

SCOTT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

El Quartejejo Museum ~ Jerry Thomas Gallery & Collection

902 W. 5th Street ~ P.O. Box 155

Scott City, KS 67871

MAY 2010

GRAND OPENING

If you were among the more than 1,000 who attended some part of the Grand Opening of the Jerry Thomas Gallery & Collection on the weekend of May 1st and 2nd, you know that it was an exciting and impressive event in the life of our community. The word most heard as visitors left the new gallery was “Amazing!” And indeed it is!

Naturally, something this big doesn't just happen. Months of planning went into the completion of the gallery, the landscaping and endless details of the grand opening. Jerry and his family provided countless hours of hard work, but the grand opening weekend also involved more than 40 volunteers from the historical society, members of the Pioneer 4-H Club, Boy Scouts from Troop 149 and the Scott County Law Enforcement Center. There is no way to list everyone, but if you were one of those willing workers, please accept our grateful thanks.

BUT WE'RE NOT DONE . . .

With two galleries and the expanded gift shop now open, we need LOTS of volunteer help. We'll be open full time through the summer, and to that end we have hired additional part-time help, but for every hour we have hired staff, we'll need one or two volunteers. One person cannot supervise both galleries and the gift shop. We anticipate many more visitors this summer and want to make sure each one is warmly welcomed and served.

CAN YOU HELP? Can you give us a morning once a week? Or some weekend hours? We need greeters, guides, and gift shop helpers. Training on site!

Summer Schedule: 10 to 5 weekdays and Saturdays – Sundays 1- 5

(We particularly need weekday morning help and weekend hours)

We need to set up a schedule as soon as possible. Some of you have said you can help – could you call in with a time you can work? You'll save many hours of phone calls from this end if you'll call us. 872-5912

NEW EMPLOYEE

We are delighted to have the help of Kathryn Ellis, whose talents are many. Most of you know that Kathryn is a professional photographer here in town, so she has a great eye for design and balance. Come in and welcome her to our staff.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Two new board members were elected by written ballot at the Annual Meeting in April. Those whose terms had ended but were eligible for re-election were Lewis Mitchell and Brenda Cejda. The names of Jerry Thomas and Junior Strecker were submitted for those positions and both were elected to the board. We want to say thank you to Lewis and Brenda for serving us well and faithfully, and welcome to Jerry and Junior.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Well, that's a good question. With so much time and energy given to the grand opening this year, we haven't even considered planning for the Ladies Tea. And with the All-School Reunion coming up in July, the schedule seems tighter than usual, making the annual ice cream social questionable as well. Maybe we can do something special this fall – or during the holidays. Please be patient as we work through our growing pains. We know you look forward to those special events and so do we – just may have to postpone them for a time.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

The Rodenberg collection has been very popular and we've extended their exhibit for the benefit of the many visitors. That display will be taken down soon and we'll be putting together the all-school reunion display. Two other special exhibits need to be highlighted in 2010 – the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouts of America and the 125th anniversary of Scott City. If you have an interest in any of these displays, please let us know. We have many items in our collection, but always welcome your contributions for special exhibits.

NEW GIFT SHOP

Have you seen the new gift shop? Located now in the meeting room, there is ample space for displaying many new items, particularly a large selection of Jerry Thomas memorabilia, from t-shirts and caps to woodcrafted items and unique jewelry – too many items to mention – come and see. The Jerry Thomas prints are all available here at the museum as well. We have books, historic maps, Native American artwork and jewelry, gifts of all kinds in a wide range of prices. (Father's Day is coming up!)

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