

# Rock Creek Valley Historical Society



July – August 2018 Newsletter

**Address:** PO Box 13  
507 Burkman St.  
Westmoreland, KS  
66549

**Phone:** 785-457-0100

**Website:**  
museum@westmorelandkshistory.org

**Museum Hours:**  
1-4 p.m. Tuesday through  
Sunday. Other times scheduled by  
appointment.

## Board of Directors

Judy Hinrichsen, president  
Scott Schwinn, vice-president  
Jenni Moore, secretary  
Jackie Blenn, treasurer  
"Chick" Roberts  
Dan Schlochtermeyer  
Jill Lenauer Overkamp

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the first Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the museum. Meetings are open to the public; please call ahead if you have items for the agenda.

Rock Creek Valley Historical Society is a 501(C)3 organization. Donations or memorial gifts are tax deductible and will be put to careful use in preserving our local history.

## Annual Meeting: August 8, 2018

Plan to attend! **Meet at the museum at 6:30 p.m. for a pre-meeting tour.** The exhibits have been totally redeveloped this year; they are **all new!!**

**The annual meeting will follow, beginning at 7:15 p.m. in the Wizarde Barn.** The business meeting will be followed by a slide show presentation about the history of Westmoreland from the 1870s to about 1900. Pie and ice cream will be served as we have a chance to visit afterwards.



Are you interested in learning about your own family history but don't know where to start? We have the opportunity to offer a beginning genealogy class here in Westmoreland if we have eight or so people to participate. Contact Jenni Moore and leave a message at 785-457-3483 if you are interested!



WES third graders spent two hours visiting with us on Friday, May 4. First and second graders came later in the month.

Does our history matter?  
We believe it does and we spend hundreds of hours working to preserve it for future generations. So when students from Westmoreland Elementary come to visit, we are thrilled!



*Signatures in our  
guest book total 815 for the  
past 12 months with 19  
states represented  
(including Kansas)!*

## **Funding for the Future**

The Rock Creek Valley Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization. You may have heard that and not thought about what it means. It is important to us because it allows people who value the work we do in preserving history to donate money to us as a charitable donation which is tax deductible. In the past the Pottawatomie County Commissioners have given our museum up to \$10,000 each year if we could match it with our own funds. Our historical society relies totally on donations from businesses and individuals to fund its activities. In addition to the money that is donated, volunteers contribute hundreds of work hours because they are interested in history and see the value of its preservation.

Recently the Board of Directors voted to offer donors the opportunity to contribute to a Foundation Fund. This fund will be set up so that we are able to use the interest annually but not the principal. We will retain ownership of the principal, however. We will also have the opportunity to apply annually for grant funds from this Foundation so that we may benefit from it doubly. Please consider a generous contribution to our cause!

Members of the Riley County Genealogical Society came for a tour of the Oregon Trail Marshall grave site north of Westmoreland, followed by a presentation about the trail, a tour of the museum properties, and lunch at the South Forty Restaurant.



Other recent tour groups have included a veterans camping group and the Wheaton Senior Citizens. If you would like to schedule a guided tour, either a general tour or of a specific topic, just give us a call!

## Once again it is time for **Fabulous Finds on Highway 99**

**September 21-22, 2018**

It's one of our fundraising events. You may want to start looking for items you no longer need!

This is not just a garage sale. We are requesting items that have excellent salability. Things that are hard to sell become a problem for us to get rid of, too, so we ask you *not* to bring clothing, exercise equipment, older TVs, beds, most travel bags, shoes, video cassettes.

**Please contact Scott Schwinn at 785-456-5206 if you have questions.** He can also arrange to pick items up for you if needed!

These items sell well:

- Antiques/primitives
- Coins
- Guns/hunting/fishing/camping equipment or sporting goods
- Jewelry
- Outdoor/old metal furniture/décor
- Indoor decor
- Seasonal/holiday decorations
- Items with rustic charm (wheels, seats, planters, plows, cultivators, etc.)
- Power tools, hand tools, chainsaws, lawn mowers, weed eaters, etc.
- Musical instruments
- Kids' toys
- Working electronics
- Collector items
- Books (romance novels, mysteries)
- Wooden furniture