

Historical Connections

NEWS FROM THE NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION



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Don't Miss Our Exciting Fundraising Event WanderNebraska: The Great Road Trip



Get Your Ticket!

08/21

The Woolworth Building
1120 Howard St.
Omaha, NE

Join the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation in Omaha on **August 21** from **6-10pm** for an unforgettable evening, bringing history to life in a fun, interactive way.

WanderNebraska: The Great Road Trip is our newest fundraising event, featuring:

- Guest Bartenders competing to raise funds
- A Virtual Road Trip across Nebraska
- Regional Flavors & Signature Drinks
- Live Entertainment & Interactive Experiences

Proceeds from the event support the Foundation's mission to preserve and promote Nebraska's rich history across all 93 counties. Join us as a sponsor and help drive this journey forward!



Discovering Nebraska Through Golf and History



Tour guests explored Nebraska art at the Robert Henri Art Gallery in Cozad



Bob Shively guided guests through a tour at Snake River Valley



Guests took a break and enjoyed the Feather River Winery near North Platte

The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation's Golf and History Tour took participants on a memorable journey through central Nebraska from north to south, July 7 through 10.

Throughout the tour, guests enjoyed outstanding golf while experiencing the warm hospitality that makes Nebraska so special. At each stop, site owners, directors, and staff welcomed the group with enthusiasm, sharing the stories, history, and unique character of their communities. Their generosity created experiences that went far beyond the golf course.

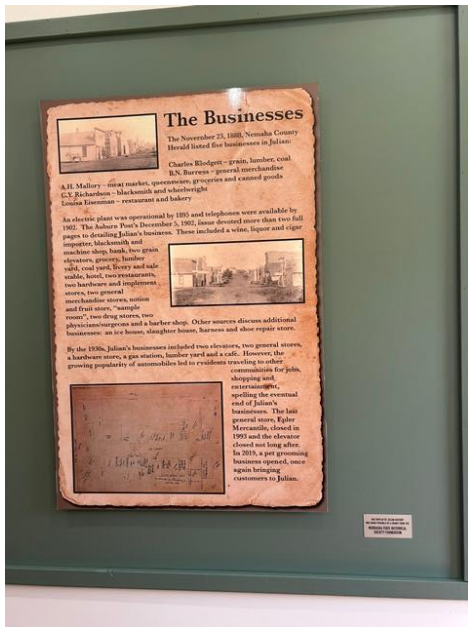
A special thank you goes to Bob Shively who hosted our tour guests at The Prairie Club Golf Resort, south of Valentine. Guests were treated like royalty while taking in the breathtaking beauty of the Sandhills and the nearby Snake River Valley. It was a fitting highlight of an unforgettable tour.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to the many partners and hosts who helped make this Golf and History Tour such a success. We look forward to exploring more of Nebraska together in the future.

Our WanderNebraska Adventure Tours may be over for the year, but there are still opportunities to explore Nebraska landmarks and experience history this summer! Scroll down in this newsletter to learn more about upcoming tour events.



NSHSF Supports Julian's Post Office Museum



Display panels at the museum were funded with the help of NSHSF.



NSHSF presented a big check at the dedication of the new museum.

On July 18, the Nebraska State Historical Society joined the celebration for the dedication of Julian's Post Office Museum. The Foundation supported the museum with a \$1000 grant that funded the display panels on the walls, and presented a "big check" at the dedication. NSHSF Executive Director Leslie Fattig spoke on behalf of the Foundation. Dr. Sara Crook NSHSF board member, and Teresa Breazile, Director of Programs were present for the dedication ceremony as well.



Free Admission Day Connects Nebraskans with History Across the State



Visitors across Nebraska enjoyed free admission to a variety of museums and historic sites to celebrate America's 250th birthday.

Because of your generosity, more than 500 visitors experienced Nebraska's history firsthand this Independence Day through Free Admission Day at Nebraska State Historical Society sites across the state. Families and individuals visited the Nebraska History Museum, the Ethel S. and Christopher J. Abbott Chimney Rock Visitor Center, Senator George Norris State Historic Site, Fort Robinson History Center, and Neligh Mill, enjoying meaningful access to Nebraska's history without cost standing in the way.

Free Admission Days are sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation in support of our mission to preserve, interpret, and share Nebraska history. Your investment opens doors, removes barriers, and creates experiences that help people of all ages learn and connect with the places and stories that define our state. Through your generosity, these sites remain welcoming, accessible, and vibrant for everyone.



Nebraska Travelers Enjoy Joint WanderNebraska and Trail Trek Sites



It's been so much fun seeing photos from travelers exploring the WanderNebraska and Your Parks Adventure: Trail Trek special sites this summer!

There's still plenty of time to join the adventure. Visit participating locations through September 30, then submit a selfie for a chance to win prizes from Nebraska Game and Parks while also earning credit toward WanderNebraska prizes.

Find participating sites at WanderNebraska.com or in the WanderNebraska app by selecting the Special Sites category under Explore. Happy travels!



In Case You Missed It: NSHSF Joins Give Nebraska



We are proud to announce that the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation has become a member of Give Nebraska, joining a distinguished network of nonprofit organizations dedicated to strengthening communities across the state.

Give Nebraska brings together nonprofits from a wide range of causes, from the arts and education to animal welfare and environmental advocacy, all united by a commitment to improving life in Nebraska. We are honored to stand alongside these organizations as part of the 2026 campaign.

Membership in Give Nebraska opens an exciting new avenue for connecting the mission of preserving Nebraska's history with donors who are passionate about making a difference close to home. Through employer-sponsored charitable giving campaigns, Nebraska workers can now more easily direct their support toward the causes that matter most to them, and we hope many will choose to invest in keeping Nebraska's history alive for future generations.

Preserving the stories, documents, and artifacts that define who we are as Nebraskans is a cause that touches every community in the state. Give Nebraska makes it simple for individuals and companies alike to support that work in a meaningful way.

We are grateful to be part of this effort and look forward to connecting with new donors and advocates through this wonderful network.



Mark Your Calendars for These Exciting Upcoming Events!

JULY 31 - COTTONWOOD EVENT NOW OPEN TO ALL! – SPECIAL MORNING TOUR OF FORT ATKINSON AND FORT CALHOUN:

You're invited to a special morning tour of Fort Atkinson and Fort Calhoun led by Archaeologist Nolan Johnson. The tour will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will provide participants with a unique opportunity to explore these important historic sites while learning about their archaeological significance and role in Nebraska's early history. Participants should meet at the Ft. Atkinson State Historical Park Visitor Center (201 So. 7th Street, Ft. Calhoun, NE 68023) at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 31. RSVP - LFattig@nshsf.org

AUGUST 8 - BUFFALO BILL RANCH - WanderNebraska/Trail Trek Tour: Join Nebraska historian and author Jeff Barnes for an insightful tour of Buffalo Bill Cody's home property. A Buffalo Bill impersonator will be on hand and Barnes will sign purchased copies of his book. The tour begins at 10:00 a.m. and will be approximately half a mile on

level ground. This event is free and open to the public, but a valid state park vehicle permit is required for park entry.

SEPTEMBER 12 - ENGINEER CANTONMENT - WanderNebraska/Trail Trek Tour:

Nebraska State Archaeologist, Rob Bozell, will share the history of the Engineer Cantonment site as well as archaeological insights. Participants will walk to the site from the county road. This program begins at 9:00 a.m. and will last approximately one hour. Length of walk is approximately one-quarter mile. Engineer Cantonment is located .2 miles south of the intersection of County Road P51 and Bluebird Lane, Omaha. There is limited parking at the site and all others will need to safely park along side the road. Watch for yard signs with more information. RSVP - LFattig@nshsf.org

VISIT THE TRAIL TREK WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE



Upcoming Cottonwood Society Events

Japanese Hall Reception

Friday, July 31 | 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Japanese Hall, Legacy of the Plains Museum Campus, Gering

Join us for an evening celebrating remarkable exhibits that tell the stories of Nebraska's diverse cultures and heritage while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres, wine, and local craft beer.

Featured exhibits include:

- A rare camel hair quilt and driftwood spinning wheel from the Germans from Russia collection
- A 42-star American flag from the 1800s and historic military uniforms
- Quilts created by Japanese American families depicting their immigrant experiences, including World War II
- A unique quilted chair and moving 9/11 memorial quilts on loan from the International Quilt Museum at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln
- Lakota Star Quilts and Quilts of Valor

Please RSVP to LFattig@nshsf.org if you plan to attend.



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