



CITY OF WICHITA  
1865 W. Museum Blvd. Wichita, KS. 67203  
OldCowtown.org 316-350-33223

Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc.  
**Board of Trustees**  
Board.HWCI@gmail.com

# COMMUNICATION

**City of Wichita: Old Cowtown Museum Staff**

Executive Director.....James Quint: JQuint@Wichita.gov  
 Curator.....James Vanurdden: JVannurden@Wichita.gov  
 Education & Interpretation Director..... Anthony Horsh: AHorsch@Wichita.gov  
 Volunteer Coordinator.....Angela West:AWest@Wichita.gov  
 Farm Manager.....Greg Hunt: GHunt@Wichita.gov  
 Earned Income Manager..... Hanson Long: HLong@Wichita.gov  
 City of Wichita Arts & Cultural Director.....Lindsay Benacka: lbenacka@wichita.gov

**Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc. - Board of Trustees**

President.....Nichole Conard: Nichole.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Vice-President.....Dakota Bennett:Dakota.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Tresurer.....Jim Lamb: Jim.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Secretary.....Lesa Schwartz: Secretary.HWCI@gmail.com

**Committee Trustee Chairs**

Fundraising Board Events.....Juliet Abaddal Woodall: Juliet.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Governance & Development Chair.....Hoyt Hillman:Hoyt.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Marketing & Sponsorship.....Chris Kaegi-Stephens: Chris.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Education.....Shelley McKinney: Shelley.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Collections Chair.....Terry DeWitt: Terry.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Volunteer Liaison.....Kathleen Harley: Kathleen.HWCI@gmail.com

**Trustees**

Nancy Lawrence.....Nancy.HWCI@gmail.com  
 MaryLou Rivers.....MaryLouRiversICT@gmail.com  
 Melissa Mathis.....Melissa.HWCI@gmail.com  
 Katherine Eppic-Catlin.....Katherine.HWCI@gmail.com  
 City of Wichita Representative Mike Hoheisel.....mhhohheisel@Wichita.gov

**Melodrama**

Empire House Players.....Director: Michelle Frikken: EmpireHousePlayers@gmail.com

# The **OLD COWTOWN** CHRONICLE

All of the HWCI Trustees and their committees keep busy. But we all agree the Fundraiser Board Events (FBE) Committee is always on the move! Led by the amazing Juliet Abdallah-Woodall, this team of super volunteers cooked up a fantastic lineup for 2024: (2) events for kids and (2) for adults.

They've already had a blast with the "Victorian Tea Party" and "Cowboys & Cocktails". Up next is "Night at Cowboy Camp," followed by the "Christmas Soiree." The FBE Committee has wowed everyone who has attended so far, and we're sure Night at Cowboy Camp will be rootin' tootin' fun!

Bring your Lil' Buckaroos to Old Cowtown on August 10th for some old-fashioned fun. Keep an eye on Facebook for event details and ticket sales for this museum fundraiser

Watch either on the Old Cowtown Museum's Facebook page or Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc.'s Facebook page. Got questions? Drop us a line at [Board.HWCI@gmail.com](mailto:Board.HWCI@gmail.com).



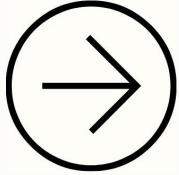
**Old Cowtown**  
MUSEUM CITY OF WICHITA *Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc.*  
Board of Trustees

**MUSEUM FUNDRAISER**

**NIGHT AT COWBOY CAMP**

1865 W. MUSEUM BLVD. WICHITA KS 67204  
316-350-3323 [OLDCOWTOWN.ORG](http://OLDCOWTOWN.ORG)





## Are you a Trustee?

**Imagine being a vital part of preserving and celebrating history**—this is what it means to be a part of the City of Wichita's Old Cowtown Museum Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc. Board of Trustees.

### Why join us?

**Make a Difference:** As a trustee, you help safeguard the legacy of Wichita's pioneers, ensuring that future generations can step back in time and experience the magic of Old Cowtown.

**Shape the Future:** As a trustee, your voice and ideas directly influence the direction and growth of Old Cowtown Museum by assisting in raising proceeds for engaging volunteer programs, exciting fundraising events, exceptional exhibits, and enriching educational programs.

**Unique Experiences:** As a Trustee, enjoy exclusive behind-the-scenes access to the museum's collections, special exhibitions, and events. Experience the satisfaction of seeing your efforts come to life in a tangible, impactful way.

**Networking Opportunities:** As a Trustee, connect with like-minded individuals, history enthusiasts, and professionals who share your passion for preserving our heritage. Build lasting relationships and expand your personal and professional network.

**Personal Fulfillment:** As a Trustee, your involvement has a real, lasting impact on our community. There's nothing quite like the pride and joy of knowing you're part of keeping history alive.

Join HWCI in this fulfilling journey- be a part of something truly wonderful. Become a trustee for Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc. and help us make history come alive!

Email [Board.HWCI@gmail.com](mailto:Board.HWCI@gmail.com) to apply.



# The OLD COWTOWN CHRONICLE

Summer 2024



photo credit James Vanurden

We are thrilled to announce the HWCI Collections Committee and OCM curator James Vanurden have accepted a new artifact: an 1887 Estey Pump Organ donated by the Dondlinger Family. It was installed in the Hodge House

The house was built by African-American blacksmith Wesley Hodge between 1878 and 1885 and is a significant part of our community's heritage. In 1880, Wesley lived there with his wife Millie and their children, Fannie and James. The family was known for their musical talents, making the Estey Pump Organ a fitting addition to the exhibit.

In past years, the Hodge House was often mistaken as a parsonage due to its proximity to a church. However, research revealed its history with the Hodge family, and in 2011, Cowtown renamed the "Parsonage" to the "Hodge House" to authentically represent their story.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Dondlinger Family for their generous donation. To speak with HWCI about donations, please email us at [Board.HWCI@gmail.com](mailto:Board.HWCI@gmail.com).

## We are looking for PHOTOS from the PAST

2025 will be Old Cowtown's  
75th Anniversary  
and HWCI in search of  
images from the  
museum's past.

Please contact us at  
[Board.HWCI@gmail.com](mailto:Board.HWCI@gmail.com)



photo credit Nichole P. Conard

# The OLD COWTOWN CHRONICLE



**EMPIRE HOUSE PLAYERS**  
**2024 SEASON**



**HOW THE WEST WAS WORN**  
OR... BLACK HAT OPTIONAL

**AUGUST 16-18**  
**& 23-25**



**Christmas Castaways**

**NOVEMBER 15-17**  
**& 22-24**

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**@EMPIREHOUSEPLAYERS**  
**BIT.LY/EMPIREHOUSEPLAYERS**



Little peek at some DeVore Farm action

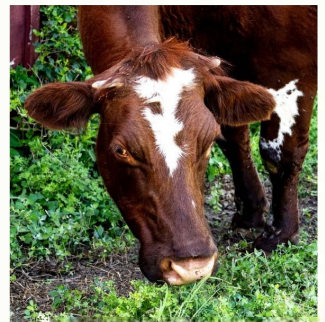


photo credits Jay Stockhaus





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**June 22 - Fundraiser (Adults Only): Cowboys & Cocktails**  
6:30 to 10<sup>PM</sup>

**July 6 - Celebrate America: 10<sup>AM</sup> to 5<sup>PM</sup>**

**August 10 - Fundraiser: Night at Cowboy Camp**  
all ages, but perfect for kiddos

**September 14 - Women of the West: 10<sup>AM</sup> to 5<sup>PM</sup>**

**October 5 - County Fair: 10<sup>AM</sup> to 5<sup>PM</sup>**

**October 19 & 20 - Hay, Hooves, & Halloween**  
all ages, but perfect for kiddos

**December 7 - Breakfast with Santa**

**December - 6 & 7 -- 13 & 14 5 to 9<sup>PM</sup>**  
Victorian Christmas

**December 19 - Fundraiser (formal dinner)**  
Christmas Soiree



OCM MISSION STATEMENT: Our Mission: Old Cowtown Museum is an educational institution operated as an open-air living history museum dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of Wichita, Kansas through immersive experiences of life in the late 1800s.

HWCI MISSION STATEMENT: To foster an entertaining and enriching experience by supporting meaningful educational programs, volunteer organizations and the acquisition and preservation of historical artifacts.



The official page for City of Wichita's Old Cowtown Museum

**facebook**



Historic Wichita Cowtown Inc. - Board of Trustees