

Newsletter

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Upcoming Events:

Summer Speaker Series: Post Rock Country

Bradley Penka

*Sternberg Museum of Natural History
Manager of Visitor Services*

Thursday, July 11, 2024 - 7:00 pm
Dream Theatre - Russell, Kansas

Early Kansas pioneers, lacking trees, built sod homes prone to rain and fire damage. Discovering a layer of rock beneath the soil, they constructed durable buildings. Some replaced with steel, those in Post Rock Country endure, a testament to pioneer ingenuity amid challenges of the plains.

Wilson Czech Fest

Saturday, July 26-27
Wilson, Kansas

Stop by the Coalition booth on Saturday, July 27 at the Wilson After Harvest Czech Festival in Wilson. There will also be programs and activities that are appealing and appropriate for all ages. For more information, visit:
wilsonczechfest.com.

Events at a Glance:

July 13:

Tour Die Kapallen - Hays

July 20-21:

Threshing Bee - Mankato

July 27:

Czech Festival - Wilson

August 26:

Adams Apple Festival - Lucas

August 31:

Post Rock Festival - Lincoln

Next Meeting:

Meetings of the Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition are held every two months in locations across the Post Rock region and everyone is welcome. Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 18, 2024 starting at 10:00 am at the Kansas Barbed Wire Museum in La Crosse. Please RSVP to kansaspostrock@gmail.com by July 15. Check our [Facebook page](#) and [website](#) for details.



Bells & Whistles: A Successful Journey



Left: Bells & Whistles participants had a rare opportunity to tour the 1872 George Grant Villa in Ellis County. Ron and Susan Legleiter, owners of the property, were our hosts. Right: Neil and Susan Unrein led an authentic Volga German wedding march in Lucas as part of the tour.

Bells & Whistles - The Industrial & Art Age, the second Post Rock Limestone Tour, was a rock solid success. The first stop on the tour was a guided tour of the St. Fidelis Basilica in Victoria. The weather was perfect for the tour, although much needed rain the day before kept the group from viewing the 1930s WPA Fort Fletcher Bridge.

The next stop was a tour of the George Grant Villa, near Victoria. In the fall of 1872, Grant purchased 700,000 acres from the Kansas Pacific Railroad and brought the first Black Aberdeen Angus cattle to America. The residence and original out buildings, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, are constructed of Fencepost limestone quarried from the property.

The group also visited sites in Wilson and enjoyed an authentic German Buffet lunch in the native limestone Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wilson.

After lunch, the group traveled the Post Rock Scenic Byway to Lucas where they toured the Garden of Eden, Grassroots Art Center, Bowl Plaza, and other sites in downtown Lucas before returning to Hays through Luray and Bunker Hill. Watch for announcements of future day tours and events.

Kansas
POST ROCK
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Sites We've Seen...



Limestone Artist Pete Felten's Stone Gallery is located across the alley from the Ellis County Historical Society. The stone house, which houses his gallery and Bruce Burkholder's Blue Door Studio, is one of the oldest structures in Hays. The gallery is privately-owned and open by appointment only.



Felten's Stone Gallery houses a collection of smaller versions of his famous sculptures. He carved these sculptures as models before creating the full-size versions found throughout Hays and the surrounding area.



Behind the Stone Gallery is a garden area enclosed by a limestone fence adorned with numerous relief carvings.

The Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition Newsletter is distributed about four times per year for members and friends of the Coalition. Bradley Penka, editor.

Rockin' & Threshing in Mankato



The Jewell County Threshing Bee is coming July 20-21 to Mankato. The Threshing Bee is an annual event sponsored by the Jewell County Historical Society that takes place on the 3rd weekend in July. The event includes vendors, food, a tractor show, historical demonstrations, and many more attractions. This year, Neil Unrein, Coalition board member will be demonstrating methods of breaking, dressing, and lettering limestone posts. Demonstrations will be held all day on Saturday and from 8 am to 12 pm on Sunday.

For more information visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300271536782918/>

Last Call for Nominations

There is still a chance to nominate a deserving Post Rock property for our annual Preservation Award. We are presently in the review stage, but will still accept nominations, but time is limited. To nominate a property, visit:

kansaspostrocklimestone.org/limestone-structures

Stay up to date with events and programs by visiting us online:
<https://www.kansaspostrocklimestone.org/events>

KPRLC Membership

Don't forget to renew your membership in the Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition. Your support helps us continue our mission of "promoting, preserving, and protecting the history, art, and architecture of the Kansas Post Rock Limestone region through education and tourism."

By being a member, you will help us to fulfill our mission, plus you and/or your business will have the opportunity to be featured in promotional materials and special events.

To join or renew, visit our website www.kansaspostrocklimestone.org/ and select membership. To pay by check, download and print an application, then mail to: Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition, PO Box 44, Lucas, KS 67648.

The Kansas Post Rock Limestone Coalition is a 501(c)(3) Kansas corporation and donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.