

Winter 2024 Newsletter

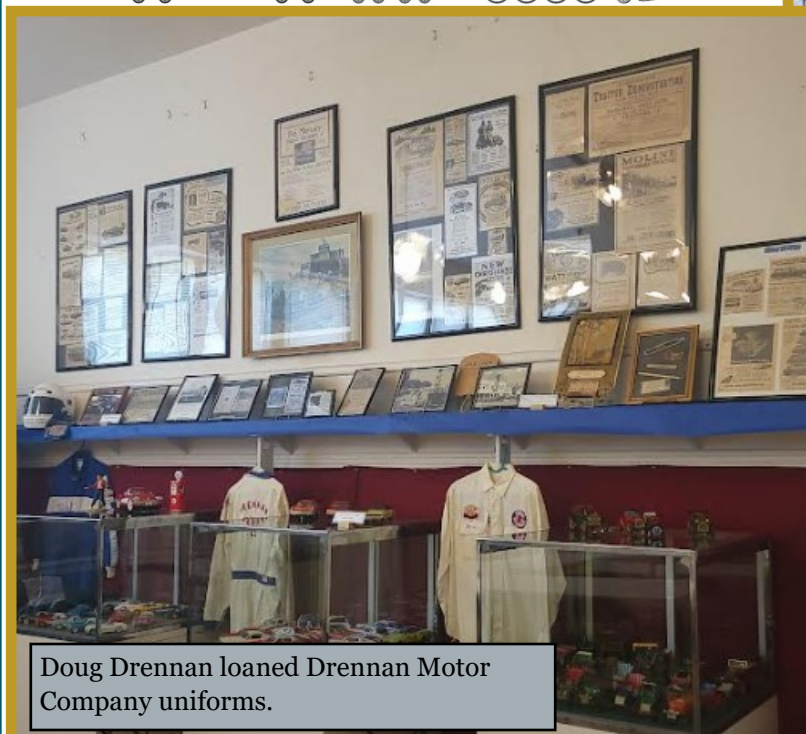
Cowley County Historical Society Museum

- ♦ New Exhibit! "Trains, Planes and Cars of Cowley County" at CCHSM in the main room!
- ♦ Loaned items from community members for annual exhibit.
- ♦ "Celebrate Cowley County History Day" held at Baden Square.
- ♦ Museum Friends: "Notable People with Winfield connections" by Mary Hartley.
- ♦ K-State Extension Master Gardeners has "rain barrel" presentation.
- ♦ Hypatia has Winfield Public Library present on their Winfield Literacy Collective.



Discover the rich transportation history of Cowley County with our newest exhibit, "Trains, Planes, and Cars of Cowley County," now on display in the main room at the Cowley County Historical Society Museum! Immerse yourself in the evolution of locomotion as you explore fascinating artifacts and stories highlighting the role of trains, planes, and cars in shaping our community's past.

Whether you're a history enthusiast or simply curious about the ways in which transportation has impacted our region, this exhibit offers something for everyone. Don't miss your chance to journey through time and experience the sights and sounds of Cowley County's transportation legacy firsthand!



Doug Drennan loaned Drennan Motor Company uniforms.



Deanna Denny loaned Santa Fe Railroad items.



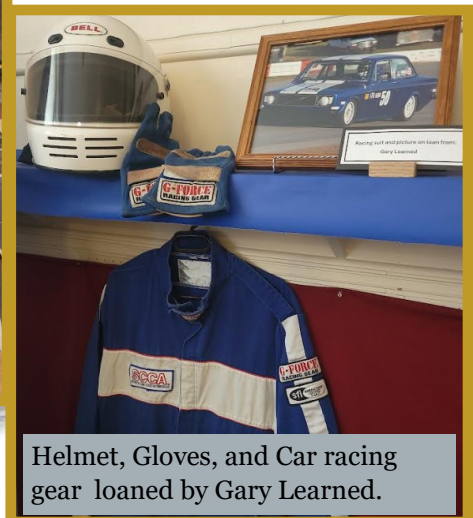
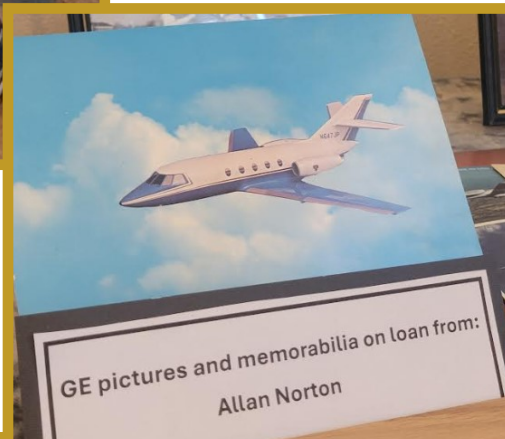
It takes a village to dismantle the previous year's display, gather new artifacts, meticulously arrange exhibits, and coordinate every detail seamlessly.

Cindy Goertz and Julie Mignone directed the Main Room Display Committee and gathered the needed volunteers. These invaluable individuals selflessly contributed their time and effort to ensure that our museum's main room showcases our collections in the best possible light.

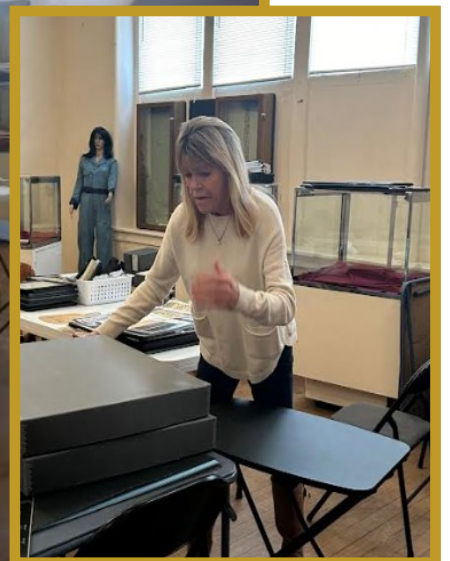
Their passion for preserving history and dedication to our mission are truly commendable. We are immensely grateful for their unwavering support and invaluable contributions.

A heartfelt thank you to Julie Mignone, Cindy Goertz, Mary Jarvis, Bill Mueller, Jennifer Valentine, Michelle Boyts, Lura Unger, Laurie Snyder, and Gary Learned for their vital contributions in putting together our latest exhibit. Your dedication, hard work, and attention to detail have made this exhibit possible, showcasing the rich history of our community for all to enjoy.

Thank you for making a difference!

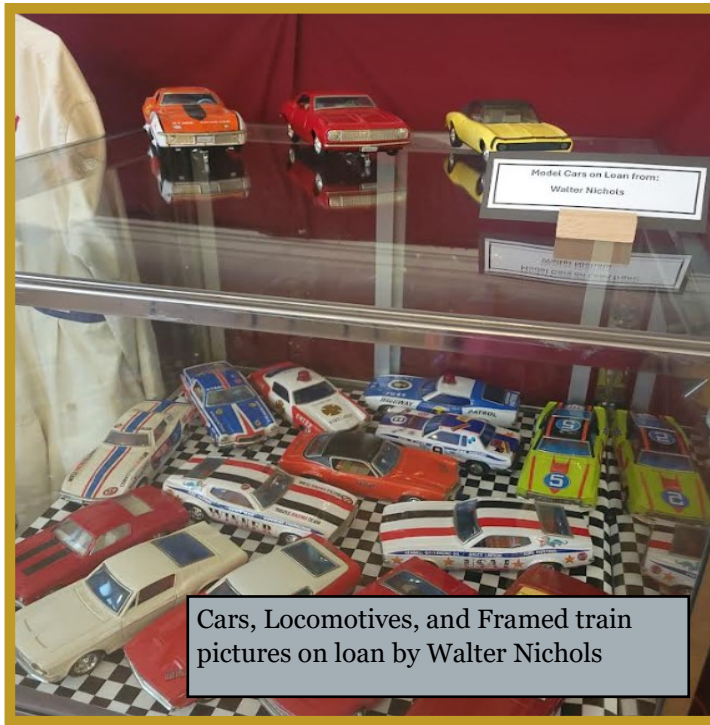


Helmet, Gloves, and Car racing gear loaned by Gary Learned.





Shawn McGrew loaned Strother Field photos.



Cars, Locomotives, and Framed train pictures on loan by Walter Nichols

A genuine thank you to Martha Fitzwater, Gary Learned, Walt Nichols, Doug Drennen, Allan Norton, Deanna Denny, and Shawn McGrew for generously loaning us related "Planes, Trains, and Cars" of Cowley County items to enrich our exhibit.

Your contributions have played a crucial role in engaging the community and bringing our display to life. Your willingness to share these historical treasures demonstrates your strong commitment to preserving and celebrating the heritage of Cowley County.

We are deeply grateful for your support, which is instrumental in fulfilling our museum's mission.

Thank you for helping us educate and inspire visitors through the power of local history.

"Vivian (Compton; Lawrence) Glenn, class of 1942, former secretary to the registrar at Southwestern College, was featured in articles in the Winfield Daily Courier and the Protection Press.

The stories highlight her time as one of the Flying Builders, the first aviation class at Southwestern College.

Vivian, along with one other woman and 10 men, received ground school classes from Penrose Albright, a physics professor, and flight training from Carpenters Air Service. She flew her first solo on Jan. 3, 1941, and received her pilot's license later that month, but it wasn't until 1951 that she obtained her driver's license."

From: www.sckans.edu/southwesterner



Martha Fitzwater has loaned her mother Vivian (Compton) Lawrence's "Flying Builders" uniform from the 1940s.



The annual Celebrate Cowley County History Day held at Baden Square on January 27, 2024, was a testament to the vibrant tapestry of Cowley County's history.

Emceed by Bill Mueller, the event featured three unique presentations that offered insights into different facets of our local heritage.

Joann Parsons delved into the rich history of the Rainbow Bend Community, shedding light on its significance and contributions to our collective narrative. Gary Learned enthralled the audience with tales of auto racing in Cowley County, highlighting a lesser-known yet exhilarating aspect of our past. Tim Durham recounted the intriguing narrative of Anthony Carlton, a figure straddling two distinct worlds. As an Osage tribal council member and an Arkansas City businessman, Carlton navigated between his tribal roots and his engagement within the Ark City community seamlessly.



In our recent Museum Friends program held February 19th, we were treated to a presentation by Mary Hartley titled "Notable People with Winfield Connections." Mary highlighted individuals who have made significant contributions to Winfield and beyond, focusing on four remarkable figures: Edgar Gordan, Etcyl Blair, Neil Frank, and Natasha Matson Fife.

Edgar Gordan, son of Louis Gordon, known as the father of the Winfield music program, was a pioneering music teacher who made substantial contributions to music education. Etcyl Blair, a Winfield High School graduate, went on to become vice-president of Dow Chemical, leaving a legacy of innovation and musical talent. Dr. Neil Frank, originally from Wellington, graduating from Southwestern College, and later became a renowned meteorologist and Director of the National Hurricane Center. Natasha Matson Fife, a standout athlete, excelled in golf and became the first director of WSU's women's intercollegiate athletics.

We were inspired by the stories of these individuals and their lasting impact on Winfield and beyond. Their achievements serve as a reminder of the talent and dedication within our community that has helped "put Winfield on the map"!





The recent presentation by head librarian, Tabitha Hogan, on the “Winfield Literacy Collective” was an appreciated addition to the offerings for the Hypatia Study Club. Tabitha underscored not only the importance of literacy but also the collaborative spirit that defines our institution.

Through partnerships like these, the museum serves as a hub for community engagement, providing space and support for initiatives aimed at enhancing the lives of Winfield residents.

The Winfield Literacy Collective is a prime example of such collaboration, offering vital resources for individuals seeking to improve their reading and spelling skills. By bringing together diverse groups like the Hypatia circle and the library, we foster a culture of mutual support and shared learning, enriching the fabric of our community.

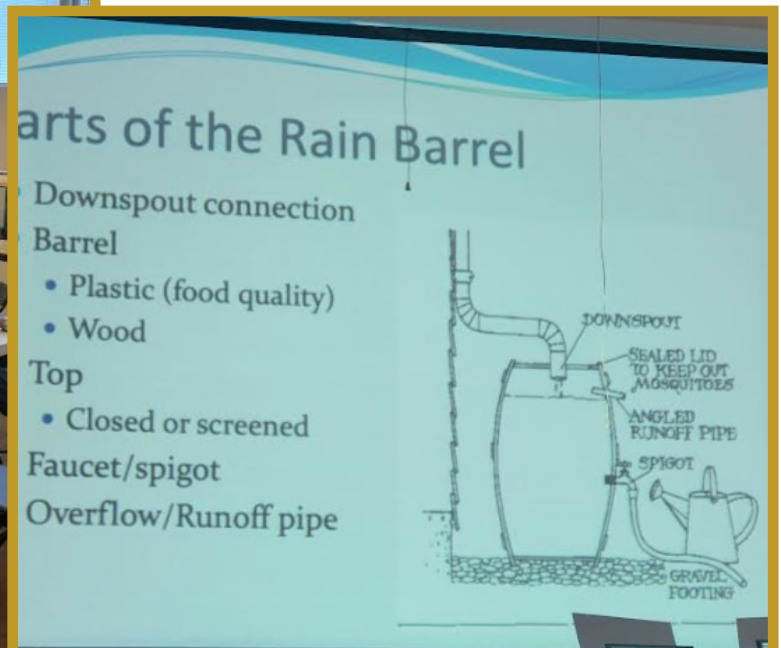
Check it out: winfield.scklslibrary.info/learntoread

This program is offered as part of Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries, an

initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL).

The recent K-State Extension Master Gardeners meeting held at our museum was an enlightening event that showcased the diverse range of topics and initiatives supported within our community. The presentation on Rain Barrels and water conservation provided valuable insights and demonstrated the mutual spirit that defines our institution. By hosting gatherings like these, we offer a platform for individuals and groups to come together, share knowledge, and take action for the betterment of our world. The museum serves as more than just a repository of history and culture—it's a dynamic space where ideas are exchanged, collaborations are forged, and meaningful change takes root.

Through events like the K-State Extension Master Gardeners meeting, we demonstrate our dedication to fostering a diverse and inclusive community that works together to create a brighter future for all.





Attention children aged 6-11! Come join us for an exciting Easter celebration at the Light Community Center, presented by the museum! Advance registration is necessary. We will provide all the necessary supplies, including hats and baseball caps for decorating, allowing your artistic talents to shine. Enjoy delicious treats while displaying your creations in our decorating competition, with fantastic prizes awaiting the winners.

Children will participate in a parade from the Light Community Center to the corner of 8th & Main, and don't miss the opportunity to take a photo with the Easter Bunny!

Space is limited, so pre-registration is required!

We are offering two sessions: 1-2pm and 3-4pm. Help us spread the word!

Visit cchsm.com/events to buy your tickets and register.

Join us on April 4th at 4pm for the Downtown Doc Walk, featuring the museum as the highlighted destination! This free community walking program, initiated by William Newton Hospital, offers an opportunity to get active and connect with neighbors.

Starting at the Winfield Area Chamber of Commerce office, each walk covers a mile and includes a brief health talk by the walk leader.

Sponsored by a different Chamber business each month, participants can look forward to a healthy snack at the museum while enjoying refreshments and further exploration of our historical school building. Don't miss this chance to prioritize your health while discovering what CCHSM has to offer. See you there!



Future Events!

- ♦ Museum Friends: "Bonnie Hittle's Old Winfield Picture Postcards" 4:30pm, Monday, March 18th.
- ♦ "Bonnets and Ball Caps Bash" Easter event at the Light Community Center, on Saturday March 23rd from 1-4pm.
- ♦ Doc Walk at CCHSM, April 4th, 2024 (Starts at the Chamber of Commerce at 4pm).
- ♦ Museum Friends: "Rediscovering the Arkansas River" on April 15th at 4 pm.
- ♦ "Grammy, Mommy & Me" Mother's Day Tea, Saturday, May 11th. Watch for more details!

To Use the Dillons Food Stores Community Rewards Program:
Simply encourage your participants to visit the appropriate link below..

For Dillons Stores - go to <http://www.dillons.com>
For Baker's Stores - go to <http://www.bakersplus.com>
For Gerbes Stores - go to <http://www.gerbes.com>



Once logged into their Dillons Food Stores account they can search for Cowley County Historical Society. Museum either by name or LM545 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

FOR SALE AT THE MUSEUM AND ONLINE:

2024 "Then and Now" Calendar	\$12.00
Celebrate Winfield History Books 2001-2011	\$15.00
Celebrate Winfield History Books 2012, 2015	\$15.00
Celebrate Cowley County History 2016-2023	\$15.00
Winfield's Golden Era of Sports:	\$15.00
History of CC KS. The Indians Vol. II:	\$33.00
Southwestern College:	\$21.99
Winfield – Postcard History:	\$21.99
Penrose Hills Albright	\$10.00
Prices include Sales Tax	
Shipping/handling is an additional	\$6.00

To purchase any of our amazing books, please stop by the museum or check out our website: www.cchsm.com

Credit Cards and PayPal are accepted.

You may also send a check or money order with a list of books to:

CCHSM

1011 Mansfield St.

Winfield, KS 67156

Or email us at: museumcchsm@gmail.com

All donations, both monetary and historical artifacts, are greatly appreciated. We are especially seeking anything from diverse ethnic groups to add to our displays.

Our building is over 140 years old and requires significant ongoing maintenance in addition to operating costs.

We continue to be a no fee museum and we have no plans to change that. Your continued support will allow us to best serve the community.

NEW! "Celebrate Cowley County History 2024," featuring JoAnn McClung Parsons's exploration of Rainbow Bend, Gary Learned's deep dive into local auto racing, and Tim Durham's biography of Anthony Carlton.

This book is an essential addition to any history enthusiast's library. Available for just \$15!

**CELEBRATE
COWLEY
COUNTY
HISTORY**

2024

**CCHSM Board of
Directors**

Madison Metzinger
Lindsey Rice
Brittany Donals
Gary Learned
Jonathan Leeper
Bill Mueller
John Baker
Jody Lawrence
Julie Mignone
Joe Chrisman
Karen Vann Young



Commemorative Bricks

We have commemorative bricks for sale which make great memorials and also support the museum financially. The bricks border our walkway from the parking lot to the front steps of our Historic school building.

To purchase an engraved brick, a form can be picked up at Museum, or we can email you one.

DETAILS: Flat red brick with 2 lines of 12 characters -\$75 donation.

Flat red brick with 3 lines of 12 characters -\$100 donation.

A contrasting brick with 12 characters-\$500 donation.



*These businesses support us—won't you support them?
(We hope to add more during the coming months.)*

Premier:



American Family Insurance
807 Main St.
Winfield, KS, 67156 620-221-7743



Daniels Ready Mix
2016 Country Club Rd
Winfield, KS 620-221-9060



Community National Bank & Trust
1112 Main St.
Winfield, KS 620-221-1400



Family Wealth Management
106 W 9th St.
Winfield, KS 620-221-2853



David C Parsons, DDS
123 E Tenth Ave.
Winfield, KS 620-221-0730



RCB Bank
900 Main St.
Winfield, KS 620-221-1650



Rich's Motor Inn Garage
120 N. Main
Dexter, KS 67038 620-218-3320

Gold:

A.C. Veterinary Clinic
2800 N. Summit
Arkansas City, KS 620-442-4990

Andreas Law Office
104 ½ W 9th Ave #303
Winfield, KS 620-221-1610

Advantage Chiropractic
805 Main
Winfield, KS 620-221-4449

B&B Realty
P.O. Box 293
Winfield, KS 67156

Barnett Ranch
26930 261st Rd
Dexter, KS 67038

The Barns at Timber Creek
14701 91st Rd
Winfield, KS 620-221-2797

Berkshire Hathaway Home Service PenFed Realty
1008 Main St
Winfield, KS 620-441-3575 OR 913-669-6944

Galaxie Business Equipment
913 Main St
Winfield, KS 620-221-3469

Home on the Range
512 Main St
Winfield, KS 620-402-6700
Miles Funeral Service
4001 9th Ave
Winfield, KS 620-221-1111
Rogers Law Office
117 College
Winfield, KS 67156
Taylor & Krusor, LLC
113 E 11th Ave
Winfield, KS 620-221-1120
Union State Bank
823 Main St
Winfield, KS 620-221-3040
Valentine Brand
110 E 9th Street
Winfield, KS 303-669-4165
Webber Land Co
810 Loomis
Winfield, KS 620-221-7181
Wilson Oil
1121 E 7th
Winfield, KS 67156
Winfield Convention & Tourism
123 E 9th Ave
Winfield, KS 620-221-2421
Winfield Plumbing & Heating
1910 Wheat Rd
Winfield, KS 620-221-2210

Silver:

CPA Solutions
Cowley Courier/Traveler
Dawson Monument Co.
Edw B Stephenson & Co., CPAs Chartered
Graves Drug
Health Center Pharmacy
Kline Motors
Trunk N Treasures
Walnut Valley Association--WVF



Since 1931, the Cowley County Historical Society Museum has been an active participant in the community's vibrant history. Established with a major reorganization and relocation to our present site in 1967, our mission extends beyond preserving history to actively sharing it. We engage in various activities related to Cowley County's rich history and encourage community involvement. The Museum not only houses a remarkable collection of historical records and vintage photographs but also takes pride in actively participating in and contributing to the dynamic cultural fabric of Cowley County.

Cowley County Historical
Society Museum

1011 Mansfield Street
Winfield, KS 67156
620.221.4811

Email: museumcchsm@gmail.com

Website: cchsm.com