

# TONGANOXIE COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 1st QUARTER NEWSLETTER, March 2013



### THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT--Susy Ross



Betty Englen

Regarding some of the administrative staff, Betty Englen and Carol Stouffer, for health reasons, have



Carol Stouffer

been out of the office for 2013. Betty returned on March 20, but Carol is still recovering from back surgery.

I am disappointed that due to a conflict of rental dates, the Fourth Annual Back in Time Festival will not be our opening event this year. If there is interest in the Mountain Man Encampment for next year, please let me know.

The Opening Day Committee has planned a Spring Open House with a movie, starring **Jack Hoey, Tonganoxie's own silent film star.** Dessert will be served (you know that will be good) on April 7th from 1:00 - 4:00.

Betty Englen and June Hagenbuch have agreed to find docents for our museum to keep the museum open on Sundays from April through October.. After much searching I found a definition for docent: a noun, a person who acts as a guide, typically on a voluntary basis in a museum, art gallery or zoo. Take your pick, but **when Betty or June call, please volunteer. SAY YES!**

John Ratliff of Tampa, Florida, recently donated his grandfather's Pharmacists Certificate, an apothecary jar from the Ratliff Drug Store, a wooden chair hand made by his great grandfather, Ashley Ratliff. Some family history was also donated.

Ashley Ratliff and Matilda Kirby Ratliff came to Tonganoxie in 1868 with three children: Joel W. (1855-1933) Anna and Emma, Matilda was the sister of Tom Kirby.

Joel W worked for his Uncle Tom Kirby in the drug store for 21 years. Then he bought the drug store. Then he married Minna Cronemeyer and had five boys: Guy (who operated a drug store in McLouth); Walter, (who operated a drug store in Oskaloosa); Edwin Orville, (died of diphtheria at age 22); John Floyd, (purchased the Ratliff Drug Store in Tonganoxie from his father in 1920 for \$5,000.00

In 1900 Joel W. built a new building for his drugstore. After Minna's death, Joel W. married Nell (Ella) Vantine and two children, Dean William, and Eleanor.

John Floyd operated the Tonganoxie drug store with his half brother Dean and sold it to Dean in the 1940's. John Floyd moved to Illinois in 1945. Dean operated the drug store until his death in 1962.

Dean's wife, Thelma, kept the drug store open for many years after Dean's death. For a few years she operated the drug store with her son, D. W. who was the pharmacist, but generally she hired pharmacists.

Thelma's obituary says that she and her husband owned the Ratliff Drug Store in Tonganoxie for 48 years. The building now is owned by the First State Bank and Trust and used for offices.



Susy Ross

Kathy Peak

## Who's This?

### This time I'll tell you!



This is a Young Dr. Larry Deaton. Dr. Deaton is our May Speaker and we are lucky to have him give us some of his time.

Larry was born and raised in Tonganoxie. He graduated from Tonganoxie HS in 1957. While he was there he was in all sports and was named honorable mention in football. He was a tremendous center capable of throwing two blocks per play.

One on the line of scrimmage and another downfield. I know because he blocked for me.

He graduated from The University of Missouri at Kansas City with a bachelor's degree in education. Shortly after graduation he married Nancy Young, a girl from Wichita, Ks whom he met his high school sophomore year. during church camp Larry has said more than once, "more goes on at church camps than religion". He received his doctoral degree from the University of Missouri in 1993 in administration and counseling. Most of his career was with Ft. Osage where he was a counselor. After he received his doctoral degree, he began giving educational seminars and courses for teachers, and later broadened these seminars to include many other groups.

Most recently he will give a program for St. Francis hospital in Topeka, KS.

His topic on the 28th of May is titled: *Tongie Birth Orders for Parents, Families and Historians*

Larry will speak on one of the most neglected variables in psychology. Birth order is simply one's biological position in the family. As you can guess, Tonganoxie is full of birth orders--the "only" children, first, second, third, etc. You will learn how to listen for birth orders when you reflect on or meet people. This is a fun evening. You will leave with a new vocabulary, a library of birth order books and hundreds of new insights.

Larry is a member of the Historical Society. He is a second son with an older brother. There are five years between them. He received his doctorate in 1993 from the University of Missouri in school administration and counseling psychology. .

### AND NOW WHO IS THIS.



Most everyone knows this person today, but this 1961 photo may throw some. Valedictorian in her high school; No. 1 in her college class at Nebraska; she moved to California to get married to a musician and pursue her career, but found another person in San Diego, Ca. She followed her

husband from San Diego to western Kansas, to eastern Kansas to Illinois and back to eastern Kansas where she has lived for 40 years.

Comments by Laurie Walters,  
board chairman

**This year's museum opening may start with the spring thaw. That is if this snow melts by the spring opening. April 7th is the date. The time is 1P. M. to 4 P. M. The location is the museum site/barn.**

This promises to be a very interesting opening with a movie by Jack Hoey (Frank Hoey's older brother), Tonganoxie's own silent movie star. In addition there will be numerous desserts for your enjoyment.

I often hear comments that "I have already seen the museum." However, new items arrive on a weekly basis and the museum houses many interesting stories of our city's past inhabitants. For example, do you know why the Baker family decided to settle in Tonganoxie, or do you know that the Cronemeyer family, "camped" in their house while it was under construction because the mother was frightened by living above the saloon? Have you ever wondered why Magdalena Bury signed all the legal documents deeding her property to become the future city of Tonganoxie? This and more can be found in our treasure trove. Make an appointment with one of our researchers to tell you these tales.

The board will send two representatives to attend a Basic Archives Workshop sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society in early April.

Our building committee continues to seek information from area "experts". George Moore, curator of the Ft. Leavenworth museum visited our site. This was followed by a visit to the Ft. Leavenworth museum by members of the building committee. Delegates of the committee will meet with Peter Welsh, director of the KU Museums program. The building committee is in the initial stage of fact finding. If you are not aware the TCHS is now gathering information and establishing resources in hopes of building a new museum. Our museum is out of space and severely overcrowded. **SPACE IS A PREMIUM.**

We will partner with the coalition of museums of Leavenworth County on several different programs for this coming year. The board voted to support the museum coalition in attempting to

Imhoff's Law-- A bureaucracy is like a septic tank. The big chips always rise to the top !!

host the convention of the Kansas Museums Association in 2014. This means **WE NEED YOU AND YOUR SUPPORT !!!!**

Board meeting times have been changed from meeting during the day to meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P. M. in the fellowship hall of the Reno Church (located on the site). This change was made to allow those members with day time jobs to have a more reasonable time for a meeting. **ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN.**

T C H S prepares for another productive year. Baseball is starting, The facility will under go its spring cleaning this week. Our



firetruck is ready and has already appeared in this years St. Patrick's parade. A thanks to Bill Peak and Dan Carr for managing and driving the fire truck in the parade.



Bill Peak, program chairman, has scheduled many good events for this coming quarter. Check out the programs elsewhere in this newsletter. Please make an effort to join us and/or contribute to our projects and programs.

Hostess for the 2nd Quarter are:  
April 23--Carol & Ed Slawson; Dr & Mrs. Gruendel  
May 28---Dan & Carlee Carr: Howard & Donna Fields  
June 22 SATURDAY 6 P.M. Annual picnic; bring covered dishes, table service, & chairs.

KATHY PEAK

With the completion of another successful Soup & Chili Feed fund raiser I thought it would be a good time to make mention of and pay tribute to some of the behind the scenes activities at your historical society. For example: Connie Putthoff has headed up the Chili Feed for quite a few years. She gets all the supplies together that have to be taken to the church and all the groceries needed beyond what is contributed. She makes sure there are volunteers to cook, clean and serve. They are pretty visible to most who attend the event. Who you do not see are the countless behind the scenes volunteers she rounds up; People who donate their time and money to chop the carrots and celery, peel and dice potatoes, bake the wonderful pies and other desserts. This year June Hagenbuch generously donated 50 lbs. of prime Angus ground beef that additional volunteers cooked up head of time. Also there are many generous cash contributions received due to the extra behind the scenes effort Connie puts forth in sending out tickets to all members both near and far.

Our next big fund raiser, the ballpark concession stand season, is now fast approaching. Again, there are many valuable volunteers who man the two stands, and they are quite visible. What you do not see and may not be aware of are the behind the scenes efforts of Jim Stuke and Lloyd Pearson. Jim is the one to coordinate with the people at the Rec. Commission for the game schedules and then make sure there are volunteers for all the game nights (usually 4 per week) over the approximately six weeks of the season. Not an easy task! Lloyd is the person who keeps the stand stocked with everything we sell. Not only does he make numerous shopping trips to buy the hot dogs, pop, etc., but he also checks the inventory each day and hauls what is needed from storage at the site to the ball park. Also behind the scenes are the ones who clean the stands for opening and hook up the ice machine and snow cone maker, and make sure the air conditioners are working. All of our volunteers are valuable. Thank you for all you do

## SPRING OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY APRIL 7th

1PM to 4PM

# FREE

### MOVIE & REFRESHMENTS

Jack Hoey's "Tracy the Outlaw"

It's Great !!!

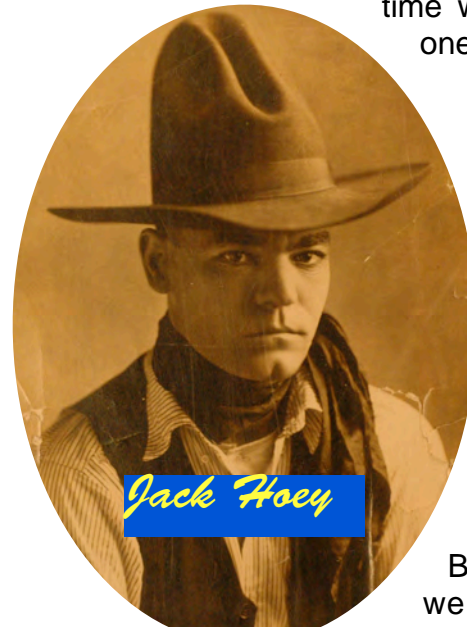
Many new items in our museum

Honey Valley School-----Visit the Reno Church

Tonganoxie's 1935 fire engine on display

**Bring your friends and neighbors**

Shortly after WW I, Jack Hoey moved to San Antonio Texas and became a Rodeo Star. He won several rodeos and at one time won over \$2,500 at one rodeo.



During the late 1920's he had signed with a movie company to be a "double" for Buck Jones. It was during this time that he signed a contract to make five silent westerns for \$400.00 per week.

Because "talkies", were beginning, the 5th one never made, but he received \$4,800.00 for that movie as part of his contract.

It was suggested to him that he go to Hollywood to make talking movies. His voice (deep base and melodic) alone would have made him a success, but he declined and went back to rodeos. He later said it was one of his mistakes.

CHIEF TONGANOXIE REVISITED

Name 578, No. 274 17334

Name 578, No. 274 17334

Delaware Agency Kansas  
 Jan 24<sup>th</sup> 1863  
 Hon. Wm P. Dole  
 Com of Indian Affairs

Sir I herewith enclose  
 memorial of the Chiefs and  
 head men of the Delaware Tribe of Indians  
 asking that you recognize as  
 Chief of the Turkey Band of the Tribe and  
 that Joseph Armstrong be recognized as  
 Councilor for the Band  
 You will recall that Charles  
 Journey Cake was nominated by the Department  
 as Chief to fill the vacancy of Rocka-to-wha  
 to whom the band now complains as  
 they do not belong to the Turkey band but to  
 the Wolf band. (And anyhow?? The Turkey band??) (He?) (shall?) \_\_\_\_\_  
 have no voice in the (councils?) of the Tribe., I am Sir, Very Respectfully Your,  
 Fielding Johnson

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 have no voice in the (councils?) of the Tribe., I am Sir, Very Respectfully Your,  
 Fielding Johnson

What you are looking at is a written document from the Delaware Agency of Kansas dated January 24th, 1863. This is from the Kansas Historical Society. It is difficult to read, but to the best of my ability and that of Susy Ross, it says the following.

Hon. Wm P. Dole  
Com of Indian Affairs

Sir:

**below--all words enclosed with () are best educated guess**

I herewith enclose (memorial??) of the Chiefs and head men of the Delaware Tribe of Indians asking that Ton-Gu-nox-ie be recognized as Chief of the Turkey Band of the Tribe and that Joseph Armstrong be recognized by the Department as Councilor for the Band.

You will (recall?), that Charles Journey Cake was (nominated?) by the Department as Chief to fill the vacancy of Rocka-to-wha . (Hence?), The band now (complains?) as he does not belong to the Turkey Band, but to the Wolf Band. (And??Anyhow?? The Turkey band??) (He?) (shall?) \_\_\_\_\_ have no voice in the (councils?) of the Tribe., I am Sir, Very Respectfully Your, ; Fielding Johnson.

From this it appears that the Indians wanted Tonganoxie to be their chief. It is believed that the Government did not want this. Tonganoxie and the Indians likely were not able to get the Government to change that position before he died in 1864.

## CORRUPTION, FRAUD, CHEATING, AND DECEPTION A RAILROAD TRYING TO SURVIVE?

This is the third and last article on the development the Leavenworth, Pawnee and Western RR that ultimately became the Union Pacific. There was so much corruption, political fights and deceit in this railroad that there is neither space nor desire to discuss all those issues. This article will make an attempt to shed some light on the more significant events involving extremely questionable activity.

It might be stated that however bad the deception and corruption was in the construction of the LP & W railroad, the Union Pacific RR being built from Iowa through Nebraska exhibited greater corruption and fraud.

Of course the first great breach of corruption, fraud and deception involving the Indians and the railroad was the establishment of the 1860 & 1861 treaty between the United States and the Delaware Indians. I will consider them together because in the past articles these treaties were more fully discussed.

The most significant violation of trust was the direct negotiations by the railroad with the Indians. It was an obvious abuse of the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act. This Act grants the United States government the sole authority to interact between Indians and non Indians. This Act prevented sale of Indian lands to individuals and states. Under this act in 1834, all land west of the Mississippi, except Missouri, Louisiana, and Arkansas was designated as Indian Territory. In addition each treaty was laced with suggestions that the Indians wanted the LP&W to buy their land; that the Indians recognized that their land will increase in value; and even the Indians will become more civilized.

What the railroad did to circumvent this law was to negotiate directly with the Indians and then take the agreed upon document to congress for approval. This process avoided organized opposition of the Department of Interior, the local Indian Agents, and the Squatters. In the 1860 treaty it was a relatively simple process and the treaty passed congress quickly. However the second treaty of 1861 was more difficult because the opposition was now organized.

To keep some of the groups happy the railroad gave large amounts of land to churches, missions, interpreters, principal chiefs, and schools. Many of the squatters were against the railroad because they wanted to purchase the land for the cheap price that the railroads were to pay. To appease the settlers, the railroads suggested that if the railroad could not begin the construction of the RR, the settlers might get the land at the appraised price.

The railroad spent time assuring that the appraisers would have the land appraised at the \$1.25 per acre price. Many felt the land was already worth \$10.00 per acre. One year later land was selling for \$1.25/acre.

Soon after the congressional approval, groups became organized. John Wright from the Baptist Mission bombarded Washington with letters against the treaty, John P. Usher, a lawyer for the Indians at this time, wrote the treatment was, "gross heartless and nefarious fraud". Within one year he would be working for the railroad (a year later he would be Assistant Secretary of the Interior and soon the Secretary of the Interior.). Journeycake stated that the Indians were drunk and did not understand what they had given away. He swore the chiefs were old with little education. Further, he said they had been bribed by J. C. Stone, one of the RR owners, and the terms of the treaty were not made available until published by congress. Also Stone had attempted to have the Chiefs invest their trust funds in the railroad.

The second item of fraud involves John D. Perry and the widow of Samuel Hallett. After Hallett was shot and killed, Perry became the owner of the railroad. Hallett had owned the controlling interest while he was alive. In addition he had all the construction contracts for the railroad. Mrs. Hallett was

Hallett to surrender her husband's contracts and surrender them to the railroad. Now Perry was president of the company and he immediately fired the Hallett family from working on the railroad. When the Hallett's lost their contracts, construction of the railroad quit. People had to sue for their money and wages. These lawsuits went on for several years.

Perry's representatives convinced Mrs. Hallett that Hallett was bankrupt, showing meager assets of little more than \$4,000.00. Mrs. Hallett hired a Mr. Hale as her counsel. He was closely associated with the lawyers for Perry. This goes on and on, but the bottom line is this.

Mrs. Hallett estate was sued by Perry, represented by Hale, an associate of Perry's lawyer. Mrs. Hallett was appointed executrix of the Hallett estate while she was in Kansas, although neither she nor her husband had legal residence in Kansas. The Railroad took all of Hallett's assets in the judgement via a sheriff's auction. The railroad paid \$740.00 for the 38,163 shares of stock which really was worth \$50.00 a share, which computes to over 1 million dollars. Now that is fraud !!

One of the issues with the railroad which has generally be discussed earlier was the lack of cash. Because of this, they did not always pay on time. This caused lawsuits by labor and by suppliers.

The railroad while directed by Ewing had done something that would eventually bite them. The four largest owners created an executive committee which had the power to make contracts, borrow money, contract mortgages and do all the things necessary to operate the railroad. They could do this without any consultation with larger shareholders and the board of directors. The real problem here was they didn't converse with each other. A few year later during the Hallett/Fremont time these earlier agreements now became unexpected lawsuits.

So, we have touched on the unexpected direct negotiations with the Indian, violating the Intercourse Act. We have discussed some of the misrepresentation the railroad did to the Indians, and some of those groups who thought these treaties were severely unfair to the Indians. All this was to no avail for a number of reasons, mostly political and the President wanted the railroads.

We have noted a few types of the numerous lawsuits brought against the Railroad for lack of payment. Some were the result of contracts for services or material which were made but not know about when Fremont and Hallett were in charge. Some were directly related to the change of control when Hallett was shot and Perry took charge.

And we have seen how Perry cheated Mrs. Hallett. After she learned of the deceit, she sued, but it was several years later and she lost the case. Much more cheating went on than has been discussed here.

What needs to be emphasized here is how this cheating affected the outcome of the LP&W. The Pacific Railroad Act of 1862 changed everything. It provided a specific method for railroads to be paid.. It provided bonds of \$16,000.00 per mile. It also provided significant amount of land for each mile of railroad. But it did one other thing. It provided that the first railroad to reach the 100 degree longitude would become the Transcontinental Railroad. The railroad in Iowa/Nebraska laid its first track on Oct. 1865. In 1863 the UP, Eastern Div., began building it's railroad. It was not until May 1865 that they could get the first 40 miles approved for payment. All of the lawsuits and legal maneuvers allowed the Union Pacific in Nebraska to become the Transcontinental Railroad.

PROGRAMS FOR NEXT QUARTER  
from Bill Peak

**APRIL 23**---Jane Rhoads, Kansas Frontier Entertainer, Harry Houdini, Buster Keaton, etc. Accounts of Entertainers--Houdini's wife, Bess, saving Keaton from burning hotel, plus first hand accounts of performers and their experiences in Kansas.

**May 28** Dr. Larry Deaton will speak on *Tongie Birth Orders for Parents, Families and Historians*, one of the most neglected variables in psychology. Birth order is simply one's biological position in the family. The "only" children, first, second third, etc. You will learn how to listen for birth orders when you reflect on or meet people. This is a fun evening. You will leave with a new vocabulary, a library and hundreds of new insights.

Dr. Deaton is a native of Tonganoxie and a member of TCHS.

**June 22** This is the date **(it is a SATURDAY)** of the annual picnic. Please bring a covered dish, eating utensils, and chairs to sit. The fun starts at 6 P. M. with entertainment by D. J. Bob. It is at the site. Bring a friend.



Ancient Rome declined because it had a Senate. Now what's going to happen to us when we have both a Senate and a House?

Will Rogers

Our constitution protects aliens, drunks and politicians.

Will Rogers



TCHS  
Genealogy Project

This project is an ever ongoing event that interviews various people/families who have a long history in and or around Tonganoxie. The intent is to record as a movie the history of these families, and how that history relates to the history of Tonganoxie and the surrounding area. These family histories

have been discussed before. They are quite informative and always interesting and available to view and enjoy in the museum.

**Just recently June Hagenbuch and Emil Wiley (sister & brother) were interviewed.**

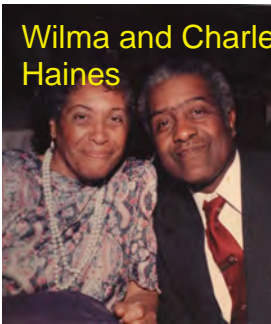


Emil, Janet June  
all Wiley's

This interview was about the Wiley family that came to this county and settled northwest of Tonganoxie area, near Many Oaks. This family later moved to the Reno Area. One thing stands out to me. They worked hard and suffered as most. Emil and June's

families spent much time with farm organizations, particularly 4-H.

**The Haines family was the last family to be interviewed this quarter.**



Wilma and Charles  
Haines

grandfather, grandmother, and his father came from Virginia shortly after the Civil War. Charles' father was very young when the "Slave Master" brought them to Tonganoxie. The "Slave Master" stayed long

enough to help them get settled with a farm and log house. After getting the Haines family settled, the "Slave Master" and his wife, a black lady, returned to Virginia. Charles discusses his families history and continues to discuss the family from the "Great Depression" until the present. According to Charles, his families' farm was big enough to support the family adequately throughout the depression.

Charles' dad was about 70 when Charles was born, which means that his father was well acquainted with slavery.

The Haines family settled just north of the "Ghost Town" of Ackerland. The original farm in still in the family.