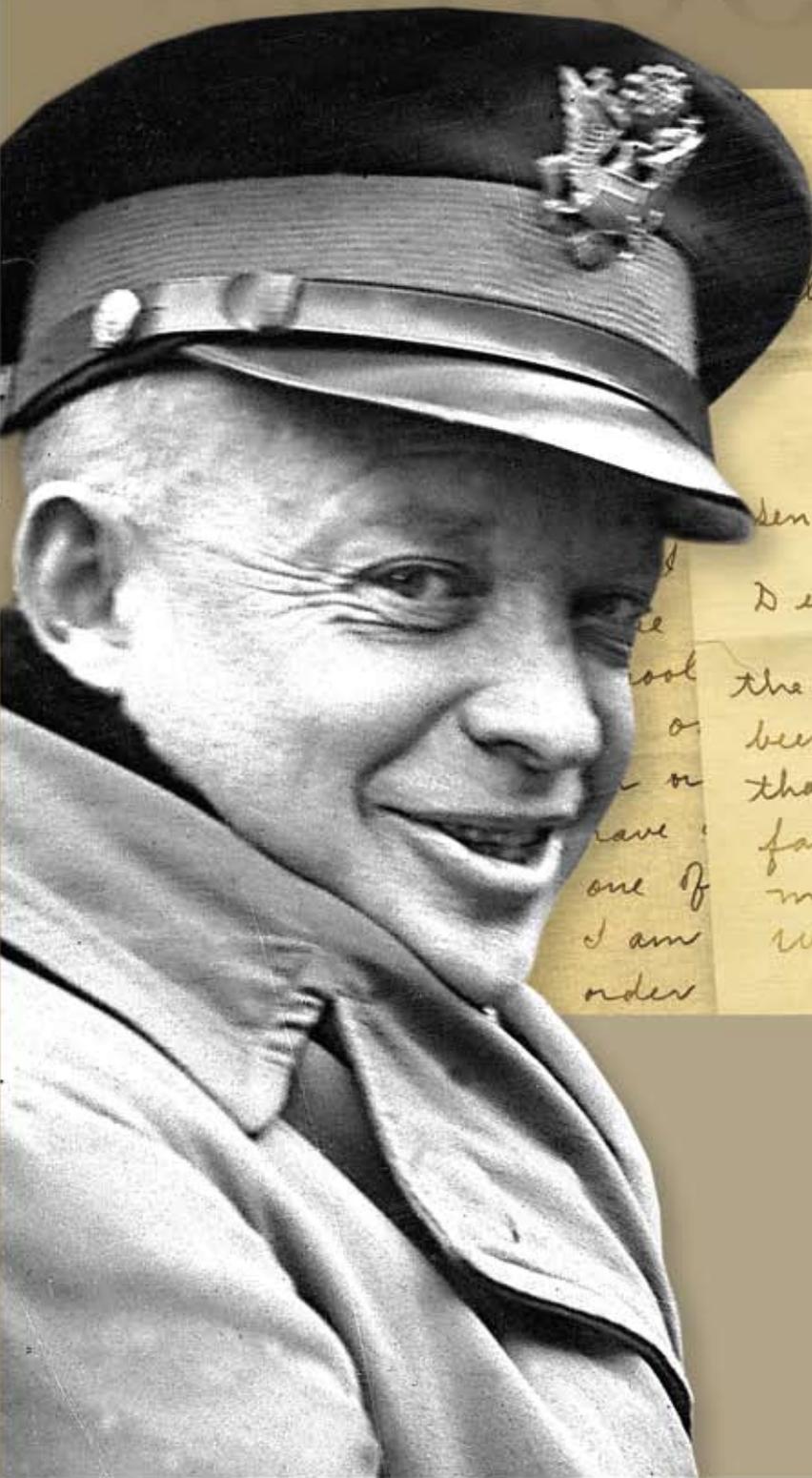


# Reflections



Abilene, Kan  
Aug. 20, 19

Sen. J. L. Bristow,  
Salina, Kans.

Dear Sir:

Having learned from  
parents, that you are ag  
this opportu  
for my aff

Abilene, Kansas.  
Oct. 25, 1910.

Sen. J. L. Bristow,  
Salina, Kans.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of  
the 24<sup>th</sup> instant has just  
been received. I wish to  
thank you sincerely for the  
favor you have shown  
me in appointing me to  
West Point.

In regard to the informass, b

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Winter 2011

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

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**On the cover:** Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force in World War II.

# Reflections

## Welcome

This is the year of Kansas history! It is time to commemorate the efforts of those who fought to make this a free state, those who worked to draft a constitution that would be supported by Congress, and those who raised the 34-star flag over the new state in 1861.

Please join us in person for the Kansas Museum of History’s new special exhibit, *150 Things I Love About Kansas*, January 28 through December 31. You’ll find a number of Kansas Day events on our calendar, page 13.



The Kansas Historical Society website, [kshs.org](http://kshs.org), was updated as part of the anniversary projects. Our work in progress launched in November and offers a number of new resources including *Kansapedia*, our online encyclopedia, and new ways to access existing content. Our online archives, *Kansas Memory*, will soon be updated with a compatible design.

One of the many people behind the Historical Society’s website update is Matt Powell. Powell is the web applications developer and was responsible for creating the content management system and web applications that power the Historical Society’s online presence.

Joining the Historical Society in 2003, Powell began as a network administrator, and was promoted to his current position in 2006. He previously had worked as an alternate at Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton.

Powell combines an interest in history with a passion for technology. “I really live and breathe tech,” Powell said. “I enjoy helping the staff adapt the vast amount of data on our website and presenting it to the public in a user friendly way. I also like to develop ways that we can use technology to improve our efficiency.”



## “It Happens First in Kansas”

In 1922 William Allen White wrote, “When anything is going to happen in this country, it happens first in Kansas. Abolition, Prohibition, Populism, . . . these things came popping out of Kansas like bats out of hell.” To commemorate the Kansas 150 this series will detail some of the things that started first in Kansas and changed the nation.

# Women’s Rights

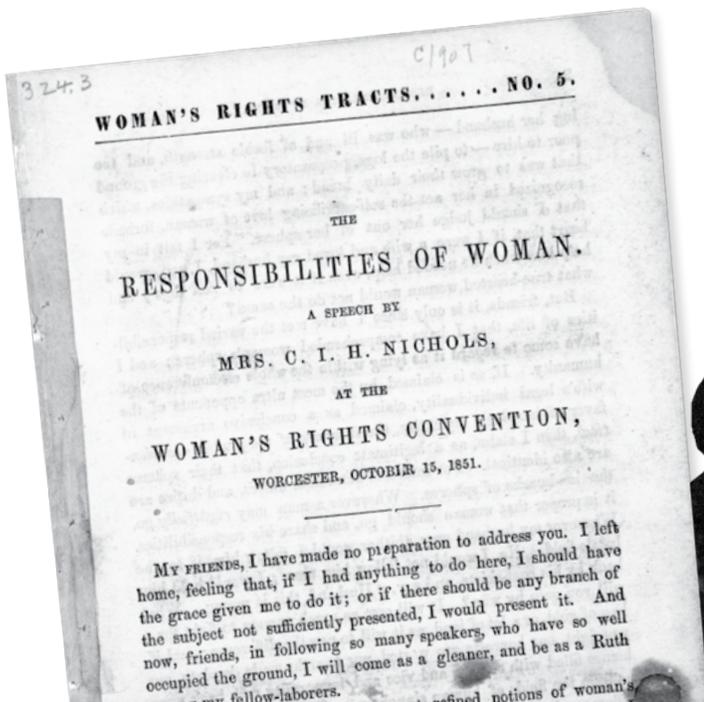
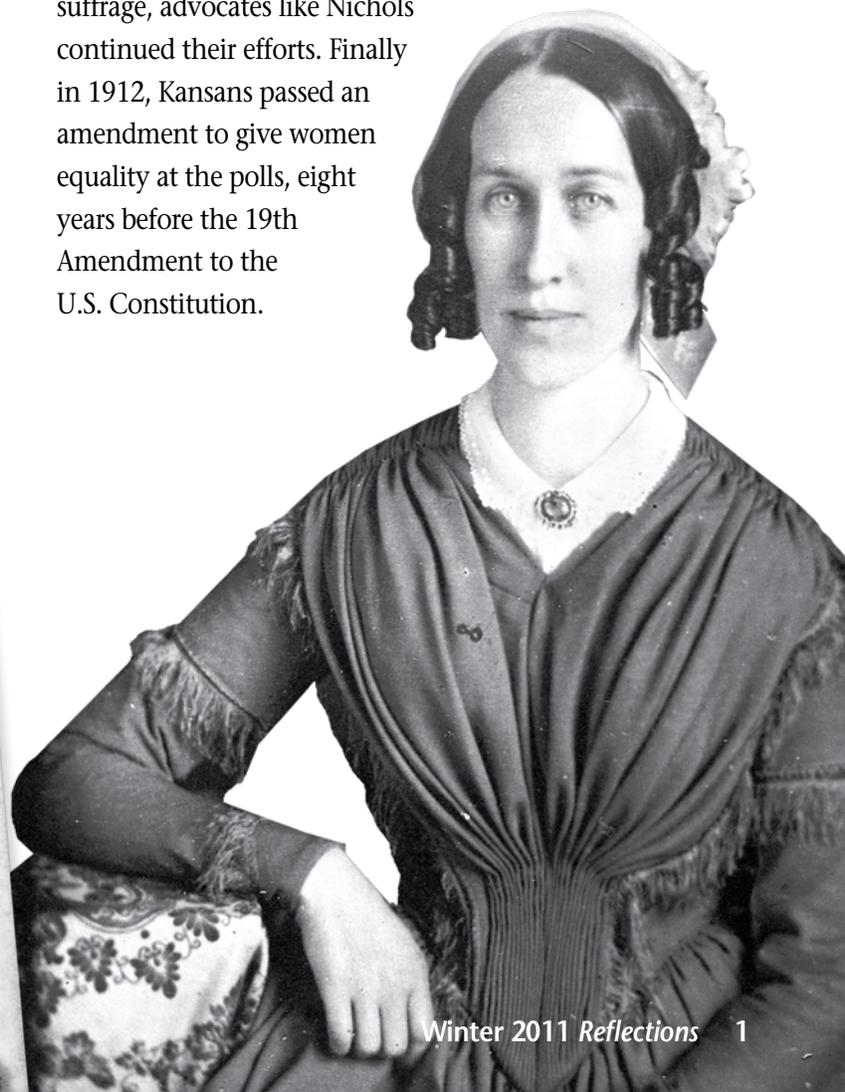
The rumblings of women’s rights began as Kansans were fighting over slavery. Clarina Nichols became an ardent supporter of the movement for women’s suffrage while still in her native state of Vermont. She moved to Lawrence in 1854 as part of the New England Emigrant Aid Society. By 1856 she was editor of the *Quindaro Chindowan*, an abolitionist newspaper.

In 1859 Nichols was the official representative of the Moneka Woman’s Rights Association to the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention. She was assigned a seat in the convention hall and was allowed to address the delegates on women’s rights issues. The final version delegates approved, which became the Kansas constitution, included three provisions Nichols had promoted: women’s rights in child custody, property rights for married women, and equality in matters pertaining to public schools. Few other states granted as many rights to women.

Kansas women gained the right to vote in municipal elections in 1887. Some residents in Argonia, perhaps as a joke, decided to nominate Susanna Salter for the office of mayor. An officer in the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, Salter was nominated on the Prohibition Party ticket. In April 1887 she was elected by a two-thirds

majority to become the first woman mayor in the United States. She served one term.

Kansans launched the first test of women’s suffrage with a campaign in 1866 and 1867 with the support of national leaders Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Stone, Olympia Brown, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Although Kansas voters rejected the amendments for both women’s and African Americans’ suffrage, advocates like Nichols continued their efforts. Finally in 1912, Kansans passed an amendment to give women equality at the polls, eight years before the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



# Dwight Eisenhower of Abilene

Dwight Eisenhower wanted to attend college but he knew that he would have to postpone his university career until he had worked to put his older brother Edgar through school. Dwight graduated from Abilene High School in 1909 and was hired as a night foreman by the Belle Springs Creamery.

A friend of Dwight's suggested that he apply to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Eisenhower passed entrance exams for the Naval Academy and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, but the Naval Academy disqualified his application because he exceeded its minimum age requirement. That was not the case for West Point in New York.

Admission requirements to military institutions require that candidates apply directly and that they receive a nomination, usually from a member of Congress. Eisenhower wrote to U.S. Senator Joseph Bristow of Kansas several times to request a nomination.

*September 3, 1910*

*Dear Sir:*

*Some time ago I wrote to you applying for an appointment to West Point or Annapolis. As yet I have heard nothing definite from you about the matter . . .*

*October 24, 1910*

*My dear Mr. Eisenhower:*

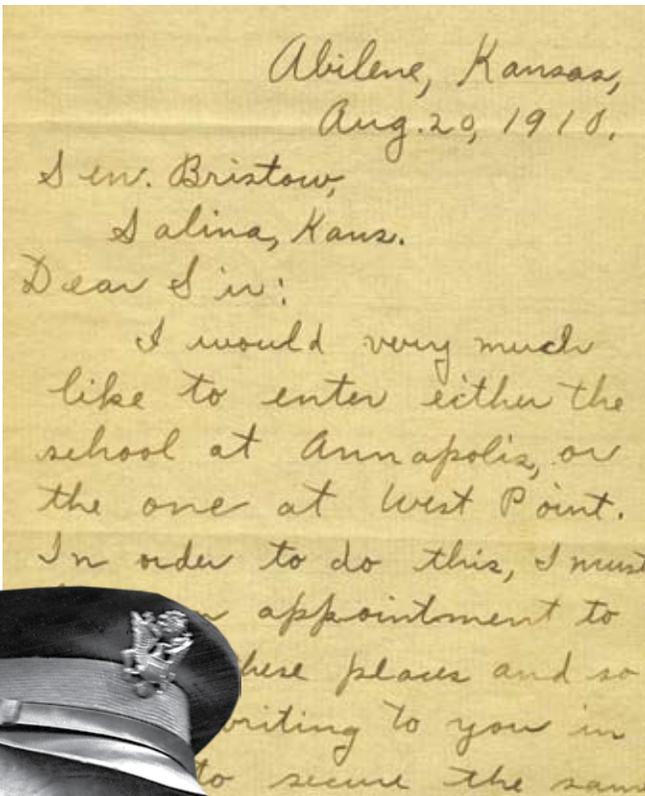
*I have decided to send in your name to the Secretary of War as my nominee for the vacancy in the West Point Military Academy occurring next spring.*

*October 25, 1910*

*Dear Sir:*

*Your letter of the 24th instant has just been received. I wish to thank you sincerely for the favor you have shown me in appointing me to West Point.*

Bristow of Salina had been elected to the U.S. Senate in 1908, where he served until 1915. He nominated Eisenhower to West Point, launching the career of the future president.



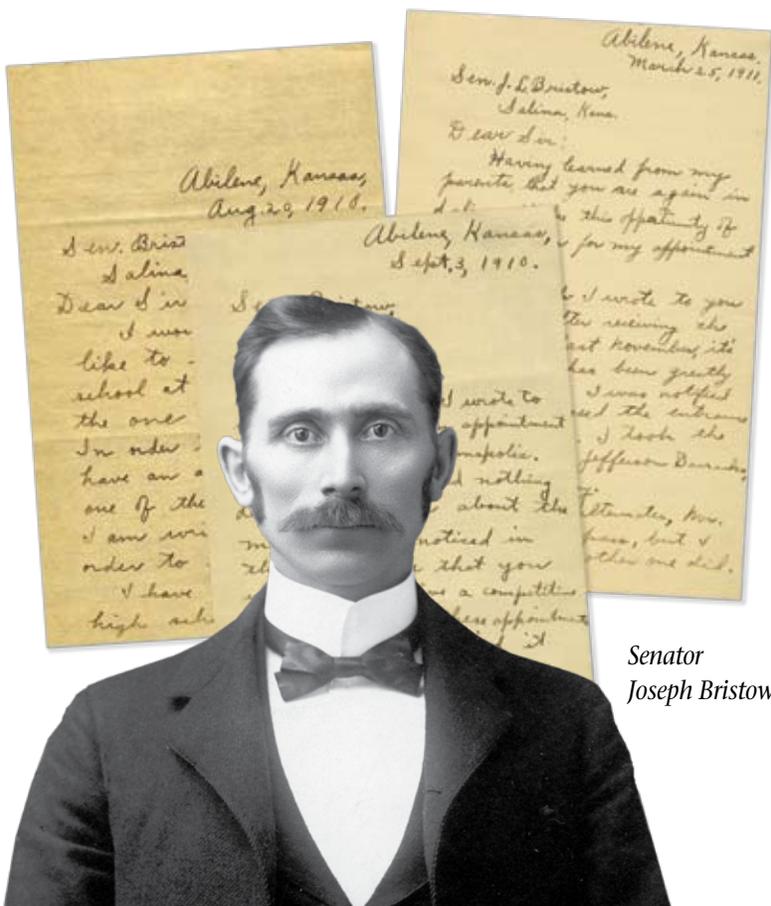
“The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene.”

Even though Eisenhower's parents, David and Ida, were pacifists, they supported his continuing education and admission to West Point. Eisenhower was accepted into the class of 1915, from which he graduated in the top half. Known as the class the "stars fell on," of its 164 members, 59 attained the rank of general. Two received five stars—Eisenhower and Omar N. Bradley.

At West Point Eisenhower enjoyed playing football until an injury ended his career. He also served as junior varsity football coach and yell leader. He would later say one of his major disappointments in life was not making the West Point baseball team.

Following graduation, First Lieutenant Eisenhower was sent to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for his first post assignment. His military career spanned World War I through World War II, in which he was Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force. His retirement from the military in 1952 coincided with the groundbreaking for a memorial in Abilene and the announcement of his candidacy for president.

*Opposite page and below, Eisenhower's correspondence with Senator Joseph Bristow.*



*Senator Joseph Bristow*

## DISCOVER | COOL THINGS

Find out more about the short jacket that General Eisenhower designed for the army. [kshs.org/coolthings](http://kshs.org/coolthings)



## VISIT | KANSAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY

See "Our Recent Past" display and view General Eisenhower's own jacket. [kshs.org/museum](http://kshs.org/museum)



## BROWSE | KANSAS MEMORY

Find images of Eisenhower as a child, during World War II, as 34th president of the United States, construction of the Eisenhower Interstate System, and correspondence with Senator Bristow. [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org)



# Success – Private funds create Kansas 150 exhibit



The Kansas Museum of History's *150 Things I Love About Kansas* special exhibit opens January 28, 2011, with support from several Kansas businesses and organizations. The Capitol Federal Foundation generously donated \$17,500 for creation of the exhibit that commemorates the Kansas sesquicentennial. This bright and lively exhibit will showcase items from Kansas history rarely seen by the public.

“Capitol Federal has played a role in our Kansas history for more than 117 years of our state’s 150-year journey,” said Jack Dicus, chairman, Capitol Federal Foundation. “The dilemma the museum will have is limiting the exhibit to 150 things we love about Kansas. Ours is a great state, one of which we can all be proud. Happy 150th Birthday!”

The Kansas Humanities Council with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities provided a grant of \$10,000 for interactive features. Midwest Minerals, Inc., of Pittsburg is honoring its chairman, George Nettels, Jr., former Historical Society board and executive committee member, with a gift of \$2,000. John and Kay Callison offered the first the donation last year with a \$1,000 gift. These generous donations make this exhibit possible.



# School field trip subsidies

As schools face budget reductions, they have struggled to find funds to cover the costs of field trips. The Kansas Museum of History and the State Historic Sites have experienced a decline in standards-based tours as a result of these reductions. Through the generosity of the Johnson County Heritage Trust Fund and W.S. & E.C. Jones Trust, two of our sites have offered subsidies with great success. Gifts of \$300 are needed to cover the cost of bus transportation for a class to visit the museum or site within 60 miles of the school. If you know an individual, foundation, or corporation that would be a good match for this project, please contact Vicky Henley at 785-272-8681, ext. 201; vhenley@kshs.org.



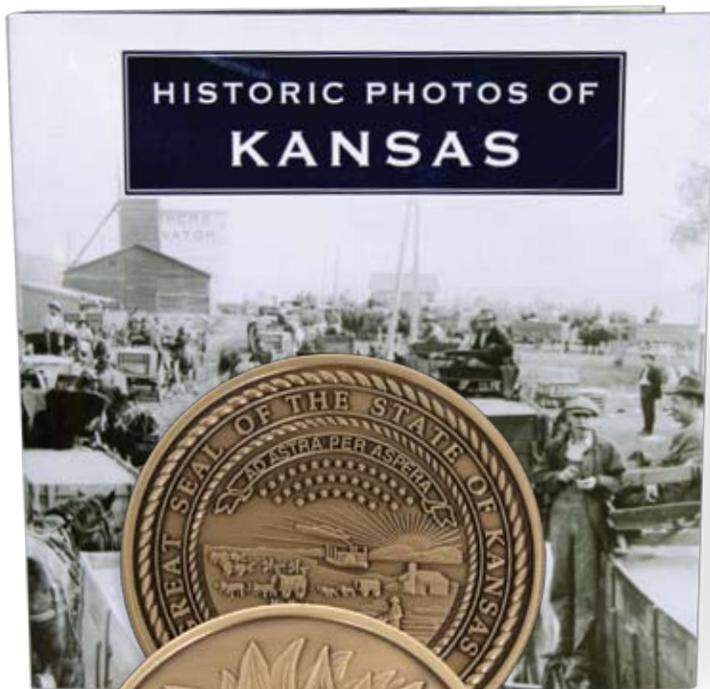
*Students participate in standards-based tours at Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway (Kansas City area), and the Kansas Museum of History, Topeka.*

## Kansas 150

The Museum Store is offering a number of Kansas 150 commemorative items. These fine keepsakes will make excellent gifts for those who love Kansas history. For larger orders, the items are also available at wholesale pricing, see our online Museum Store for more details, [store.kshs.org](http://store.kshs.org).

The Kansas 150 Official Ornament was chosen to decorate the Kansas Christmas tree in Washington, D. C. Other items for sale in the store feature the Kansas 150 logo.

The Museum Store also offers Kansas foods and art, such as pottery, jewelry, wheat weaving, and metal works. Kansas books, DVDs, and note cards are available as well.



# Proud to Be a Kansan: 150 Years of History



Women in Hoxie dressed for the community's centennial parade in 1961.

**K**ansas Day is a special time to remember how our state was established. It is marked each January 29 in honor of that day in 1861 when Kansas entered the Union as the 34th state. Kansas Day activities are unique—every year since 1877, students have gotten involved in the commemoration.

Paola teacher L.G.A. Copley wanted to make Kansas history more relevant to his students. He set aside the afternoon of January 29, 1877, for his students to celebrate state pride. Students prepared for the day with weeks of research. They drew maps, the state seal, wrote the state motto, and sang John Greenleaf Whittier's *Song of the Kansas Emigrant* and Lucy Larcom's *The Call to Kansas*. These students originated the tradition of Kansas Day. When Copley became superintendent of Wichita schools in 1879, he introduced the tradition to his new students. He continued to spread the word at teacher conferences at the local and state level.

In 1892 a small group of men including William Allen White decided to form their own annual gathering "To promote Republicans, and to call together in a social way, upon the anniversaries of Kansas' admission into the

union, the Republicans of the State." The Kansas Day Club was an exclusive organization for Republican men. For the 50th anniversary in 1911, the club drew 4,500 men from around the state.

Kansans living in cities like Chicago and Washington, D.C., formed Kansas Day Clubs so they, too, could participate. "Here's to good old Kansas, the greatest state of them all—the fairest of the fair!" George R. Peck, president of the Chicago Kansas Day Club said at its annual banquet, in a story in the *Topeka Daily Capital*, January 30, 1911.

Women joined the men in observing the anniversary in 1905 and held their own event January 29, featuring prominent speakers on the state's history. The next year they formed the Woman's Kansas Day Club and began to



Governor John Anderson and Rolla Clymer as Abraham Lincoln reenact the raising of the 34-star flag in Philadelphia.

adopt service projects including selecting a state song. The club has conducted yearly projects, which resulted in financial gifts and collections donations to the Kansas Historical Society.

By 1961 the observance of the anniversary had grown. The *Topeka Daily Capital* ran a special Centennial Section in its January 29 issue. It reported that guests at the Founder's Banquet included Governor Edward Arn and well-known Kansans of the day William Inge, Charles "Buddy" Rogers, Milburn Stone, Vivian Vance, and Patricia Wymore. The

centennial commission promised more activities in the months to come that would include parades, pageants, books, and commemorative items. Men grew beards and women wore hooped skirts at the many events held throughout the summer. That Kansas Day became a yearlong event and an inspiration for future observances.

The Kansas Centennial program and calendar of events.



## VISIT | KANSAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY

*150 Things I Love About Kansas*, January 28 – December 31, 2011, takes a lively look at Kansas' past over the last 150 years. [kshs.org/museum](http://kshs.org/museum)



## BROWSE | KANSAS MEMORY

View parades, pageants, and collectibles from the Kansas centennial in 1961 through our online digital archives, [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org).



## EXPLORE | KANSAPEDIA

Find out more about the Woman's Kansas Day Club and the origins of Kansas Day in our online encyclopedia of Kansas history. [kshs.org/kansapedia](http://kshs.org/kansapedia)



Women at Fort Larned prepare a float for the centennial parade in 1961.

## Prescription for Excellence

Through Takeru Higuchi's work in the field of physical pharmacy he gained the highest respect in the industry and much acclaim for the University of Kansas.

Born in California to Japanese immigrants in 1918, Higuchi was raised on a small farm. He earned a bachelor's degree with honors in chemistry in 1939 and completed graduate and doctoral studies in physical and organic chemistry in 1943. He spent a year as a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Wisconsin, and worked briefly as a research chemist for US Rubber in Akron, Ohio, before returning to the university to teach in its School of Pharmacy.

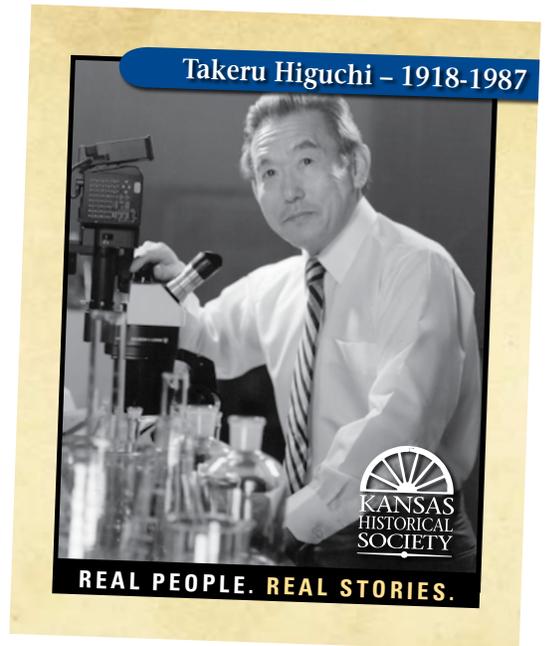
For the next 20 years Higuchi became known internationally in the field of physical pharmacy and won many academic accolades. By 1967, when Higuchi accepted a position at the University of Kansas, his peers already considered him something of a legend.

Higuchi's research focused on how drugs are delivered to the body. His work made pharmaceuticals more effective in reaching their targets and with fewer side effects. He also developed a way for drugs to release into the body over a period of time. Throughout his career Higuchi published more than 300 articles about his research and acquired more than 50 patents.

KU attracted Higuchi to Lawrence by naming him a regents professor, the highest professorial position at the university. He had the opportunity to develop a nationally recognized pharmaceutical chemistry program. The



*Simons Labs on the University of Kansas campus, home to a portion of the Higuchi Biosciences Center. Photo courtesy KU University Relations.*



university also promised to build a complex to facilitate pharmaceutical research and attract graduate students.

Whatever the cost of these enticements, they paid off for the university. Thanks to Higuchi's reputation, knowledge of science, mind for business, and his interpersonal skills, he created profitable partnerships between the school and private industry and attracted some of the nation's top graduate students in pharmacy. One of Higuchi's colleagues estimated that by the 1980s Higuchi had "trained more people in upper and middle management in the U.S. pharmaceutical industry than anyone else, and that one-third of the nation's pharmacy school deans and department chairmen (were) former Higuchi students."

*Kansas Business News* honored Higuchi as its 1985 Executive of the Year for his impact on the Kansas economy. He was able to accomplish his vision making a connection between the "theoretical" drug research done at universities with the "practical" drug application done by industry. These types of partnerships yielded millions of dollars for KU.

The year before, Higuchi was also praised by 225 of his peers from the U.S., Europe, and Japan at a symposium held in Lawrence where he was lauded as the "father of physical pharmacy."

Higuchi died in 1987 due to a heart condition. Three of his children followed their father into the medical science field. A Kansas Legislature resolution asserted, "Over the past 20 years, it is doubtful if anyone has contributed more than Dr. Takeru Higuchi did to heighten the international respect for and prestige of the University of Kansas."

# Check Out Our "Recently Added" Items



## Portrait of a Mother and Daughter

This daguerrotype portrait shows Rowena Bannister Charles and her daughter, Aristene, of Fort Scott. The image can be found on [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org).



## Mudtown Doll

This African American cloth doll was given to a white child around 1940 by her elderly black neighbor. The families lived in a predominantly black district of Topeka known as Mudtown. The doll is part of our *Cool Things* collection and can be found on [kshs.org/coolthings](http://kshs.org/coolthings).



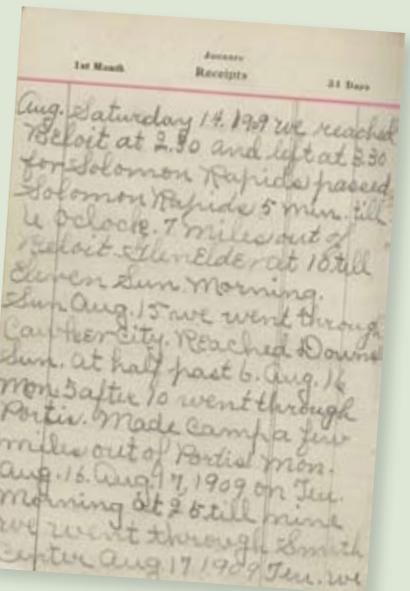
## Dodge City Times

The *Dodge City Times* is just one of 20 Kansas newspapers from our collections that have been uploaded to the Library of Congress *Chronicling America* website. The newspapers were digitized with funding received from the National Endowment for the Humanities, in partnership with the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). Under this project, we will digitize a total of 100,000 pages of Kansas newspapers by June 2011. You can browse the newspapers at [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov).



## Bert Floyd Rathbun Journal

Rathbun documented a trip he and his family made by covered wagon to Wyoming. The Rathbuns left Simpson, Mitchell, and Cloud counties, August 14, 1909, and traveled to St. Francis, Cheyenne County, where they wintered. They started their trip west May 5, 1910. This journal can be found on [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org).



# Civil War Valentines: “My Last Fond Thought Shall Be of Thee”

When Methodist minister Joseph Forrest died at the age of 35, his wife was left with four children to raise in their Minneapolis, Ottawa County, home. She also had some valentines her husband had sent her while he was serving in the Civil War.

Joseph and Elizabeth, whose maiden name was Ehrhart, lived in Illinois prior to the war. They were engaged in 1858 but delayed marriage, partly because of the war. Joseph enlisted July 25, 1861, and the couple decided to wed on his first furlough. Unfortunately, his furlough was postponed two years. According to family stories, when Joseph returned to marry Elizabeth, he was on a mission to uncover deserters hiding in the area and he spent much of the honeymoon on horseback in search of runaway soldiers.

By the start of the Civil War stationery manufacturers were producing Valentine’s Day cards. Joseph Forrest sent Elizabeth both manufactured cards and a card pasted together from scraps. Three of these cards are now in the Historical Society collections. One of the manufactured cards includes a verse, “Faithful in Death.” It reads:

### FAITHFUL IN DEATH

*“To horse!” the bugle sounds the call,  
The foemen rage like waves at sea;  
If cruel fate should bid me fall,  
My last fond thought shall be of thee.*



Pasted together from scraps, this valentine was sent by Forrest to his wife, Elizabeth, during the Civil War.

Joseph’s unit, the Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was involved in battles at Shiloh, Corinth, and Vicksburg. He was wounded in 1864 in a battle near Jackson, Mississippi. While he was recovering from his injuries, Elizabeth gave birth to their first child, a daughter, who died shortly after birth. Joseph’s injuries would adversely affect his health for years, and prompted the couple to move to Kansas in search of a milder climate.

In Kansas Joseph became a minister and the couple had four more children. After his death Elizabeth stayed in Kansas, enduring the deaths of two more children in 1876. She acquired title to their homestead claim and lived in Kansas until her death in 1920.

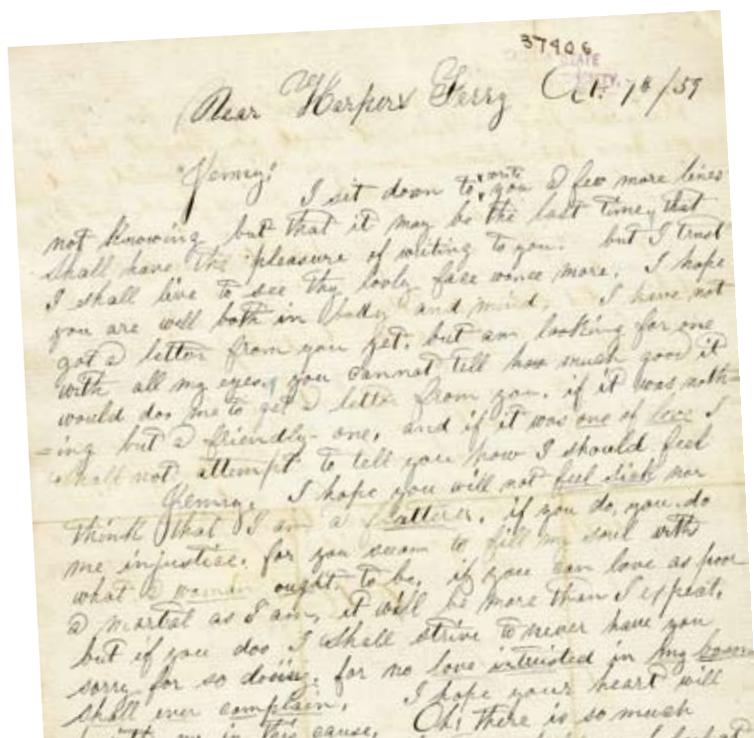
Also in our collections are love letters written prior to and during the Civil War. Aaron Stevens was among abolitionist John Brown's followers who were planning a raid on Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, in the fall of 1859. After escaping from Fort Leavenworth where he was being held on a mutiny charge, he used the name "C. Whipple." Stevens had met Jenny Dunbar while staying in Ohio, and had taken a liking to her. He wrote her from "Near Harpers Ferry" October 7, a little more than a week before the raid.

*I sit down to write you a few more lines not knowing but that it may be the last time. that Shall have the pleasure of writing to you. but I trust I shall live to see thy lovely face wonce more.*

He continues to write candidly about his feelings:

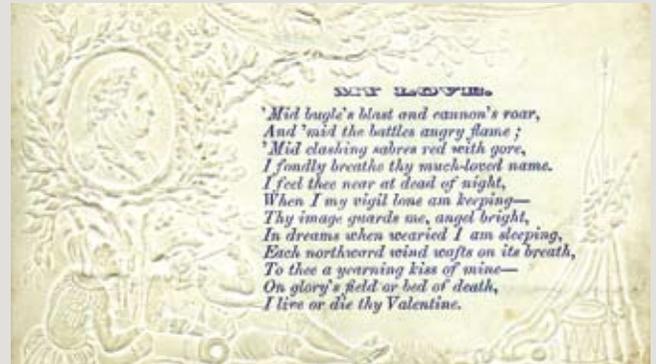
*Jenny, I hope you will not feel sick nor think that I am a flatterer, if you do, you do me injustice. for you seem to fill my soul with what a woman ought to be. if you can love as poor a [mortal] as I am, it will be more than I expect, but if you doo I Shall strive to never have you sorry for so [dooing], for no love intrusted in my [boson] shall ever complain. I hope your heart will be with me in this cause, . . .*

During the raid on Harpers Ferry, Stevens was among those trapped in the engine house. John Brown sent Stevens outside to negotiate a truce, but he was shot and captured. He was convicted of treason and conspiring with slaves and was executed March 16, 1860.



## BROWSE | COOL THINGS

Learn more about the Forrests and their lives in Jewell and Ottawa counties when you browse our "Civil War Valentines" *Cool Things* article at [kshs.org/coolthings](http://kshs.org/coolthings).



## SHARE WITH USE | FACEBOOK

Hallmark, a Kansas company, first offered valentine cards in 1913. Do you have a collection of cards that you'd like to share with us? Post them in our "Valentines" album on Facebook! Just search for "Kansas Historical Society."



## EXPLORE | KANSAS MEMORY

You can read the full transcription of Aaron Stevens' letter to Jenny Dunbar (left), along with other Civil War love letters, on [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org).

# Get Connected

Get a fun, behind-the-scenes look into our collections, programs, and resources by connecting with us on Facebook or Twitter. Add your own historic photos to our albums, comment on our posts, or share your own story.

Follow us at [twitter.com/kansashistory!](https://twitter.com/kansashistory) 

We invite you to “Like”  Kansas Historical Society on Facebook! 

twitter 



## Kansas History

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*Behind-the-scenes, insider access to the Kansas Historical Society*  
<http://www.kshs.org>

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kansashistory Kansas History

Feeling holiday nostalgia? Check out our Christmas-related images and docs on Kansas Memory!  
<http://www.kansasmemory.org/category/6094>

58 minutes ago



kansashistory Kansas History

Listen to our new Cool Things Podcast! Discover the story behind a dool from Topeka's Mudtown  
<http://www.kansasmemory.org/p/cool-things-podcasts/10033>

2 Dec



kansashistory Kansas History

This day in 1859: During his visit to Kansas, Abraham Lincoln said, "No other territory has ever had such a history"

<http://www.kansasmemory.org/category/6094>

30 Nov



kansashistory Kansas History

Feeling holiday nostalgia? Check out our Christmas-related images and docs on Kansas Memory!  
<http://www.kansasmemory.org/category/6094>

facebook



Kansas Historical Society Behind the Scenes at the Kansas Museum of History: Jackpot! Museum staff wrestle with a slot machine from the collections, getting it ready to be photographed for our popular collections section of the new website.

December 8 at 12:46pm • Like • Comment



Katrina, Bobbie, Ryan and 3 others like this.



Murl If we could just get to the coins inside, it would have been lighter!

December 8 at 1:03pm • Flag

as History  
g Turkey N Tackles image: 1920  
me <http://www.kansasmemory.org/>



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Online at [kshs.org/calendar](http://kshs.org/calendar)

Through February 27, 2011

*No Trespassing: The Segesser II Paintings*

Exhibit at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

January 8, February 12, and March 12, 2011

Second Saturdays by the Grinter Stove

Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

January 13, 2011

Historic Preservation Workshop

Granada Theater, Emporia

January 27, 2011

Kansas 150 Stamp Issue

Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

January 28, 2011

Kansas Day

Public ceremony on the south steps

Kansas State Capitol, Topeka

January 28-December 31, 2011

*150 Things I Love About Kansas*

Exhibit at Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

January 28-29, 2011

Kansas Day

Events planned at the Kansas Museum of History and several state historic sites

January 30, February 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2011

Bleeding Kansas Series

Constitution Hall State Historic Site, LeCompton

## Winter 2011

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

Sam Brownback  
Governor of Kansas

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### *Kansas Memory*

With the start of the spring semester, we feature this 1910 image of a seventh grade class at Medicine Lodge School as one of the many Kansas class portraits you can find on [kansasmemory.org](http://kansasmemory.org).