



# Seward County Historical Society

## News Letter

May 2011

### New Officers

At the April Quarterly Meeting the following new officers were elected;

<b>President</b>	Lynn Reinmiller — Staplehurst
<b>Vice President</b>	Joan Kennel — Goehner
<b>Secretary</b>	Jean Kolterman — Seward
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Culver — Lincoln
<b>Board Members</b>	Shirley Ingelslew — Seward (Chairman) Nathan Reed — Seward Jon Kruse — Seward

<b>Contact information:</b>	<b>Officers</b>	<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:officers@sewardcountymuseum.org">officers@sewardcountymuseum.org</a>
	<b>Telephone</b>		(402) 523-4055
	<b>U.S. Mail</b>		PO Box 188 Goehner, NE 68364-0188

The following were assigned committee chairmen:

Buildings & Grounds	Jim Culver
Librarian	Joan Kennel
Membership	Bob Culver

**Museum Hours:** Sunday 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
Thursday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Train Running Times;** Second and Fourth Sundays, 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM

### From the Prez:

I just returned from a short trip where I visited a local Historical Museum in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. It's a lovely museum in a 100 plus year old house. About 1600 square feet on two levels and a great library and research center in the basement. After spending 45 minutes or so seeing the exhibits I stopped to visit with the volunteer manning the reception desk. When I shared with him the scope of our museum: A large building with various exhibits, a school, a house. several other buildings for large items and a scale (ride-on) railroad. Well, I was just about swelling with pride. We have a wonderful group of volunteers that keep our Museum open and looking great season after season. Starting this, my second, year as President of the Seward County Historical Society I am pleased to see the progress. I look forward to seeing the membership grow with this *News Letter*, and with the Website up and running again. Please take time this summer to bring someone out to the museum. Someone that

Someone that knows about the history of our county and will be pleased to see how well we have items presented. Or some of those young people that you know that will be educated and inspired by all of the wonderful pieces of the past that are ... well "Just so COOL!!!"

**Lynn Reinmiller, President**

**Message from your Treasurer,**

Since taking office April 10<sup>th</sup>. I have been busy acquiring access to the Society holdings across five financial institutions in Seward County. Researching where the holdings are located as well as tracking the day to day finances of the Society. I have also been working on a 2011 budget for the operation of the Society. The Budget will give the officers a map or guide as to what expenses are coming up and be able to collectively plan for them. I can report that both are well in hand. I look forward to providing the attendees at the July Societies quarterly meeting a complete Treasurers report. I introduced a reimbursement policy where Committee Chairs and Officers have a month spending limit they can execute if need be without prior approval, to replace or replenish items that are used on a day to day basis at the Museum and the Society. The officers voted the policy in at the last Monthly Board meeting. I have also visited with VB about the upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> Car Show this fall and the financial needs. This is all on track to be one of the best car shows yet. That is enough for now.

**Jim Culver, Treasurer**

**Building and Grounds Committee Report;**

Larry Cornell has been busy volunteering to replace the back East porch on the house with new and replace some rotten boards on the front porch. Still to go is the steps for the back porch. Michael Schwanlein the Society's house contractor painter will start back up work on finishing up the painting. He will finish up on the house paint as well as paint the East back porch. He will also paint the replacement boards on the front porch. Joel Harper has started up mowing each week as the grass is growing very well. We are looking into spraying for broad leaf weeds. Goldsmith Tree Service has been contacted to remove some more die pine trees from the Winds breaks around the Museum grounds.

Each month on the Third Saturday of the month will be a work day. Between the hours of 1 PM and 4:30 PM on these days there will be projects on the Grounds in the Buildings that one or two or maybe more members can tackle. On the grounds cutting the volunteer trees under the pines need to be cut out. Claire Titus can always use a hand in the flower beds. The basement in the house can use a good cleaning out. In the West building taking pictures of each farm implements and putting together an informational sheet to explain the implement needs to be done. So come out and explore Seward County history up close.

**HELP! Let's buildup Our Membership**

The Society needs members, friends, and neighbors help in increasing the awareness to Seward County's great and complete Historical Museum, by increasing the membership. As stated in the following Web Site article it is very easy to down-load a membership form and fill it out on line.

The reason the Membership Form included, is that we are doing a regular audit of the Membership records to verify their accuracy, so please fill out the form and return it. Be sure to mark the box, whether you want to receive future News Letters by **US Mail** or **On-line** from your Web Site, where it can be down loaded read and/or printed. If you know of any member that did not receive this letter please notify us, that is why a regular audit is necessary.

As noted on the Membership Form: “This information is exclusively used by the “Seward County Historical Society” and is shared with no-one”

Annual membership dues are due on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and delinquent on May 1<sup>st</sup>, at which time, if delinquent, they will be removed from the membership list

At the present time there are **25** Annual Members, **112** Life Members, and **1** Contributing Member on the List, **we need a lot lot more.**

**Bob Culver, Membership Chairman** [membership@sewardcountymuseum.org](mailto:membership@sewardcountymuseum.org)

**Hey! Come on in, Joan is waiting.**

Seward County Historical Society, has many ways to help find family ancestors. We have files on obits, marriage, weddings, births, birthdays and anniversaries. Along with these hard copy files, the computer is a big help, as people are using it more to put their family information on-line. The mailing research is done very rarely anymore. Also, we have family histories, written by each family and donated to us for display and research in the library. These written records are not only special to the family, but also to others interested in the history of the area. Additionally there are books on State Law, Biographies of people who have served in County and State Government that at some time resided in Seward County.

There is so much information and we would like you to come, visit and get acquainted with your local library of genealogy. Would you like to do research on your Seward County connections?

**Joan Kennel, Librarian** [librarian@sewardcountymuseum.org](mailto:librarian@sewardcountymuseum.org)

**Boy, have we got a neat Web Site!**

**Take a Peek** <http://www.sewardcountymuseum.org/>

Jordy McGowen Is our expert Web Master and has voluntarily taken over rejuvenating the Societies Web Site. He has added two very nice features. First, on the home page. there is “S.C.H.S. News Letter”, click on it and you can view and/or print a copy of the current News Letter or any previous ones. Secondly, in the lower right hand corner of the home page, it says “LOVE HISTORY?, CLICK TO JOIN US” and you get a copy of the Membership form that is extremely easy to fill out, right there on line and print it, This is convenient, if you have a friend, neighbor, or family member, wanting to join, you have a Membership Form at your finger tips. Since February 11, 2011, 2,580 people have accessed our Web Site.

**News Letter: #1**

This is your Societies first News Letter and the plan now is to publish it monthly. Future letters will be mailed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month and also will be available on the Web Site at that time.. Your input as to what you would like to see, would be appreciated. Maybe you have a relative, friend, or neighbor that would like a complimentary copy of this news letter, email the address below.

If you have any stories, pictures or other item, to add to the museum’s history collection, that you would like to share with the members and others, in a future News Letter, email them to the following address.

[newsletter@sewardcountymuseum.org](mailto:newsletter@sewardcountymuseum.org)

## **“One of the State’s best kept secret”**

From an article by Harold Davisson, in the Seward County Independent, 20 years ago on December 4, 1991, The following are excerpts from that article.

It has been said that the Seward County Historical Museum is **“one of the state’s best kept secrets.”** I am not sure who said it, but it sounds for all the world like a statement Tom Allan of the *Omaha World-Herald* might make. It is true that the museum does not receive the publicity or the traffic it should.

Seward County Museum, I feel is terrifically well arranged and has the things. early day homes were filled with. The museum will give you a better idea of early day life on the prairie because of the way they have things arranged. It will surely remind you of your early day home. The log cabin must have taken months of work and is without a doubt one of the outstanding features of the museum.

The large buildings full of antique machinery, the school house and in fact, everything on display, has to be considered top drawer. Everyone of the many who contributed hours to the building, arranging of displays and handling of finances for this fine organization must be given a standing ovation. They are a fine, hard-working bunch of people and have preserved a great many valuable antiques that had it not been for them, would have most likely be buried in a dump somewhere.

Let’s join in and lend a hand when needed by the Seward County Historical Society Museum in Goehner. They have done a wonderful job. Let’s join them.

### **Coming Events**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** The First “News Letter” was added to the Web Site and mailed.  
Future News Letters will be mailed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** Monthly Work Day 1:00 -4:30 PM  
This is regularly scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month.

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** Monthly Board Meeting 4:00 PM  
This is regularly scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** “Wedding Dresses thru the Decades” 1:30 to 5:30 PM  
**POTLUCK DINNER BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M.**  
BRING: LARGE CASSEROLE, SALAD OR DESSERT’  
(DRINK AND TABLE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED)  
“Absolutely, everyone is welcome”

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** The June News Letter will be available on the Web Site and mailed to members

**June 29<sup>th</sup>** Seward Transit will bring in a group to visit the Museum

**Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>** “Classic Car Review” .  
Registration 9:00 AM til Noon  
Show Noon til 4:00 PM

## Society Officers in 1967:



April 13, 1967

Mrs. T.E. Bivin, President  
Darrel Larson, Vice President  
Mary Sweasey, Treasurer  
Mrs. Ray Nelson



March of 1969 Lee and Irene Ficke  
Donors of their Farm to the Society

## In the Library



President Lynn Reinmiller and Vice President Joan Kennel

## Did You Know, I Didn't!"

This monument, is in front of the Museum, on the East edge of the parking lot.

