



# Miller County Historical Society

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## MCHS 2013 SCHEDULE

- APR 21 - Potluck & Election
- MAY 6 - Museum Work Day
- MAY 18 - Open House
- JUL 20 - Ice Cream Social
- OCT 19 - Chili Supper & Car Show

## POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 21** and plan to join us for our annual spring potluck luncheon which will begin at 1:00. Drinks and table service will be provided; just bring your favorite dish.

A brief meeting will be held following the meal for elections of officers and board members.

***Please plan to attend!***

## OPEN HOUSE - SAT. MAY 18TH

The museum will officially begin its 2013 season on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Join us for cookies and punch from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Summer Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. & Sat. 10am – 4:00 pm

## E - M A I L N E W S L E T T E R S

Consider receiving your newsletter by email! You will enjoy full color and save your leadership time and help the finances.

Many organizations are moving to e-mail newsletters for everyone who has an e-mail address. Miller County Historical Society wants to be certain that our newsletter is available to all members.

E-mail [Millercountymuseum@att.net](mailto:Millercountymuseum@att.net) if you are willing to change to e-mail delivery.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM



*L-R: Betty Kallenbach, Connie Prather, Nancy Thompson, Brice Kallenbach and Doris Wiggins*

Some of the fun articles may make their way into upcoming newsletters, as they are just too much fun not to share.

Although the museum is officially closed until May, our volunteers are still here working. The Monday Crew has been busy searching old newspapers for obituaries, wedding announcements and interesting articles from the past.



*Jody Newman — Preparing articles to be scanned*

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## PAPERS OF THE PAST

***Our volunteers found this article about Spring Cleaning, so glad we now have more efficient methods:***

Grease on wallpaper is often a problem. Make a paste of Fuller's Earth and Cleaning Fluid. Apply the paste to the spot, let it dry, then brush off. If you don't get it all the first time, use another application.

### *Homemade Wallpaper Cleaner*

1 heaping cup of sifted flour, 1 tablespoonful of salt, 1 tablespoon of Kerosene, 2 tablespoons vinegar, 2 tablespoons of household ammonia, ½ cup warm water. Mix thoroughly, avoid lumps. Then, using a granite boiler, heat until all moisture is dried out. Stir constantly. Cool and knead with hands until it is soft and rubbery. In cleaning the wallpaper, use as one would an eraser on paper.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I spend a lot of time these days reflecting on earlier times so it seems only appropriate that as I come to the end of my six - year presidency, we take a 'look back' at MCHS over that period.

I retired in 2006, leaving my medical practice and Kansas City to return to my place of origin, Miller County, MO. Helen Schulte, my beloved 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and long time MCHS board member, encouraged me to work with the Historical Society and at her invitation I attended one of the board meetings. I was struck by the desire of the board members to improve and enhance the museum, but also saw how bleak the financial picture looked. Judy and I talked it over and made a commitment to spearhead a fundraising drive to make that dream a reality. Little did we know what an all-consuming and satisfying project that would become!



**H. Joe Pryor, M.D.  
President**



In April, 2007, I was elected President by the board and we broke ground for a 4000 sq. ft. addition that same day (see photo left). Rapid progress was made and we were able to host the fall chili event in the new wing. Winter months were spent building new exhibits as well as remodeling the upper level of the old building. Many volunteers worked miracles to have everything ready and waiting for the public's first viewing at our Open House in May, 2008.

The following year the old basement area was updated and exhibits were fine-tuned so that a "Grand Reopening" in May, 2009, provided a glimpse of the 'finished project.' 2010 and 2011 were devoted to the meticulous cleaning and archival preparation of the probate files and guardianship records, and in 2012 we turned our attention to the

streamlining and re-organization of the museum library, replacing computer equipment, sprucing up the grounds, and updating some major exhibits. The addition of the Bell Tower and the Veteran's Memorial, along with the two cabins already in place, certainly attract the attention of passersby.

Our website, [www.millercountymuseum.org](http://www.millercountymuseum.org), was developed early and much of the county's history has been uploaded to the site. I wrote a weekly article from April, 2007 through October, 2012, chronicling early families, history and events in Miller County, all accompanied by photos. The 'President's Page' will remain accessible to anyone searching for information.



The MCHS Foundation, Inc. was established through a generous gift from Waldo Sherril and Alice Steen. It continues to grow with both additional donations and wise financial management. Our hope is it will someday provide a self-sustaining base for the museum's future needs.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as President during this period of expansion, growth and modernization of the Miller County Museum as well as the development of the website ([www.millercountymuseum.org](http://www.millercountymuseum.org)). Judy and I will continue to work with MCHS for as long as we are able; the museum is our second home and the people our family.

My life has come full circle; how proud I am to now truly be able to say, "I am from Miller County!"



## SYLVIA RAMSEY LONG

A former Miller County school teacher, Sylvia Ramsey Long, passed away in mid-December. The Miller County Historical Society was the recipient of several donations in her memory and many of her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at School of the Osage (1940s) shared their memories with us. She was obviously well-loved. One said, "It was pure joy to be in her classroom so many years ago; if only all teachers were as nice and kind." MCHS is pleased to be able to add Sylvia's name to our memorial plaque.



### CONTRIBUTIONS & MEMORIALS

- To the Miller County Historical Society:** John and Megan Pryor,  
Joe and Judy Pryor,  
Dee Ellen Maher
- To the MCHS Foundation, Inc.:** Waldo Sherril and Alice Steen, Vivian S. Kessler,  
Joe and Judy Pryor, Roy and Joyce Sone, John M. Smith
- In Honor of Elva Steen:** Jody Nichols Newman
- In Memory of Sylvia Long:** Jody Nichols Newman, Morgan D. Pope, Sara Sandfort Chalmers,  
Shirrel and Nancie Duncan, Carolyn Gore Moore, Leonard Clark,  
Nelson Strange
- In Memory of Michael E. Hasty:** Jody Nichols Newman

*Thank you! We are grateful for your support!*

Annual memberships are renewable in January of each calendar year. Please continue your support for our organization and museum by completing the application below and returning it with your payment to the address: P.O. Box 57 Tuscumbia, MO

Miller County Historical Society  
Membership Registration

*Please fill in the form and mark your membership choice below*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ Individual membership—\$10  
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