

# DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

June  
2026  
Vol. 32  
No. 5



## News Notes

### 2026 OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

JOAN OYERLY  
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#### SECRETARY

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634 Highway 7  
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#### BOARD MEMBERS

President, Vice-President &  
Secretary listed above plus:

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6180 Kentucky Ave  
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### Gilmore Museum Tour

The June 25th meeting of DCHS will be at the Beulah Gilmore Memorial Hall of Highland Community College. Keith Jaloma will conduct a tour of the museum that was gifted to HCC by [Larry Gilmore](#) and named after Larry's mother. The museum contains Larry's collection of vintage cars, classic tractors, toy pedal cars, artwork, handcrafted woodwork, collectibles, keepsakes and memorabilia.



The Gilmore Hall is located at 502 Colorado St, Highland KS. From Main Street, turn north at the Allen Field House onto N Ives Street. Continue north to where Ives Street curves west onto Colorado Street. The building will be on the right.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### All meetings start at 6 pm

|      |                                                                                                                                           |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July | Nothing Fancy Vehicle Show (White Cloud Main St) & Potluck at the White Cloud American Legion                                             |
| 25   | Vehicle Show coordinator Jason Midyette. <b>NOTE: This is a Saturday</b> Info in the following flyer.                                     |
| Aug  | BBQ & live music hosted by the DCHS on the Museum grounds, Troy                                                                           |
| 27   | More information to follow.                                                                                                               |
| Sept | Chautauqua by Joan Oyerly, Wathena Community Building                                                                                     |
| 24   | Refreshments by Joan Oyerly                                                                                                               |
| Oct  | Pony Express presented by Dr. Robert Corder, Elwood Community Center                                                                      |
| 22   | Refreshments by Nancy Furman                                                                                                              |
| Nov  | Historical Geology of NE Kansas by Betty Gleason, Oakland Valley Six Scale House, 578 HWY 7. Refreshments by Sarah Erpelding and Jan Falk |
| Dec  | Annual Soup Supper, Baker Tennent House, Troy                                                                                             |
| 1    | Soup etc. by DCHS members                                                                                                                 |



# **NOTHING FANCY VEHICLE SHOW**

Not like other car shows! We hope to see cars, pick-ups, grain trucks, tractors, and more that tell stories about Doniphan County. Maybe it's the truck you hauled hay with when you were a teen. Maybe it's Grandpa's tractor that you hope to restore someday. Or maybe it's the antique hay rake that's a marvel of moving parts.

It doesn't have to be fancy or perfect - just fun to look at!

- ⌚ 4:30 set up vehicles,  
5:00 ready to show,  
5:30 meal
- 📅 No registration fee,  
no competition, no prizes

presented by  
Doniphan County Historical Society

**PULLED PORK, BUNS,  
BEANS PROVIDED  
FREE WILL DONATION**

**JULY 25**  
**Main Street**  
**White Cloud, KS**

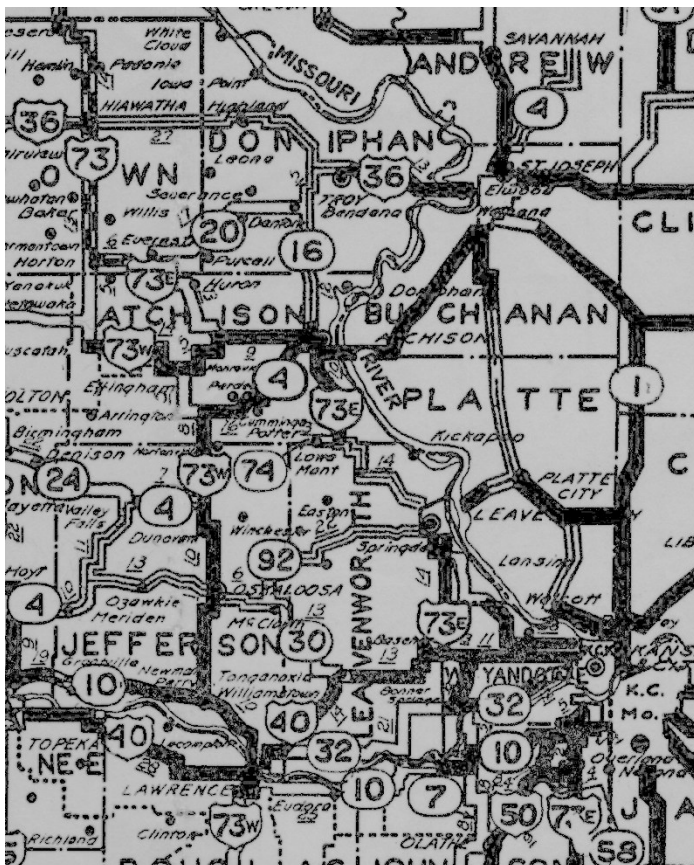
## Kansas Highway 16 in Doniphan County

by Jason Midyette

Since the Kansas State Highway system got its start a century ago, the road we know as Kansas Highway 7 through Doniphan County has been a state highway, though it has not always been Highway 7. While we know Highway 7 as running the complete length of the state, from the Oklahoma state line just north of Picher, Oklahoma to the Nebraska state line just north of White Cloud, this has not always been the case.

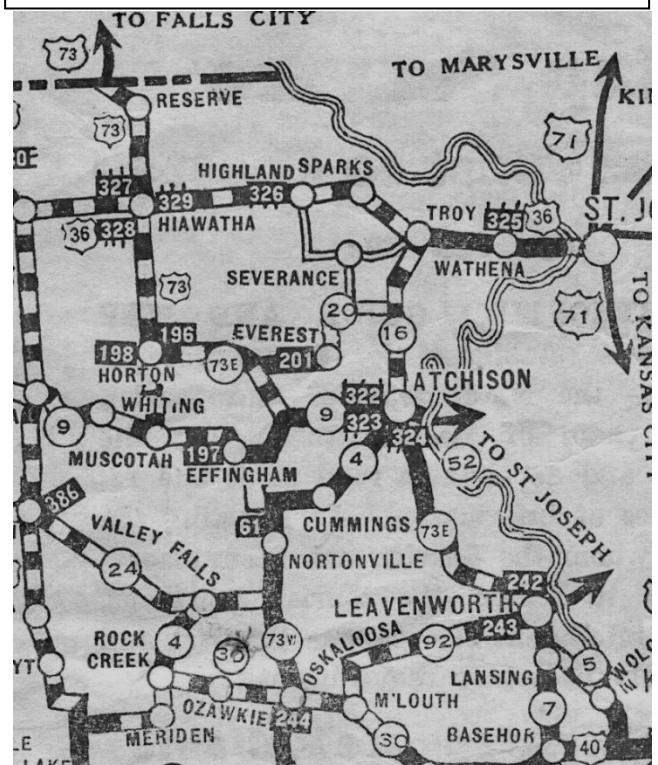
When the Kansas State Highway System of numbered routes was developed in 1926, Highway 7 ran from the Oklahoma state line north to Leavenworth and Highway 16 was designated between Atchison and Troy. The initial route of Highway 16 through Doniphan County was much as Highway 7's is today.

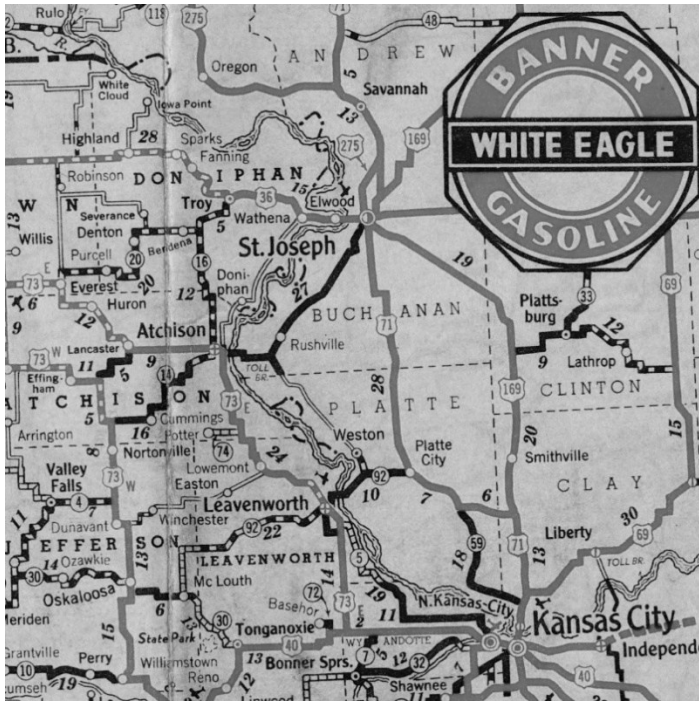
This incarnation of Kansas Highway 16 would last just short of a decade. Following the abandonment of the Burlington Route railroad line between Atchison and Rulo, Nebraska in 1933 (Originally the Atchison & Nebraska), the highway was extended north from Sparks, through White Cloud to the Nebraska state line, mostly using the right of way of the abandoned railroad. By 1935, construction was complete and Kansas Highway 16 was redesignated as the northern part of Kansas Highway 7, the Highway 16 moniker being reassigned to the route we know today as Kansas Highway 16.



1928 KANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION MAP – Detail from a January 1928 map issued by the Kansas State Highway Commission showing Kansas Highway 16 running between Atchison and Troy. (Author's Collection)

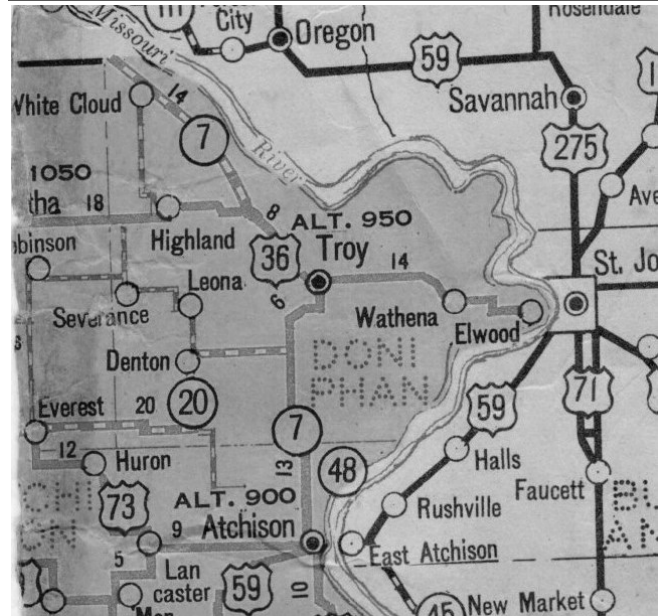
1930 MIDWEST MAP COMPANY – This circa 1930 map, published by the Mid-West Map Co. of Aurora, Missouri provides a bit more detail than the 1928 Kansas Highway Commission map. Note Kansas Highway 7 terminating at Leavenworth and Kansas Highway 16 running between Atchison and US 36 in Troy. The route is shown as being a “Earth” (dirt) road, lacking gravel or other improvements. (Author's Collection)





1932 WHITE EAGLE MAP – This 1932 map, issued by the White Eagle oil Company, is significantly more detailed than its predecessors. From it, we can see that Highway 16 between Atchison and Troy follows essentially the same route as Highway 7 does today and was shown as being a gravel road. *(Author's Collection)*

1941 KS STATE MAP – This detail, from a 1941 Kansas State Highway Commission Map shows Highway 7 through Doniphan County in essentially its final form, running from Atchison to Troy, then along US 36 to Sparks and then on its own route, following the old railroad bed, to White Cloud. The section between Atchison and Troy is now paved, while that between Sparks and White Cloud is gravel. *(Author's Collection)*



## May 28, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Joan Oyerly welcomed the 42 attendees. Corky Smith introduced Jackie Lewin and Roger Gascoyne, our presenters this evening on the Lewis & Clark expedition. Also on display was a scale model of the Lewis & Clark keel boat, constructed by the late Leonard Twombly.

Jackie and Roger are members of the Gateway Chapter of the California-Oregon Trails Association. Roger will be involved in the reenactment of the Lewis and Clark Expedition at the Atchison, Kansas Riverfront Park on July 5<sup>th</sup> as part of the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Jackie has compiled a notebook of each member's account of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, offering each one's view of the journey. Maps and various sketches and paintings were displayed utilizing electronic equipment. The Lewis and Clark Expedition officially started on May 14, 1804. The Corps of Discovery, led by Captain Meriwether

Lewis and Second Lieutenant William Clark, departed from Camp Dubois (Camp Wood) in Illinois and began their journey up the Missouri River. The expedition lasted for 862 days, finally concluding when the explorers returned to St. Louis, Missouri, on September 23, 1806.

Jackie reviewed the states and areas of the Louisiana Territory and the directive given to Lewis & Clark which was to explore the Missouri River and streams, map the area, record its resources and make contact with the natives.

The keel boat was 55' in length with two pirogues (flat-bottomed, dug out style boats). Fifty men, four horses and one dog named "Seaman" were aboard. Jackie reviewed the sites they passed by and/or landed with emphasis on those in our area.

Questions and answer session was held. Individuals spoke of a map of the Lewis & Clark Expedition done by Frank Fogler, Atchison, Kansas and a gentleman in Tarkio, Missouri. Attendees took time to examine the scale size keel boat's details, including poles, oars, etc.

## BUSINESS MINUTES

Joan Oyerly called the meeting to order and thanked Lillian and Ruth Twombly for the refreshments. Henry Peuker moved to approve the April 23, 2026 minutes and Treasurer's Report as presented in the newsletter. Peggy Engeman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Our June 25th meeting will be at the Beulah Gilmore Museum at 502 W. Colorado Street in Highland, Kansas. Refreshments provided by Peggy Engeman and Sharon Peuker.

On **Saturday** July 25<sup>th</sup> we will gather at the White Cloud American Legion Building. Jason Midyette will coordinate the "*Nothing Fancy Vehicle Show*" on Main Street in front of the Legion building. Vehicles are to arrive and set up at 4:30 pm. We are looking for cars, pickups, grain trucks, tractors and other equipment that tells stories about Doniphan County. The show starts at 5 pm followed with a potluck at 5:30 pm in the Legion Building. Pulled pork, buns and baked beans as well as paper products and drink will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a food item to add to the potluck.

Jeanette Harness volunteered to purchase paper products and provide the drinks and the ice.

There was discussion of a possible future activity at the museum and Baker House on a Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm, with activities, games and a scavenger hunt of sorts for kids and adults, such as finding specific locations on the large Doniphan County floor map in the museum. Volunteers would be needed to act as moderators in areas within the museum and the Baker House as well as coordinate snacks, drinks, and activities, etc. A date has not been set for this activity at this time.

Corky Smith moved and Betty Gleason seconded the motion to make a \$50 donation to the Fanning Community of Christ Church for the use of their facilities this evening. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Vicki Jones -- Secretary/Treasurer

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Betty Gleason

785-336-2202

1506 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Atchison KS 66002

## TREASURER'S REPORT

|                                                      |        |                    |                             |         |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| <b>APRIL 30, 2026 BALANCE</b>                        |        | <b>\$36,208.96</b> | <b>EXPENDITURES</b>         |         |                    |
| INCOME:                                              |        |                    | Secretary State filing fee  | \$80.00 |                    |
| Interest deposit                                     | \$6.15 |                    | Expenditure Total           |         | \$80.00            |
| Income Total                                         |        | \$6.15             | <b>MAY 31, 2026 BALANCE</b> |         | <b>\$36,135.11</b> |
|                                                      |        |                    |                             |         |                    |
| CD # 7175 (12 mo CD) <i>Save Our Liberty Project</i> |        | \$7,413.11         | CD #6519 (24 mo CD)         |         | \$8,202.81         |

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: Vicki Jones, 638 Highway 7, Bendena, KS 66008

OR email your name, address and email to vljonesrs@gmail.com and pay by Venmo @doniphancountyhistory

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send newsletter by email. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_