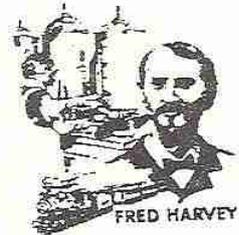
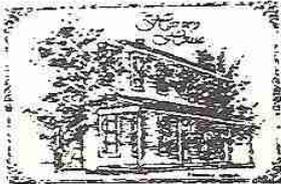


Harvey House Notes

Florence Historical Society



February 2007

From the President's Corner

Judy Mills

2007
Historical Society
Officers:

- ❖ *President—Judy Mills*
- ❖ *Vice President—Sarah Cope*
- ❖ *Secretary—Marjorie Jackson*
- ❖ *Treasurer—Twilah Williams*

Board of Directors:
Sarah Cope
Cathy DeForest
Mary Jane Grimmert
Marjorie Jackson
Judy Mills
Mary Lou Phillips
Neva Robinson
Vickie Turner
Harvey Wells
Twilah Williams

Items for publication in the newsletter can be sent to:

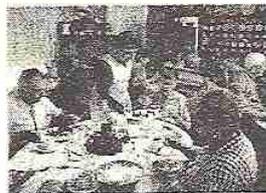
Mary Jane Grimmert
414 W. 8th Street
Florence, Kansas 66851
or emailed:
mjg1@kans.com

You just thought you got rid of me as your president! Wrong! You got me back. Do hope you will bear with me as I get into the swing of the job. I would like to extend an invitation to ALL to get involved with us. We are always looking for new ideas and besides we can always use a new face.—male or female.

Florence has a real treasure in the Harvey House – the FIRST Fred Harvey Restaurant Hotel in the nation. There are many small towns like Florence that only wish they had something to use as their "claim to fame". We need to work to keep this jewel. As we get older it becomes more apparent of the need to get younger ones involved to carry on tradition and history – or it will be lost.

Our meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month. Please come and help us keep the history of Florence alive.

A Note of Interest.....



We have received notes and telephone calls from people who recently saw the visit to our Harvey House on Sunflower Journeys on T.V. Thank you! The picture on the left is shown on the Harvey House web page that was taken during the visit.

Recently we have found a "Certificate of Citizenship" issued to Alexander Louis, April 15th, 1870. This was his certificate to become a citizen of the United States of America.

Alexander was a Belgian and came to this area in October 1858.

All of the snow and ice that we have been experiencing lately makes it almost mandatory that we try some new soup recipes. Here is one that I really like.

Mexican Chicken Corn Chowder

3 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cut into small pieces
 1 T. butter ½ C. chopped onion 2 cloves garlic
 1 ½ C. chicken broth 1 t. cumin 2 C. half and half
 3 C. shredded Monterey Jack cheese
 1 (16 oz.) can creamed corn
 1 4 oz. chopped green chilies, undrained

1 t. hot pepper sauce 1 medium tomato, chopped
 Brown chicken in butter in a large pot with onion and garlic. Add chicken broth and cumin and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer 5 minutes. Add half and half, cheese, corn, chilies and pepper sauce. Cook and stir over low heat until cheese is melted. Stir in tomato and serve immediately. I always thought that half and half was called that because it was half cream and half milk. NOW, however, you can use "fat free half and half". I don't get it, but I have been using it and it is really good in soup. (and hopefully fat free as they claim).

I, like a whole lot of other people, start a diet the first of the year. Mine usually only last three or four days, but when I was in the mood, I found the following soup recipe that was surprisingly good even though it has no meat or cheese or any of that good stuff.

Skinny Minestrone

2 t. olive oil ¾ C. chopped onions
 ½ C chopped celery 2 cloves garlic, minced
 1 can (28 oz.) diced tomatoes, undrained
 3 C. low sodium, low fat chicken broth
 3 C. vegetable cocktail (V-8 juice)

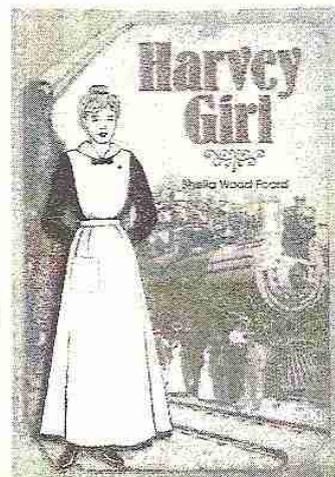
1 C. each chopped carrots, zucchini, green cabbage
 1 can chickpeas, drained and rinsed ½ C. dry small pasta
 3 T. chopped fresh parsley 1 bayleaf 2 t. dried basil
 1 t. dried oregano ½ t. dried thyme & black pepper
 Heat olive oil in a large soup pot over medium heat. Add onion, celery and garlic. Cook and stir for 3 minutes, until vegetables begin to soften. Add all remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium low. Simmer, partially covered for 30 minutes. Serve hot. This recipe serves eight and has just 128 calories and 2.1 g. fat per serving. I used the spicy hot V-8 juice for a little bite and the soup was really tasty. The chickpeas kind of take the place of the meat I think.

I churn out recipes for all these newsletters and now we NEED SOME OF YOUR RECIPES. I still have the ones that you submitted before, but I would like to have a whole new set from everyone to add to them for the LONG AWAITED COOKBOOK

We would really like to have a recipe from all who are Florence alums or just interested in Florence from all over the country. Send them to me at R.R. 1, Box 51,

Cedar Point, KS. 66843 or e-mail them to me at eljay1122@cs.com. Or send them to anyone at Florence Historical Society. THANK YOU!!

Marjorie Jackson, secretary



We have received an autographed copy of "Harvey Girl", a newly published book by Sheila Wood Foard. It tells the story of a young girl who runs away from home to work in the Harvey House restaurants along the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroads in the late 1890's. Thank you Martha Ruhe!

We had an e-mail requesting a copy of our newsletter, plus membership in the Historical Society from Robert Harpster of Nichols Hills, Oklahoma. Robert grew up in Florence.



Thank you many folks for newspaper clippings and a publication featuring a story of Harvey Houses.

And what would we do without the guys who cleaned the snow and ice from our sidewalks? Thank you Ed and Allen!

Thank you Donna Rosiere. She has done a beautiful job of cleaning and restoring conductor's uniforms, military uniforms, Harvey girl dresses, etc.



Florence Historical Society
 "Making History Come Alive!"

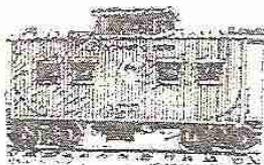
Back To The Good Old Days

NOTES FROM T.P. ALEXANDER DIARY
By Neva Robinson

- ❖ *Feb. 17, 1889—The city of Florence was incorporated as a City of the Third Class in June, 1872 and on the third day of February, 1884 the grocery of Frank Carpenter situated on lot 401 Main Street was burned and with it the city records and charter was burned. I will give a list of city officers from records in my possession.*
- ❖ *1872—Mayor Thomas P. Alexander, Police Judge J.K. McLean, Councilmen: P. Alier, Thomas Morrison, George B. Omer, D.C. Battey, Wilson Burnside. City Marshal: Fred F. Healy*
- ❖ *August 25, 1889—Myself, wife Lucy and Myra Smith went to the Camp Meeting in the Barker Grove. Mrs. Nevison and Linnie Comstock were at our house for dinner. In the afternoon we all went to the Camp Meeting. They have a pontoon bridge over the Cottonwood River.*
- ❖ *Clipping from January, 1890—Little drops of quinine, little drinks of rye, make la grippe that's got you lose it's hold and fly. This may quickly help you, if only you try; but don't forget the quinine when, you take the rye.*
- ❖ *A head of cabbage weighing 23 pounds was sold at Craig and Corbett's store last Saturday.*
- ❖ *It was ordered that the Florence Lot and Land Co. be permitted to lay a board sidewalk, four feet wide and not less than 1 inch thick, anywhere in Kimball's Addition and grade such streets and alleys as they may desire.*



Plans are still under way for the renovation of our way car. Once spring is here, work will begin. We are planning on giving our way car a whole new look. With the help of Bob Harris, it will be restored to its original



state and will be open for viewing. If anyone else would like to help with the project, feel free to contact any member of the Historical Society. We will keep you informed of the progress.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!

Greetings from the Treasurer. Well, we finally dug through the snow and ice and produced a newsletter. Too few people and too many jobs to do. We certainly would like to have more active members to help us keep the Harvey House going.

We have received dues from 6 regular members since our last newsletter. Remember, we are a 501c3 corporation and any donation is tax deductible.

We still are marking red dots on the mailing label when your dues aren't paid for 2007.

Please send us your address changes and remember ours is now:

Twilah Williams, treasurer
P.O. Box 143
Florence, Kansas 66851

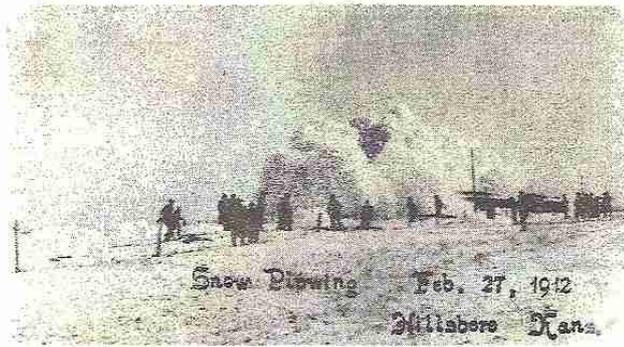
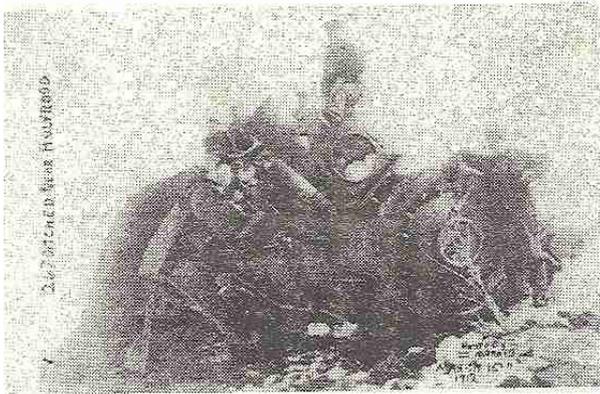
We have finished our community calendars for 2007. We delivered over 200 this year. If you need a calendar call Twilah, Mary Jane or Neva. We also have some available at Doyel Creek Merchantile. Thank you again for making our calendars a successful fund raiser.

WITH SYMPATHY

We remember a member, **Bill Meyer**, retired editor and publisher of the Marion County Record and president of Hoch Publishing Company. Bill was born August 6, 1925 and was raised at Cassoday in the heart of the Flint Hills.

Mary C. LaLouette passed away on Saturday, October 28th, 2006 in Marion. She was the daughter of Leon and Anna Margaret Carpenter LaLouette of Florence who were early settlers in Florence. She married George Grimmatt on February 27th, 1939. George was a loyal supporter of the Historical Society loaning many historic items that are on display in the museum.

Every Picture Tells a Story



These photos, along with a check to help for the restoration of the way car is from Robert McMillen. He reports the snow pictures were taken on the branch line between Florence and Ellinwood. They were a couple of post cards that was found in his grandfather's papers.

Robert also enclosed more photos and an article about his grandfather's retirement as the oldest engineer on the Santa Fe division when he was 75 year old. We will be printing this story in our next issue. Thank you Robert for sharing this bit of history with us!

The Florence Historical Society
Box 143
Florence, Kansas 66851

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