

# Vår Historia

## SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Time to renew  
memberships!

### FUELING THE HORSELESS CARRIAGE

Service stations, as they were once known, are a fading moment in history for most places. Lindsborg is fortunate enough to still have one, Petersen Oil at 300 Cole St or south "old" 81. Leroy Petersen has been at that location since January 1976 and he still pumps your fuel while you sit comfortably in your vehicle.

The gasoline market came naturally with the introduction of the automobile to the Smoky Valley, as well as farm implements and other gas engine powered machines. For Lindsborg, William Hagstrom introduced both automobile and motorcycle in 1902. At the time, William owned a bicycle/machine shop downtown. A few years later, the Hagstrom brothers would open a factory, making many things like spark plugs for those machines.

The first business to introduce underground tanks and a gas pump came in 1908, with the construction of Lindsborg Auto Co. Garage. It was located on Lincoln and 2nd St, where Dollar General now stands. It was a joint service station / Studebaker dealership. With auto dealerships being added, Lindsborg was becoming a modern city. The next spring, Lindsborg passed it's first city ordinances concerning driving and vehicle registration. Speed limits were set to 15 mph, with the exception of cor-

ners which were 8 mph. You also had to ring a bell or honk a horn at each intersection, as long it didn't upset the horses. Another tidbit of interest, most adults were leery of driving, so children took the wheel. Kansas didn't implement driving age requirements until the 1920s. One such driver was Leona Teichgraber, the niece to Mrs. William Hagstrom. She was portrayed as the youngest chauffeur in the State of Kansas in 1909, as an 11 year old. Here she is with her '09 Ford Model T.



Marquette got their first gas and oil service station in 1914, when Baton Oil Co. bought some land to build it, they put two 13,000 gallon tanks above ground, and also provided shelter for horses.

March 5th, 1917, Lindsborg passed another city ordinance, this one establishing where service stations could not be. *"All encroachments, or obstructions known as gasoline filling stations will be prohibited on that portion of Main Street bounded on the north by State Street and*



### FREE Kewpie Dolls

One free with each purchase  
of 5 gallons of gasoline or more  
at

### WHITE EAGLE

Oil & Refining Co.

### New Filling Station

on our

Opening Sat., Jan. 28th  
Day

Main and State Streets

LINDSBORG, KANSAS

Robt. N. Johnson  
will be the manager

A full line of  
White Eagle Products

Crank case drained free

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## FUELING THE HORSELESS CARRIAGE {CON'T}

on the south by Lincoln Street." Keep in mind, during this time there was no highway and the only bridge crossing the Smoky was on College St. (now First St.)

The summer of 1920, two companies built service stations right across the street from each

At the following Standard Oil Service Station:  
133 South Main Street

And the following Filling Stations and Garages:

Nelson & Train  
Oes. Schoning, Roxbury  
Freemont Co-operative Merc. Co., Freemont  
E. L. Buffington & Son, Langley  
C. C. Masters Serv. Station, Marquette  
Landgren & Peck, Bridgeport

**RED CROWN GASOLINE**

Standard Oil Company, Lindsborg, Kas.  
(Indiana)

other. Standard Oil Station at 133 S. Main, and Red Ball Gasoline, 134 S. Main. Both are on the corner of Grant street, now city parking lot and

bottled water refill station. Red Ball had discovered that name was previously taken, so in 1922 changed it to "Red Star Oil Co." The embossed seal is from that change.

White Eagle Petroleum built a service station in 1922, on the corner where Hemslojd now sits. To celebrate a grand opening, Kewpie dolls were given away. Gas was selling for 20¢ a gallon at that time, but like today, fluctuated, even causing "gas wars" at times. In 1924 Wardell Service Station was built right across Main St. from White Eagle, now making four service stations on Main St.

Remember I mentioned the only road crossing the Smoky was First Street? Two brothers, both Bethany College students, opened a service station next to the bridge, calling it "Riverside Cottage Camp". Some may be familiar with a 1931 incident involving some criminals and the Anderson boys at that station. That's another story though. After US 81 was developed through town, in 1937, the Anderson boys moved their station to 240 Cole St.

There were also service stations just outside

Lindsborg, Carl and Emma Ahlstedt owned one about 1 1/2 miles south starting in 1929. It would later be owned by C. Rosander 1940s to mid '50s, but as time went on faded away.

Red Star Oil Co reported in their annual 1925 report that the station had sold 194,670 gallons of gas for the year, greatly exceeding their expectations. Another tidbit of information, Emil O. Deere was President of the company during that time.

After US 81 came through Lindsborg, Cole/Harrison became peppered with service stations, mainly 1940s thru 1960s. As roads got better and cars got bigger, the need for multiple service

stations faded. The interstate system also affected the amount of travel coming through town. Then came convenient stores, and pumps that could take credit cards for self-paying.

**OUR CLEAN GAS**  
gives More Power- Greater Mileage

RIVERSIDE COTTAGE CAMP  
GASOLINE, OILS, TIRES  
"SERVICE WITH A SMILE" - PHONE 278

### Auto Smoker Sets FREE SATURDAY ONLY

With every five gallon purchase of gasoline on Saturday, December 6th, we will give absolutely FREE a neat Auto Smokers Set. Drive in to our station Saturday for your gasoline supply.

**Red Star Oil Company**

Service stations are now considered nostalgic, but some do still exist. If you happen to see one, stop in and support it.

That's Right!  
WE'RE A  
Service Station

THANK YOU

Your Car is our baby.

Whatever it needs—top quality gas or a thorough grease job, our complete line of services save you time and money and keep your car in top shape.

**Vets "66" Station**  
DONALD E. ESPING, Lessee  
318 Harrison Phone 684

**TEXACO**

DIAL  
2187

★ FIRESTONE TIRES  
★ WASHING & LUBRICATION  
★ TIRE REPAIRING  
★ DAY & EVENING SERVICE  
★ PICK UP & DELIVERY

**HELIX TEXACO**  
239 Cole On Hiway 81 South



Riverside Cottage Camp



Riverside Super Station 240 Cole St.



Gas — High Compression Gas  
Zero Motor Oil  
Alcohol, Kerosene,  
Tire Repairing

**Ahlstedt's Filling Station**  
Phone 2313  
1½ Miles South of Lindsborg



*Emma Ahlstedt and  
(possibly) grand daughter  
Elly (Ahlstedt) Ostlind  
c1944 at filling station*

**Fireworks**  
We have received our large assortment  
of Monarch Fireworks which will be on  
Sale  
JUNE 27 to JULY 6  
(According to State Law)  
AT  
**Rosander Service**  
Highway 81 Lindsborg, Kansas

## Upcoming SVHA Programs

March 8th, 2022

**The 1706 Excursion of the Spanish into Kansas**

*Mike Wallen, Lindsborg*

May 10th, 2022

**Lindsborg Doctors, the First and Other History**

*Betty Nelson, Lindsborg*

All programs  
start at:  
**7:30 pm**

Location:  
**Messiah Lutheran Church—Fellowship Hall**  
402 N. 1st Street  
Lindsborg, KS.

Please cut along the dotted line

**Smoky Valley Historical Association**  
P.O. Box 255  
**Lindsborg, KS. 67456**

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year

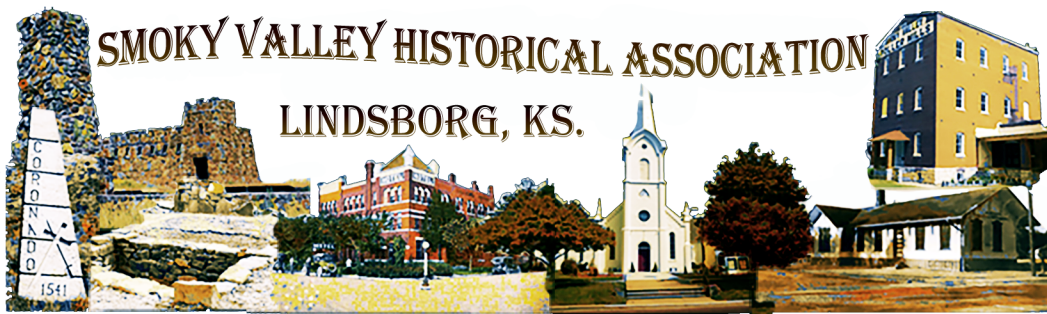


Smoky Valley Historical Association is a non-profit organization and is registered under 501(c)3

All Membership Donations, Bequests, Trusts, and Legacy Donations are tax deductible.

Please mail to P.O. Box listed above.

Thank You!



## SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tim Stewart - *President, Newsletter*  
 Vince Rocco - *Vice President*  
 Julie-Ann Neywick - *Secretary*  
 Lenora Lynam - *Treasurer*  
 Elly Ostlind - *Program Chair*  
 Leland Nelson  
 Jim Malm  
 Christine Rocco  
 Chester G. Peterson - *Emeritus*

*We currently have one Board position open*



### Meetings

We have bi-monthly meetings from September thru May, which is our academic year, and held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Program starts at 7:30 p.m. with topics of local historical interest. Location is listed on page 3 with schedule.

Come join us!



### Funding

Membership contributions are the SVHA's major source of on-going funding. A free-will donation in any amount will secure your membership in the Association for the year. Memberships are renewed in the first quarter of each year.

Grants, such as those awarded by the Kansas Humanities Council, are also available from time-to-time to further the mission of the SVHA.

### **Smoky Valley Historical Mission**

*The purpose of this association shall be to collect, arrange and preserve historical data, books, pamphlets and manuscripts pertaining to the early history and settlement of our community in general and the City of Lindsborg in particular; to preserve and beautify places of historical interest in our city, its vicinity, and properties entrusted to the association; and to promote the study of history of our settlement and its cultural growth by lectures and other available means.*

### Contact info:

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or mail to:

**SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**  
 PO BOX 255  
 LINDSBORG, KS 67456

**WWW.SMOKYVALLEYHISTORY.ORG**



TACK SÅ MYCKET!



SMOKY VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
 LINDSBORG, KANSAS 67456

*Check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information concerning the Smoky Valley Historical Association.*



*Thank you for your contributions, and supporting the historical preservation of Lindsborg and the Smoky Valley of Central Kansas.*

*Our pioneers left their legacy long after they were gone, so can you. Managing estates, bequests, and gifts through retirement plans can help keep our preservation ongoing and long-lasting.*