
MANHATTAN/RILEY COUNTY, KANSAS PRESERVATION ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2006

A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JUDINE MECSERI

Hello everyone!

The Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance (M/RCPA) has begun the 2006—2007 year with an excellent group of officers and board members and I am looking forward to serving as your president. It should be a rewarding experience as I remain so inspired and in awe of what preservation work and community recognition the M/RCPA successfully accomplishes.

One of my favorite recurring preservation events, the Preservation Building Awards, will be held on October 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Manhattan Public Library's auditorium.

We will recognize and celebrate the work done by owners, contractors, and architects who have preserved various historical buildings in our community. The awards and recognition demonstrate that all their efforts have not gone unnoticed. These people, who thought they were simply completing projects for themselves, have made a significant contribution to our community.

After the preservation awards our next event will be held on October 28th when we will host an open house at Manhattan's historic Union Pacific Depot from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the morning of KSU's homecoming football game. Please help us get the word out to those who have yet to tour this wonderful historic resource.

You may have heard the new slogan, "Manhattan 24/7," developed by the

Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce. The work of the Alliance certainly contributes to making Manhattan a worthy heritage tourism destination as well as a great place to live. The Manhattan 24/7 concept is another reason why I am looking forward to the coming twelve months.

Please note that we will have a Board meeting on October 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Bluestem Bistro. We will return to our regular meeting schedule (second Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at the Depot) in November.

Please join us in recognizing the winners of the 6th Preservation Building Awards on October 19th. We will be concluding the event with refreshments and social time.

Sincerely,

Judine



Judine Mecseri, Liz Harmon,
Michael Mecseri & Bonnie Lynn-Sherow
at the special board meeting held on
September 7th at Bluestem Bistro.

Manhattan's Historic Resources Board

By Bonnie Lynn-Sherow

We all know about the Planning Board and the School Board but did you know the City of Manhattan also has a Historic Resources Board (HRB)? The Board was created several years ago with the passage of Ordinance 6065, an amendment to the City of Manhattan's Code.

The proposed duties of the board are 1) to identify for conservation the distinctive historic and architectural features of the City, 2) to foster civic pride in the accomplishments of past endeavors, 3) to conserve property values of and around historic properties, 4) to enhance the attractiveness of the City through historic preservation, and 5) to encourage private preservation and restoration of historic properties.

In order for the Board to function in a way that represents all of the different segments of our community that are concerned with historic preservation, several members of the board are appointed by the mayor based on their special expertise. This makes the HRB a "balanced" board of interests.

There must always be an historian, an architect, and an engineer. In addition to these three professions, the mayor is encouraged to include a realtor, a contractor, and a member at large from the community.

Currently the board and their spe-

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Manhattan's Historic Resources Board

cialties are Larry Brockson (member at large), Tom Roberts (engineer), Ray Weisenburger (architect), Bonnie Lynn-Sherow (historian), Michael Mecseri (design-builder), Jean Hill (realtor), and Elaine Mohr (contractor).

Not all members of the board own historic houses or even live in the older parts of Manhattan but all of them are deeply concerned with the potential loss of Manhattan's historic resources and put in many, many hours working with the public, city staff, and the commission to keep the city mindful of it's responsibility to the public good through historic preservation.

Currently the board is working to-

wards several goals: developing a speaker's bureau for interested groups, historic marker guidelines, downtown design guidelines, community education events, a historic sites watch list of endangered properties and sites, the preservation of historic infrastructure (especially sidewalks), a historic walking tour brochure, and the eventual addition of a preservation planner to the city staff.

As you can see this is a long list of things to do. And all of this is in addition to their regular meetings and environs reviews of changes to and around national and state register properties.

The City has received three grants

from the Kansas State Historical Society to do a survey and thematic nominations to the National or State Registers at the recommendation of the HRB.

Clearly the HRB and the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance (M/RCPA) are working together for common goals and should be supportive of one another's efforts, just as the M/RCPA and the Main Street program are natural allies in preserving Manhattan's historic built environment. Our community is fortunate to have the HRB's energy and expertise working on behalf of its citizens.

Bonnie Lynn-Sherow is an associate professor of history at KSU.

Upcoming Events

Preservation Awards
Thursday, October 19th
Manhattan Public Library
Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

Open to the public

M/RCPA Board Meeting
Friday, October 20th
Bluestem Bistro
11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
All members are welcome

Depot Open House
Saturday, October 28th
Manhattan U.P. Depot
9:00 a.m.—12 noon
Open to the public

Eleven Most Endangered Tour
Planned for mid-November
By invitation

Winter Holiday Social
Thursday, December 14th
Manhattan U.P. Depot
7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.
All members are Invited

Preservation Building Awards

The preservation awards committee has been hard at work identifying and photographing the outstanding buildings of the area in preparation for the Preservation Building Awards ceremony to be held on Thursday, October 19th, 7:00 p.m., in the Manhattan Public Library auditorium.

We will honor the buildings and the architects, contractors, and owners who have enhanced our community with their projects.

Refreshments and social time will follow.

Open House At the Depot

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 28th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon for a special open house event at Manhattan's Union Pacific Depot.

The Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance will host this opportunity for the public, especially KSU homecoming visitors, to tour the Depot.

This historic landmark building has been beautifully rehabilitated and now it's time to begin new traditions as we put the building to use.

"Eleven Most Endangered" Tour

Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, is organizing an "Eleven Most Endangered" tour of the Manhattan area. The historic structures that are most threatened will be identified and discussed. The tour is patterned after the National Trust for Historic Preservation's "Eleven Most Endangered" list. Current members at the Preservation (\$250+) and Landmark (\$500+) levels will receive invitations to this special event.

Annual Meeting Election Results

The organization's annual meeting took place on September 14th at 7:30 p.m. at Manhattan's Union Pacific Depot. About one-third of the membership was in attendance.

Outgoing president Bonnie Lynn-Sherow conducted the election of directors and officers.

Incoming directors whose terms will end in September of 2007 are Kathy Dzewaltowski, Mary Don Peterson, and Barbara Poresky. They join Elizabeth Harmon, Pat O'Brien, and Debbie Saroff.



Liz Harmon organized the refreshments.



Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, Heather Attaway, & Corina Hugo talk preservation.

Incoming directors whose terms will end in September of 2008 are Meghan Dowdy, Linda Glasgow, and Terri Vipond. They join Fran Ellis, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, Judine Mecseri, and Dixie West.

Incoming directors whose terms will end in September of 2009 are Barbara Anderson, Gary Ellis, Michael Mecseri, and Marina Pecar-Krstic.

Officers for the 2006–2007 year are Judine Mecseri, president; Debbie Saroff, vice-president; Meghan Dowdy, secretary; and Barbara Poresky, treasurer.



Judine Mecseri & Bonnie Lynn-Sherow



An excellent turnout.

Incoming president Judine Mecseri thanked members of the 2005–2006 leadership team for their service through an eventful twelve months.

Other topics discussed at the meeting were the depot open house, preservation building awards, 617 Colorado, and the Marlatt Homestead. The meeting ended with refreshments and social time.

Honoring Veterans on November 9th & 10th

The Flint Hills Veterans Coalition plans to honor war veterans who departed from and/or returned to the community through Manhattan's U.P. Depot. A permanent plaque in the depot's vestibule will be unveiled during a ceremony to take place on Thursday, November 9th, at 2:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and honored veterans are asked to wear their military uniforms.

Additional events will take place on Friday, November 10th. The Veterans Day Breakfast will take place at the

VFW Hall, 212 South 4th, at 7:00 a.m.. Tickets are available at the Riley County Historical Museum.

The Courthouse Plaza will host a flag and memorabilia display at 9:00 a.m.

The Veterans Day Honor Parade will travel on Poyntz Avenue from City Park to the Manhattan Town Center starting at 9:30 a.m. with the dedication of the Veterans Memorial Eagle at the Courthouse immediately preceding the commemorative program at the Wareham Theater at 11:00 a.m.

Important community events are

often associated with significant public places. Local landmarks such as Manhattan's Union Pacific Depot, City Park, Poyntz Avenue downtown, and the Riley County Courthouse play an important role in our lives. These places evoke memories and give us our sense of place.

A solemn national event such as Veterans Day, continually observed as one generation gives way to the next, is particularly meaningful to us when it is paired with the sights and sounds of our home town.

Good News at the Goodnow House

The Goodnow House Museum, a National Register property and State Historic Site, is getting a new, historically appropriate roof courtesy of The Manhattan Fund, a legacy of the late Caroline Peine.

The old roof was in dire need of replacement according to Cheryl Collins, director of the Riley County Historical Museum and Site Administrator of the Goodnow House.

A grant from the Caroline F. Peine Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$14,700 with a 60% match by the Kansas State Historical Society, owner of the Goodnow House, allowed



Danker Roofing to do the work in September.

More good news from the Goodnow House has to do with the fact that Steve McKinzie of McKinzie Pest Control has an interest in history and in the Manhattan community.

When termites were found at the Goodnow House, Steve donated a non-invasive treatment that will not harm

the historic fabric of the house.

The Sentricon Termite Colony Elimination System uses baited traps placed unobtrusively in the ground around the building to eliminate termites. It allows McKinzie professionals to monitor the area to make sure the termite don't return.

The Sentricon system has been used to eliminate termites at the White House, the Statue of Liberty, the Alamo, Mount Vernon, and Independence Hall.

The Riley County Historical Society and Museum and the Kansas State Historical Society are deeply grateful to Steve McKinzie and to McKinzie Pest Control for their generous donation and their expertise in keeping the Goodnow House safe from termites.

2006–2007 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

DUES ARE NORMALLY PAID AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

\$15+ STUDENT LEVEL – CHARLENE BROWNSON, HAL DACE, MEGHAN DOWDY, ELIZABETH HARMON, SALLY LEE, PAT ZARGER.

\$35+ MAINTENANCE LEVEL – RUTH ABBOTT, BARBARA ANDERSON, PHIL & DAWN ANDERSON, RICHARD & SYLVIA BEEMAN, MAROLYN CALDWELL, CHERYL COLLINS, CLARK & NANCY DANNER, LELAH DUSKIN, ALICE EDMUNDS, ENDACOTT LIGHTING, MARY ANN FLEMING, BERND & ENELL FOERSTER, JANE GIBSON, ROD HARMS & STEPHANIE ROLLEY, CORINA HUGO, JEAN HULBERT, LANCE & MELANIE KLEIN, VLADIMIR KRSTIC & MARINA PECAR-KRSTIC, STEVE LEE & NANCY RALEIGH, CRISS MAYFIELD, MICHAEL & JUDINE MECSEI, ELAINE MOHR, BILL PALLETT, JEANNE JACCARD PARKER, MARY DON PETERSON, LAWRENCE & MARY POLLACK, GERALD & MARTHA POWELL, TOM & KAREN ROBERTS, RICHARD & KIMBERLY SMITH, K TAYLOR, CHERYL WALTERS, KATE WATSON, PATRICIA & RAY WEISENBURGER, RANDALL WEISER, EDNA WILLIAMS, STUART & NANCY B. WILLIAMS, JUDY WILLINGHAM.

\$100+ HISTORICAL LEVEL – MIMI BALDERSON, BOWMAN BOWMAN NOVICK, INC., FORREST CHUMLEY & BARBARA VALENT, COMMERCE BANK, DAVID & KATHY DZEWALTOWSKI, FRAN ELLIS, GARY & PAULA ELLIS, REV. H. WAYNE & BEVERLY FINK, CHUCK & CHARLOTTE HERR, MARJORIE HEYNE, GENE LAUGHLIN, MARILYN MCCORD, JOHN & KAREN MCCULLOH, BRUCE MCMILLAN AIA ARCHITECTS P.A., BRIAN & JAYME MORRIS-HARDEMAN, DEB NUSS, PATRICIA O'BRIEN, VIRGINIA QUIRING, JOHN & BARBARA REES, JOHN REESE, CHRISTOPHER E. RENNER, WILLIAM & DONNA SCHENCK-HAMLIN, SUZANNE SIEPL-COATES & GARY COATES, BRUCE & LESLIE SNEAD, GEORGE & JULIE STRECKER, MERI WERNER, VAN & BARBARA WITHEE.

\$250+ PRESERVATION LEVEL – HAL & PHYLLIS BROADIE, LARRY & LINDA GLASGOW, JEAN BIGBEE HILL, MR. & MRS. PERRY C. PEINE, BARBARA PORESKEY, VERLYN RICHARDS, GWYN RIFFEL, STEVE & DEBORAH SAROFF, JAMES SHEROW & BONNIE LYNN-SHEROW, STEVE & WHITNEY SHORT, CHUCK & MARSHA TANNEHILL, JERRY & LINDA WEIS, RON & DIXIE WEST.

\$500+ LANDMARK LEVEL – BURKE & MARGERY BAYER

A Gift to the Manhattan Community



Dixie West & Bonnie Lynn-Sherow,
Bruce Snead, & Ron Fehr

On the morning of September 7th, 2006, Manhattan Mayor Bruce Snead and City Manager Ron Fehr took time from their busy schedules to visit the Depot and accept a check from the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance (M/RCPA).

It was the happy duty of Dixie West and Bonnie Lynn-Sherow to present the check for \$30,815. Of that \$24,815 came from Caroline Peine's Manhattan Fund with \$6,000 from the M/RCPA match.

The check reimburses the City of Manhattan for the expense of the Depot's new furniture and will add audio-visual enhancements including a high definition television, a DVD player, data projector, and window-darkening shades.

Special Board Meeting September 7, 2006

President Bonnie Lynn-Sherow called a noontime special board meeting at Bluestem Bistro on Thursday, September 7th, in order to discuss urgent business.

First, the committee arranging for the Homecoming Open House at the Depot was voted a budget of \$150. Several board members volunteered their services to the event.

Second, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow reported that she is willing to organize an "Eleven Most Endangered" tour for the Preservation (\$250+) and Landmark (\$500+) members. The board officially authorized the tour.

Third, Michael Mecseri was appointed to chair a committee to oversee issues at the Depot. State Senator Roger Reitz and former mayor Lowell Jack and others have volunteered to serve on that committee.

Finally, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow asked the board for authorization to make the final payment to fulfill the M/RCPA's commitment to the City of Manhattan for the rehabilitation of the Depot. The board authorized a payment of \$33,568.63, the exact amount requested by the City.

Bonnie Lynn-Sherow delivered a cashier's check in that amount to City Hall later that afternoon.

An Addition to the Register of Historic KS Places

Patricia O'Brien has nominated the **Washington and Julia Marlatt Homestead**, located at 1600 College Avenue in Manhattan, to the Register of Historic Kansas Places. The property is owned by Kansas State University.

The nomination was approved by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review in August of this year which means that the Marlatt Homestead is now protected under the Kansas Historic Preservation Act.

Listing qualifies this property for the Kansas State Rehabilitation Tax Credit as well as the Heritage Trust Fund grant program.

The feasibility of turning the house and barn into a museum honoring land grant institutions is currently being evaluated.



Marlatt Homestead, 1600 College Av.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MANHATTAN/RILEY COUNTY PRESERVATION ALLIANCE, INC.

ALL DUES ARE DUE IN SEPTEMBER EXCEPT
FOR MEMBERS WHO PAID EARLY AS A PART
OF THE SPECIAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP DRIVE.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS
\$15 + STUDENT
\$35 + MAINTENANCE
\$100 + HISTORICAL
\$250 + PRESERVATION
\$500 + LANDMARK

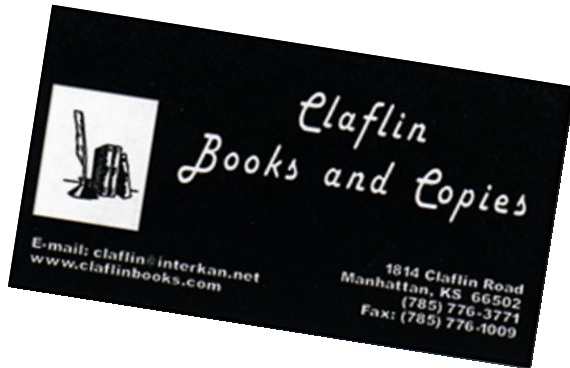
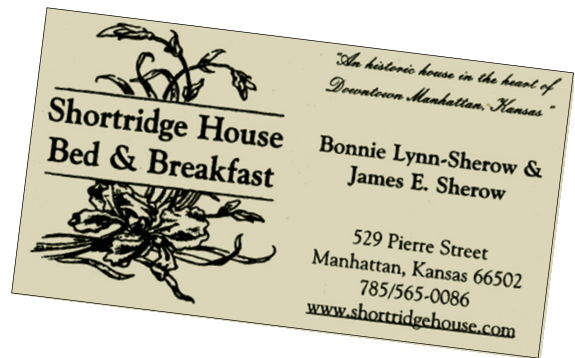
PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE M/RCPA.

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