

OUR LEGACY

‘Creating a future for our past’

4TH QUARTER 2024



VOL. 53, NO. 4



HOME OF STONE ORNAMENTS

Just in time for Christmas, FCHS has Home of Stone ornaments available for purchase. These ornaments are made in the USA from solid brass with colorized 2D images, including the Bat Masterson statue. The back of each ornament is engraved with Ford County Historical Society 2024.

It is our intention for this Home of Stone ornament to be the first in an annual series to highlight not only FCHS projects but also historical sites in Ford County. We welcome your ideas and feedback on this new endeavor.

Ornaments can be purchased at the Home of Stone during special tours and events, the Legacy Center, and the CVB Visitors Center for \$25 including tax. Each keepsake ornament comes with an attractive gift box which makes a great stocking stuffer!

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING

January 17, 2025

4:00 p.m., Legacy Center,
310 Gunsmoke

SPECIAL EVENT

4th Annual Christmas Tea

December 14, 2024

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Home of Stone Museum
112 E Vine St

COMMUNITIES

Bellefont
Bloom
Bucklin
Dodge City
Ford
Fort Dodge
Howell
Kingsdown
Spearville
Wilroads Gardens
Windthorst
Wright

OFFICERS

Kent Stehlik, president
Vacant, vice-president
Sonya Hughes, treasurer
Vacant, secretary
George Laughead, past-president
Aaron Fisher, member at large

FCHS is Seeking Volunteers!

If you have an interest in preserving Ford County history and have time to give, we want you!

Docent/Greeting/Reception
Event Planning & Organization
Photography/Videography
Community Outreach
Youth Programs/Organization & Ideas
Housekeeping/Janitorial
Computer Input/Data Entry
Help w/Mailings/Labeling/Stuffing
Artifact Cleaning, Repair & Restoration
Carpentry/Woodworking
Oral Histories/Capturing/Transcribing
Help with Grant Writing
Exhibits/Set-Ups and Tear-Downs
Writing/Researching
Demonstrations

Schedules are very flexible and we do not require a lengthy commitment. Couples and families are welcome!

For more information, please call 620-789-3247 or send a message to media@fordcountyhistory.org.

Did you know?

FCHS has a new website! Visit us at fordcountyhistory.org to learn more about the people and communities of Ford County.

Be sure to check back regularly for updates about our projects, events, and collections.

Share Your Story

Our yesterdays define our tomorrows differently when we understand the path that led us here...

- As a country
- As a community
- As a family
- As an individual

We want to hear your story in your own words!



LEGACY CENTER UPDATE

One of the items in this photo does not belong. The recent heavy rain created a bucket symphony inside the Legacy Center. We lost a bit of plaster from the ceiling but no artifacts were damaged.

We are in the final stages of securing TASK funding for much needed roof repairs to protect our collections. A match from Ford County has already been secured. Once the funds are available, the project will be scheduled for Spring with a final completion date set for May 31, 2025.

Thousands of paper inventory sheets from as far back as 1996 are being entered into PastPerfect so that our entire inventory is electronically stored and updated.

The Motorsports Legends exhibit continues and new additions are arriving all the time.



4TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA

Mark your calendars for the Fourth Annual Christmas Tea Saturday, December 14 from 1 to 4 pm at the Home of Stone Museum.

This year, we will serve hot tea and apple cider to sip and Christmas cookies and fudges to enjoy. Music will be provided by an orchestral duet. Bring your family and friends to see the Mueller-Schmidt House decorated for the Christmas holiday.

Home of Stone ornaments will be available for purchase (\$25) as well as Tim Wenzl's new book, "Dodge City's Santa Fe Depot & the El Vaquero Harvey House" (\$30). Both make excellent Christmas gifts!



FORT DODGE UPDATE

As you know, preserving Fort Dodge has been a goal of FCHS and numerous members of the community for many years. The Junior Officers' Quarters had been scheduled for demolition more than once but we are confident that this building will be saved with the help of the Kansas Historical Society, Representative Jason Goetz, and other interested parties.

This building was constructed around 1870 to house ensigns, junior lieutenants, and senior lieutenants. It is believed to be the only remaining officers' quarters of its kind west of the Mississippi River.

We know everyone is impatient to see movement toward the ultimate goal. There is much work which needs to be accomplished behind the scenes before visible progress can be made at the site. While we cannot report on definitive plans today, we are excited to be moving forward in establishing a partnership agreement with KHS toward the project.

Stay tuned...big things are coming!

FORD COUNTY LEGACY CENTER

310 Gunsmoke Street
Dodge City, KS 67801

HOURS

Tues - Sat 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTORS

Ford County Commission & Administration
Kansas State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)
"Why Not Dodge" (CFAB)
Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas
The Mariah Fund
Humanities Kansas
Main Street Dodge City
United Telephone and Communications
IdeaTek

CONTACT US

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