

DONIPHAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September

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News Notes

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Chautauqua

The September DCHS meeting will be held in the Wathena Community Building located at 303 E St Joseph Street, Wathena, KS with the program by Joan Oyerly about Chautauqua. According to the **Merriam-Webster** dictionary, Chautauqua “provided popular education combined with entertainment in the form of lectures, concerts, and plays”. **Wikipedia** describes it as “an adult education and social movement in the United States that began in 1874”. Join us September 24th at 6 pm to learn about Chautauqua.



Wathena Community Building photo from Google Maps

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings start at 6 pm

Oct 22	Pony Express presented by Dr. Robert Corder, Elwood Community Center Refreshments by Nancy Furman
Nov 26	Historical Geology of NE Kansas by Betty Gleason, Oakland Valley Six Scale House, 578 HWY 7. Refreshments by Sarah Erpelding and Jan Falk
Dec 1	Annual Soup Supper, Baker Tennent House, Troy Soup etc. by DCHS members

**Please contact any of the Board Members
(listed in the left column)
if you have an interest or program idea for next year.**

Evening at the Troy Museum BBQ and Music

There were 80+ in attendance (possibly not all ate?) at the August 27th BBQ and Music at the DCHS Museum lawn. Free will offerings were made for the expenses which included: 3 dz hot dogs & buns, 13# pulled pork from Cedar Ridge (+ some left over from Hy-Vee and White Cloud meeting), 7 dz hamburger buns, one-gallon baked beans, ketchup, mustard, BBQ sauce, bottled water, lemonade, ice tea, and bags of ice. Dill pickles, paper products and table service remaining from White Cloud were used. Attendees were provided Ziplock bags to take leftover pork home.

The Baker House and museum were both open during the evening as Rustin Smith played the guitar while Marcola Smith sang. The couple were paid \$150. Expenditures for this event (excluding what we could use from White Cloud) totaled \$363.25. Other items used to make this a successful event were: roaster for meat, orange cord, drink containers, tongs and serving utensils, pan for hotdogs, Ziplock bags, paper towels, chest for water & ice, and free will offering container.

-- Vicki Jones
Secretary/Treasurer



Top Left: Grill Master Corky Smith tends hot dogs
installed sign at the Nelson Rogers/Baker House

Top Right: newly installed bell Bottom Left: newly
Bottom Right: Marcola and Rustin entertain the crowd.

How Do We Know What We Know: Part 2: Beyond Uniformitarianism

by Betty Gleason

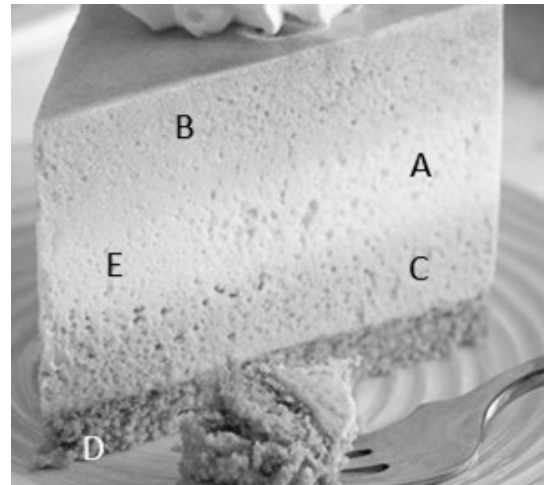
So, if the Principle of Uniformitarianism lets us apply present day processes to prehistoric earth, where do we go from there? Let's start with the **Law of Original Horizontality**: sediments settle at the bottom of a body of water in **flat layers**. Rock strata (layers) formed later from them would also be flat. Therefore, if the strata are not flat, whatever caused them to fold, fracture, tilt, etc. would have had to happen later in time. Clear as mud? → If it's not flat, something happened after the rock formed.

Then apply the **Law of Lateral Continuity**: those flat strata **spread out in all directions** until they thin out at the edges of their deposition. In the oceans, this thinning out would be as the ocean gets shallower as it comes up to the water's edge. Rock layers that are missing between identical rock strata would have been removed by weathering and erosional forces later in time.

Analogy → The jelly layer on either side of a bite out of a PB&J sandwich were spread at the same time.

Next, consider the **Law of Superposition**: a stratum (layer) formed above others would be **younger than those below it**. Looking at a series of exposed, horizontal rock layers puts them in order by age with the bottom one the oldest and the top one the youngest. Another analogy → The frosting on cake is the last (youngest) part to be added to the cake.

Let's use a piece of Jello pie to illustrate these laws. Answers are at the end.



1. Which layer of the pie would be the oldest?
2. Which Jello is the same age as E?
3. Where any layers disturbed before the next layer was added?

Upcoming Part 3: Cross-Cutting, Inclusions & Succession.

1. D – Superposition puts oldest at the bottom. Of course! The crust has to be made before the Jello layers.
2. A – Continuity has each Jello layer spreading out over the one below before it sets.
3. No – Horizontality would have each Jello layer set up flat which they are and the contact between each is also flat.

TREASURER'S REPORT		
July 31, 2026 BALANCE		\$35,957.31
INCOME:		
Dues	\$30.00	
BBQ Free will donations	\$302.00	
Interest deposit	\$6.08	
Income Total		\$338.08
EXPENDITURES:		
American Legion Post #154	\$50.00	
Pierce Heating & Cooling	\$305.00	
John's Market – BBQ supplies	\$46.40	
Cedar Ridge - meat	\$156.00	

Gas King - ice	\$10.85	
Expenditure Total		\$568.25
August 31, 2026 BALANCE		\$35,727.14
CD #6519 (24 mo CD)		\$8,264.22
CD #7175 (12 mo CD)		
Save Our Liberty Project		\$7,468.60

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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

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

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