

Kaw City Museum
P.O. Box 56
Kaw City, OK 74641-0056

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Find more info at
kawcitymuseum.com

Museum Membership

The Kaw City Museum is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization, operated entirely by donations. Your membership and donations enable the museum to maintain its buildings and grow. Please mail your tax-deductible membership dues and donations to Kaw City Museum at the address listed below. Thank you for your support.

Family Membership ----- \$10
Donor Membership ----- \$25
Founder Membership ----- \$100

2017-2018 Board & Officers

President ----- Jack Godberson
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----- Jack Godberson, Dorothy Smith
1-Year Term ----- Pilar Burgert
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Summer Hours

Memorial Weekend marks the start of the Kaw City Museum's summer schedule. The museum will be open:

- Saturday, May 27 - 1 pm-5 pm
- Sunday, May 28 - 10 am-5 pm
- Monday, May 29 - 1 pm-5 pm

All remaining Saturdays & Sundays, 1 pm-5 pm during the summer months.

Special arrangements to open the museum on other days can be made by calling Jack Godberson (580)-716-6883 or Dorothy Smith (580)-269-2085.

Memorial Bricks

If you ordered an engraved Name Brick to honor a friend or family member, the engraving will be complete in time for the May Open House. Find your brick by searching for its location in the museum's indexed brick catalog.

The museum appreciates Greg Rand who has hand-engraved our bricks on site for many years. He has always done a wonderful job for a reasonable price. We were sad to hear Greg is retiring and are actively searching for a new engraver. Until we can find one, we will not be able to accept any more Name Brick Orders. Check for updates at kawcitymuseum.com.

Kaw City Museum News

A PUBLICATION OF THE KAW CITY MUSEUM

SPRING 2017

Old School Bell Finds New Home at Museum



School Bell Painted Red in the 70's

The Kaw City School Bell that called children to school over a hundred years ago has graduated to its new home at the front entrance of the Kaw City Museum.

The bell first rang out in the fall of 1910 from a bell tower on the roof top of Kaw City's two-story brick school house. It summoned children to school at 8:30 am and then rang again at 9:00 am, the time they were to line up by grade in front of the school's steps before marching to their classrooms. The bell also sounded when lunch and recess breaks were over.

The bell's rope was suspended through the roof and second floor, down into the first grade cloak room. First grade students were rewarded for good behavior with a chance to wrap their small hands around the thick rope and ring the bell. The fun came when the rope lifted them off the floor as the bell swung back and forth.



Third Kaw City School Building

The large bell was at the third school building constructed in Kaw City. The school had four classrooms with cloak rooms on the first floor, two high school rooms, an auditorium and office on the second floor, and a huge coal-burning furnace, storage room, lunchroom, kitchen and music room in the basement.

A decade later, a one-story brick High School building was added, leaving the two-story building for the elementary grades. The High School housed four large classrooms, an office, large restroom facilities, a library and a huge auditorium with a stage and side dressing rooms. Basketball was played in the High School auditorium for several years until a large gymnasium with bleachers and dressing rooms was added. Many of Kaw City High School's Senior Pictures hang in the Name Brick hallway of the museum. Letter jackets, trophies, yearbooks and pennants from the early days are also on display.



Second Kaw City School Building

The first school, built soon after the town was established by the Kaw City Townsite Company in 1902, was a typical one room school house with windows lining each side. It set on the northeast corner of Main Street and Fifth Avenue across from the city park. The small building later became part of Eagle Garage after the Kaw City school outgrew it and built its second school, a larger two-story frame building, constructed three blocks west of Main on the northeast corner of Walnut between West Sixth and West Seventh Avenue.



Cowboy Memorabilia

The center room of the Depot Building is filled with interesting artifacts and tools dating back to the early days before Oklahoma's statehood. The center display features Ike Clubb's chuck box and cooking items. On long cattle drives, cowboys carried chuck boxes on the back of the chuck wagon so they could prepare their meals when they set up camp. You might say they were the first to "invent" the tail gate experience.

Above the chuck box is a relief carving of Ike Clubb with his favorite horse. The picture, carved and painted by Kaw Citian Clyde Yeager, is one of several works he created, and one of two displayed in the museum.

To the left of center is a vintage woman's side saddle and various tools used on cattle trails and farms. The side saddle was considered the only proper way for a woman to ride a horse before women suffragettes.

Hanging on the right is a plaque holding Hugo Milde's memorabilia from the Cherokee Strip Cowboy's Association. Hugo was a well-known cowboy from Kaw City. Beneath the chuck box are two old steel stoves used for cooking and to keep families warm.

In the upper right hand corner, you can see part of a farm implement that would have been used before the invention of modern equipment.

Native American Collections

Several interesting arrowhead collections displayed in the museum, some dating as far back as 4,000 years ago, show many of the shapes, sizes and stones that were indigenous to the region. Ancient stone tools, beautiful Indian beadwork and historical photographs are also on exhibit.



Part of the Gordon Smith Collection (on loan)

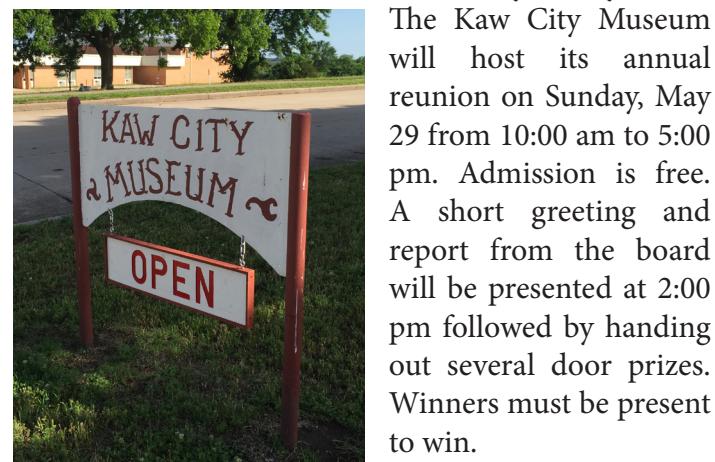


Arrowheads, Grinding Stones and Indian Vest



Hand Beaded Sashes, Belts and Pouches

Museum Reunion - Sunday, May 29



The Kaw City Museum will host its annual reunion on Sunday, May 29 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free. A short greeting and report from the board will be presented at 2:00 pm followed by handing out several door prizes. Winners must be present to win.

Each year, dozens of people who once lived in Kaw City make their way back to the community of their childhood to visit friends and family, to place flowers on the graves of loved ones and to reminisce about "the good old days". Enjoy refreshments, exhibits, videos, old newspapers, yearbooks, and take a walk down memory lane also known as the name brick hallway which connects the Depot and Brill Buildings.

A selection of historical pictures and panoramic photos of the East and West sides of Old Main Street are available for purchase, as well as the Kaw City Cookbook, a DVD of historical photographs, and the two-volume Kay County history books, *North Central Oklahoma, Rooted in the Past, Growing for the Future*. The award-winning set of books, filled with pictures and stories of people and places from Kay County, is out of print, so purchase yours before they are gone forever. All proceeds go directly to the operating budget of the museum.



Board Members, volunteers and visitors sit back to relax and watch a video of Old Kaw City at last year's Memorial Day Reunion.



Artifacts dating back 700-900 years ago from a major archeological find one foot deep at an Uncas Site Dig. The house pit and burials of the people who lived there were discovered by Kaw City's Preston and Margaret George just prior to the land being covered by the waters of the newly impounded Kaw Lake. More information about the dig can be found in the Kay County history books under "INTRODUCTION: Prehistoric Man in Kay County".

Museum Projects Completed

The Kaw City Museum is extremely fortunate to have generous board members who are willing to donate their time and talents to handle the many needs of the museum.

They've been busy this past year and their list of improvements and updates is impressive. The last matching trophy case and safe have been moved into the museum from the Kaw City School. The school bell from the Old Kaw City has been placed on the left side of the entrance to the Brill building. A large flat screen television was purchased with funds received from the Bob Whitlock Memorial, and installed. Fourteen new name bricks were engraved in the brick hallway. The large Sweet Gum tree was trimmed up and debris was removed. A dusk to dawn light fixture was installed on the east side of the Depot. Some lights were repaired and others replaced in the Name Brick Hallway where the Senior Pictures are located. Wiring for the speaker system was repaired prior to the Christmas Open House, allowing Christmas music to be played inside and out during the festivities.

Cataloging of the museum's historical picture collection continues. If you wish to donate or loan historical photos to be copied, please contact Annette Pittman at (580)-716-4959.