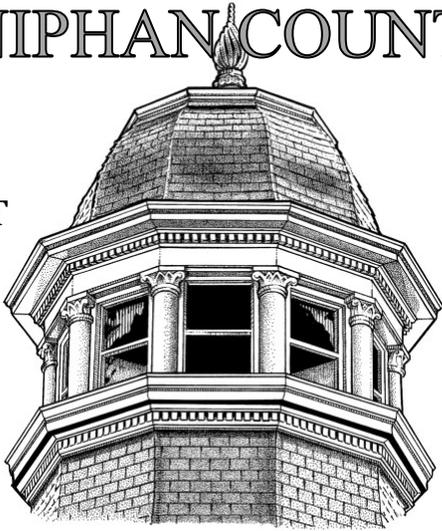


DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUGUST
2025

Vol. 31
No. 8



News Notes &

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AUGUST MEETING

Farm Wagons

By Jason Midyette

August 28

544 Hwy 7, Bendena

For well over a century, the horse drawn wagon was one of the most common vehicles found on American farms. By the late 19th century, there were hundreds of wagon companies cranking out hundreds of thousands of farm wagons every year. By the 1920's, most of these wagon builders had closed their doors as tractors and trucks started to make serious inroads in the farming industry. (That said, not all closed down so soon. The Springfield Wagon Company of Springfield, Missouri continued to build horse drawn wagons through WWII.)

At the time the horse drawn wagon dropped out of production, at least one could be found on every farm in America. While some of them were fairly quickly put away in the barn or just left in a field to wait out their days, many soldiered on for several more decades. As farmers continued the shift from horses to tractors, many wood wagons were modified to be more useful behind a tractor. These modifications took many forms, from one-off farmer engineered solutions to major implement companies offering new running gear or modifying their horse drawn designs for use behind tractors.

Join us at our August meeting where we will learn a little about the humble farm wagon and its evolution as the tractor took over. Bring a lawn chair.

2025 BOARD MEMBERS

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HONORARY BOARD MEMBER

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TREASURER'S REPORT

August 12, 2025

JULY 8 BALANCE \$34,713.60

INCOME:

July interest 5.80
Eisminger donation 1,000.00
Car show donations 409.46
Dues 45.00
Income total: \$1,460.26

EXPENDITURES:

Cricket Wireless August 55.00
Food for July meeting 152.02
American Legion White Cloud July venue 100.00
KS Chief ad for July meeting 150.00
Expenditures total: \$457.02

AUGUST 12 BALANCE \$35,716.84

CD #7175 \$7,196.97

CD #6519 (for Save Our Liberty Project) \$7,871.86

MEETING MINUTES

July 26, 2025

Approximately 50 individuals traveled to White Cloud Saturday, July 26 to enjoy the "Nothing Fancy Vehicle Show." There were ten entries that were displayed on Main Street in White Cloud. A potluck meal with many offerings was enjoyed in the American Legion Building. Thank you to Preston Harness, Shirley Taylor and others for opening the Legion Building, the setup and the air conditioning. Let's do this again next year!

Note: Our September 25 meeting will be at the Denton Cemetery with the presentation by Paul Roberts; this presentation is being rescheduled from May.

Vicki Jones, Secretary

Thank you to everyone who brought a vehicle and/or a dish to share. It was great to hear all the stories and enjoy a meal. We had several new people attend, and even a few new memberships. White Cloud made the perfect backdrop for appreciating these vehicles.

In Memoriam – we are sorry to announce the passing of two longtime members: JoAnn Dunn and Ellen Stiles.





2025 MEETINGS

All meetings at 6:00 unless otherwise noted. **Presenters/topics/locations subject to change.**

August 28 – Trains, Trucks and Vintage Farm Equipment by Jason Midyette at his home 544 Hwy 7, Bendena. Refreshments by Anna Midyette.

September 25 – *Denton Cemetery* with Paul Roberts. Refreshments by Sharon Peuker.

October 23– Geologic History of Northeast Kansas by Betty Gleason. Jones Family Barn, 548 Hwy 7, Bendena. Refreshments by Nancy Fuhrman.

November 20 – *Abraham Lincoln* by Larry Faulkner. Jones Family Barn, 548 Hwy 7, Bendena. *Refreshment volunteer needed.*

December 1 – Soup Supper.

Please continue to support your Doniphan County Historical Society. *Your membership is greatly appreciated.* Please consider receiving this newsletter by email to keep our mailing costs low.

DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Detach and mail with payment to: Anna Midyette, PO Box 197, Bendena, KS 66008
OR email your name, address and email to annam2807@gmail.com and pay by Venmo @doniphancountyhistory

All Memberships are \$15.00. This is a: Renewal Membership New Membership

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