delaney

MEMORIALS

The following have been honored with gifts to the Museum's Memorial Fund from April 20th, 2017 – through April 20th, 2018:

Tom Docking

Dave Jones

Rochelle Levitt

Bill Lusk

Kathleen "Katie" Pott

LeAnn Stout

GIFT SHOP NEWS

We Need Volunteers!

Volunteering at the Museum gift shop is fun! Volunteers meet interesting visitors from around the world, catch up on their reading, enjoy interaction with Museum staff and docents, and record sales of the shop's unique merchandise. Most of all, volunteers improve visitor experience while contributing to the Museum's annual average of 5,000 volunteer hours given the Museum. To learn more, call the Museum at 265-9314 or contact WHiMS through Facebook under: "Wichita Historical Museum Society."

New Local History Books In The Gift Shop

Among the wide selection of unique items found in the Museum's gift shop are hard to find books about our local Wichita-Sedgwick County history. Recent additions include: "A Sound Endeavor" the history of McClelland Sound
"Luke the Longhorn" an illustrated novel for young readers
"Remembering Arkie & Tahoma Burger"
"Wichita Rock & Roll 1950 – 1980"
"Grasslands" a novel for young readers
"Word Souvenirs" a 20th century memoir by Dale Richmond, past Museum Board of Trustees President



We celebrated in high style! On April 21st the Museum was transformed into the original Blue Moon Nightclub, which was located on South Oliver during the 1940s and 50s. The club was a popular gathering spot for adults to dine and dance to the nation's most famous orchestras. Donna Tucker, internationally renowned jazz singer, and her quartet entertained with songs of the era as guests enjoyed fine food and drink. Special thanks to event sponsors for underwriting this WHiMS hosted event.



Fred and Irma Wassall, at left, center with a group at the original Blue Moon nightclub, circa 1945.

2018 BLUE MOON SPONSORS

DIAMOND SPONSORS

Thornton Anderson
Tom & Myra Devlin

GOLD SPONSORS

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Kay & Peter Janssen
Alice Smith
David & Karen Unruh
Gail Williams & Bill Morris
Lusco Brick & Stone

SILVER SPONSORS

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Dave & Sue Crockett
Steve English
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Larry & Judy Hatteberg
David & Judy Hawkins
Richard & Bonnie Bing Honeyman
Ron Ingle
Julie Koker
Roger & Kathy Gann McCoy
W.A. & Mary Frances Michaelis
Barbie & Sam Parsons
James & Terry Pfister
The Trust Company of Kansas
Jeffrey & Janice Van Sickle

BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

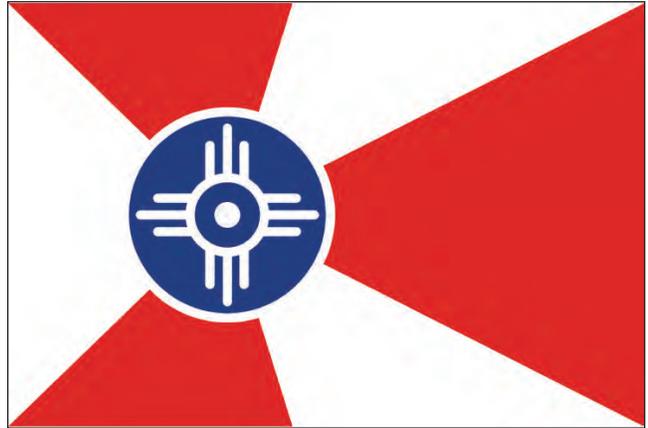
The Historical Museum joins more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve and their families, from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2018. A collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America, the program, established in 2010, provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their community, especially after a military move. The list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

Last summer, more than 900,000 military members and their families took advantage of free admission as part of Blue Star Museums, visiting historical museums, fine arts museums, science museums, music museums, nature centers, and children's museums.

Leadership support for Blue Star Families programming and promotional materials has been provided by MetLife Foundation. The effort to recruit museums has involved partnerships with the American Alliance of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children's Museums, the American Association of State and Local History, the Association of Science-Technology Centers, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The free admission program is available to any bearer of a **Geneva Convention common access card (CAC), a DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID), or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card**, which includes active duty U.S. military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps - and family members. Contact the Museum for details.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, *Wichita*



Saturday, July 21st 1-5pm

The Museum is celebrating a special birthday on Saturday, July 21st— the 148th anniversary of the founding of Wichita! Wichita was officially born July 21, 1870 - view Wichita's remarkable history wandering the four floors of the Museum's exhibits and enjoy special tours, crafts, activities and refreshments. Admission is free to those individuals and small groups bringing a Birthday Card!

Senior Wednesdays

AT THE WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Visit the Museum the 4th Wednesday of each month from January to October and enjoy special

Historical Museum programs

developed with active senior

audiences in mind. A special

\$2 admission for seniors and

their guests is offered;

admission is free for

members. The Senior Wednesday programs at the Historical Museum begin at 10:00am, and the doors open at 9:30.

Refreshments are served. Senior Wednesdays at the Historical

Museum are sponsored by WHiMS. For more information

about the Museum's Senior Wednesday programs, visit

www.wichitahistory.org or www.seniorwednesday.org.



2017 MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

THE MUSEUM BEGAN ASSEMBLING IT'S COLLECTION IN 1939. THESE OBJECTS ARE PRESERVED IN PERPETUITY TO USE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF OUR LOCAL HISTORY AND TODAY NUMBER OVER 70,000 CATALOGED ARTIFACTS. WE THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE OFFERED SUCH GIFTS, CONSIDERING THE MUSEUM AND ITS UNIQUE MISSION. HERE IS THE CUSTOMARY ANNUAL LISTING OF THOSE ARTIFACTS ACCEPTED TO THE COLLECTION IN 2017.

Victoria Barb – Ladies boots retailed at Geo. Innes & Co., circa 1900.

Thelma Borreson – Collection of picture postcards, late 20th century.

Jean Ebert Bennett – Snapshots of Wichita Hospital student nurses, 1947-1948.

Robert Boewe – Oak and glass display case, circa 1900.

Gene M. and Barbara J. Campbell – Framed self-portrait of Wichita artist Cecil McAlister, 1920s-1930s.

Teri Blue Cantu – Collection of materials from Wichita nurse Helen Faye Cox, 1920s-1940s.

Dr. Thad Clements – USS Wichita miniature medals and ribbons, circa 1945.

Sean and Melissa Conley, given in memory of Carolyn Conley – Sunflower stained glass window, 1915; cotton art quilt created by Carolyn Conley, 2003.

David and Susan Crockett – Print portfolio, "Wichita's First Fifty Years" circa 1970.

Carolyn A. Croft – Southwest Cracker Company box, circa 1934.

Sheldon M. Dunn – Collection of material related to the Dunn Mercantile Company and Dunn family, Wichita, 1920s-1960s.

Valerie Ellington – Collection of Jerry Bittle cartoons given to William C. Ellington, Jr. by the artist, 1973-1974.

J. Eric Engstrom – Rajah Rabbitry, Wichita Poultry Ranch, and York Rite Masonic Temple stock certificates, 1920s-1930s.

Marjean Fooshee – Portrait of O.F. Sullivan, Wichita Mayor, 1942-1943.

Jay Fowler – City Court of Wichita docket ledgers, 1910-1911, and Sedgwick County Matron's Office ledgers, 1918-1920.

Wanda Gabel – Photographs of the Darling & Darling Chiropractic College, Wichita, 1919.

Carolyn Grier – Collection of locally produced bottles and jars, 20th century.

Janet K. Harding – Research materials, 1965.

Trina Heath – Artist's rendering of Downtown Wichita, 1970.

Patricia Hermans – Wichita souvenir, 1886.

Dr. John M. Hyde – Goddard 1851 Shotgun and Winchester 1917 rifle used by members of the Hyde family, Wichita.

Pamela Paris Loyle – Wyoming B. Paris campaign material, 1972.

Holly Kennedy – Household guide published by the Mildred Heasty Society, Viola, 1951.

MarkArts – Wooden cabinet crafted by Tom Lochhead by courtesy of the Work Projects Administration for the Wichita Art Association, 1939.

James and Charles Mattingly – Collection of photographs from the John Oakley Davidson family, Wichita, 1879-1950.

John L. McCraw, Jr. – Ledger used by Wichita photographer Edwin W. Enos of the Wichita Art Gallery, 1884-1887.

Joann Blecha McDowell and Jody Blecha Vogler – Product packages for Blecha Food Products, Wichita, circa 1948.

Jeffrey P. Miller – Joyland employee badge, 1973.

Garry and Judy Morris – Electric therapeutic blanket, 1921.

Mosby Lincoln Foundation – Collection of original prints by Prairie Print Maker artists Arthur W. Hall, Norma Bassett Hall, and William Dickerson, 1920s – 1950s.

Patrick J. O'Connor – Collection of United States Postal Service material used and collected by the donor in Wichita, 1973-2001.

Barbara L. Pearce – 1976 Gibson ES guitar played by Wichita musician Pat McJimsey.

Larry E. Phillips – Panoramic photograph of soldiers in front of the Wichita Forum, 1917.

Marilyn Kay Plumlee – Square dance costume worn by Irene Plumlee, circa 1960.

Philip L. Rhea – Photographs of Internal Revenue Service agents, Wichita, 1950s-1960s.

Dr. Grant Rine – Woven wool Oriental rug, and terrestrial globe on tripod, 19th century.

Rilla Rogus – Material associated with the Kansas Centennial, 1961.

Dan R. Rouser – Wyoming B. Paris political poster, 1972, and George Poulos manuscript, circa 1999.

Francene Sharp – North High t-shirt, 1981, men's swim trunks, 1960s.

Susan Wettstaed – Hand-knit pink hats worn during the Air Capital Women's March, 2017.

Paulette K. Whiteside – porcelain platter created by artist Michael J. Oliver, Wichita, circa 1980.

Randy Windhorst – Lewis Academy catalogs, early 20th century.

Robyn Young – Documents and clothing associated with the Air Capital Women's March and the Women's March on Washington, 2017.

SUMMER FAMILY PROGRAMS



Activities abound at the Historical Museum for young people and their families this summer! The Museum's educators have created programs designed to uniquely engage these special visitors in memorable, exhibit-focused activities. All sessions are conducted by experienced, expert teachers.

Wichita Song Workshop – tour exhibits, hear the stories and write the songs that celebrate our community. Offered four days - Tuesday, June 19th – Friday, June 22nd (performance day), 1-3 pm each day. Recommended for 2nd grade and up; parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to participate.



Penmanship Class – Once a favored means of communication, cursive writing is becoming a lost art. Many schools no longer teach this valuable skill, but the Historical Museum does! Offered four days – Tuesday, June 26th – Friday, June 29th, 1-3pm each day. All ages welcome!



Dolls on the Prairie – Dolls accompanied the first settlers to Kansas, and like the dolls of Plains Indian tribes, they were used to tell stories and help children understand the world. Wonderful dolls are featured in the Museum's collection – bring your doll to meet them. Offered four days – Tuesday, July 10th – Friday, July 13th, 1-3pm each day. Recommended for 2nd grade and up.



The (Hi)STORY in a Photo – Pioneering newspaper reporter Jacob Riis used photography to captivate audiences and spur change in the late 19th century. Attendees will explore *Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives* and discover the history of photography, see how photos are made, and learn how to use them to tell a story. Offered four days – Tuesday, July 17th – Friday, July 20th, 1-3pm each day. Recommended for 5th grade and up; parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to participate.



Using History in Creative Writing – An introduction for young writers to incorporate history into their stories, adding depth and interest. Offered four days – Tuesday, July 24th – Friday, July 27th, 1-3 pm each day. Recommended for 2nd grade and up.

Sign up today!

Visit the Museum's website at www.wichitahistory.org or call 316-265-9314 for more complete, upcoming information. The programs are free, but space is limited, so reservations are strongly encouraged. Register by calling the Museum at 316-265-9314 or by email to wschm@wichitahistory.org



The Wichita-Sedgwick County
Historical Museum Association
204 South Main · Wichita, Kansas 67202 · 316-265-9314 · www.WichitaHistory.org

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Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum activities are made possible in part by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners

TOYS OF THE FUTURE at the Historical Museum!

Member's Only Exhibit Opening Friday, September 21st!



Toys follow tools as the earliest known artifacts. Essentially the world in miniature created for the amusement of children, toys are fun, yet they exert an influential force upon the present. In our time, the nature of “the toy” has not changed nearly as much as the world has. In the modern age, when the future presented itself as a force to be reckoned with, toy designers took on the challenge; there is no finer example of this than “space toys,” the rockets, saucers, robots and ray guns that became available to children during the 1930s and onward – the era of Buck Rogers, Flash Gordon, and other gravity-defying, planet -hopping heroes. The Museum will feature a stellar and widely celebrated local collection of these colorful, imaginative, pre-NASA toys in a special exhibit, *Toys of the Future* in conjunction with Exploration Place’s upcoming special exhibit, TOYTOPIA. A member’s only opening for both exhibits is scheduled for Friday, September 21st; exhibits on view to the public Saturday, September 22 through the end of 2018.



OUR VISION: To provide a world class Museum experience, advancing the understanding and exploration of the rich historical and cultural heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas.