

Heart of America 4-H Report

By Ella Baetz



Payzlee Baetz

Heart of America had a great February meeting with a small group of members who discussed a few upcoming events and activities. We also had two

members complete project talks in preparation of 4H Days! If you are interested in being involved in 4H, reach out to a HOA 4H Member.



Ella Baetz

Payzlee Baetz - presented on her entrepreneurship journey of creating recycled feed bag totes Ella Baetz - presented about her Grand Champion Havana Buck, Smokey

Drug & Alcohol Council

If you haven't realized it, this has not been your typical winter in Kansas. I took a picture of a flower and some green ground cover outside my house on January 15, 2026 still blooming and green just like it looked last summer. I am sure many of you have noticed that the pesky hen-bit weed is growing as well as other weeds and grasses.

So, you are asking, rightfully so, "What does this have to do with drugs or alcohol." Just like this unusual winter, getting high

on drugs or alcohol is not the norm. Getting high is a false feeling as it doesn't last. Then one has to do it again or up the amount to get that high feeling. Doing so can lead to addiction.

The Smith County Drug and Alcohol Council strives to educate the public about the detriments of relying on drugs and alcohol to get through the stresses of life. Last week, Dr. Wiehl wrote a very informative article on dealing with stress without resorting to drugs or al-

cohol.

If someone you know is struggling with either drug addiction or alcohol abuse, get them help. There are many treatment organizations that can work with them. It's not a disgrace to seek help. Addiction to drugs or alcohol is a disease that can be treated. Show them you care by helping them to get treatment. Just like a healthy plant still blooming in January in the middle of winter, dependence on drugs or alcohol is not normal.



Creating a Better Community: Connection, Education, Prevention

Sarah Steward Chapter DAR

Members/Guests present/via ZOOM: (12) Kay Snodgrass, Barbara Beard-lee, Betty Sears, Deb Wag-onblast, Amy Timmons, Marilyn Overmiller, Sherry Weatherholt, Joyce Jones, Kristi Kocher, and Guests Elaine Jones Frank, Lisa James, and Gwenda Devlin.

Regent, Kay Snodgrass and Chaplain, Marilyn Overmiller led the group in the ritual.

Amy Timmons gave a program on the land and communities surrounding the area where the Home on the Range cabin is located. Amy showed maps of the historic area, highlighted her family's location and those of notable families, and gave relevant facts about both the families and the site.

The Chapter welcomes Associate Member Elaine Jones Frank to the Chapter. Once she has paid her dues, her name will be included in the Yearbook.

Memorials: Deb Wagenblast made a Motion to add a memorial page to the State Conference Program Book in honor of Betty Silsby and Ava Lee Maydew. Amy Timmons seconded the Motion, and all members approved.

Kristi Kocher announced that the Sarah Steward Chapter DAR was officially incorporated. Kristi will report on the finances related to the incorporation during the March 2026 Monthly DAR meeting.

Lindsey Robison's New Member application has been confirmed by the National office and will be submitted to the Board of Management for approval at their March 5 meeting. Karen Armstrong will receive member for member credit.

Betty Sears mentioned that the January 2026 Meeting Minutes need revision: Joyce Jones should be an Alternate for the State Conference, and Kristi Kocher

as a delegate for the Continental Congress.

There was another mention of the DAR Medal of Honor nominee. We need a volunteer to prepare the recommendation.

New Business: Deb Wagenblast, Amy Timmons, and Sherry Weatherholt announced that they have the possibility of new members for our chapter.

Betty Sears announced that the American Spirit magazine is moving to an online only platform beginning in July/August 2026.

Chaplain, Marilyn Overmiller, said a prayer. Meeting adjourned Respectfully submitted, Sherry Weatherholt, Corresponding-Secretary

Happy Servers



Eddie Adams and Cody Huffman are all smiles as they serve up pancakes and sausages during the Gaylord Firemen Fundraiser that was held last Saturday evening.

Pam Gibble/SCP



Never should I ever glance out the front window and see an emu standing across the road, but last week... I did. At the first passing glance, I really thought I must've imagined what I had seen. Then my eyes tracked back, and no, there really was an emu standing across the road. After I had processed what I was seeing, I sent my youngest directly across the road to push it back our way as I dashed to the barn for some feed in a bucket to maybe entice it back to its pen, which it had obviously jumped out of. We worked him back toward the pen, but he had no interest at all in going too near it. His mate must've really had it in for him; she's been on the cranky side lately as she's laying her eggs.

My youngest is amazing at gathering any bird, but I felt she wasn't going to be quite enough help getting a very reluctant emu back into his pen. A glance at the time told me the bus would be nearing. When my oldest daughter didn't answer her phone, I phoned the bus driver to warn him I would need the kids to get off and drop their stuff, as there was an emu out. He dropped them at the road so as not to scare the "big bird." With more people, we were able to form more of a moving fence to push him back and eventually get him in his pen.

It's truly never a dull moment around here, and I would completely prefer my husband to be home during these "moments," as well as for no one to actually see my attempt at herding a giant bird in the yard. I guess, as for the bus driver who witnessed it, I hope it brightened his route a little bit.

We'll be adding to our everyday chaos in twenty-one days, as I have finally filled the incubator with chicken eggs. I was set on cleaning the incubator lid before I placed a single egg in it. The lid had become so dusty in between the two pieces that late last season we could hardly watch chicks hatch. It wasn't super high on the priority list, so I just got to it last week, and by then, I had over three dozen hatching eggs saved up already. Most of them are certain breeds, but we did throw in some barnyard mix eggs; those are always fun. I'll have one happy home-schooler mid-March — or maybe distracted is the word, one distracted home-schooler.

Find us on Facebook at : Vintage at Heart Homestead

My youngest and I found this sourdough crepe recipe online as we were perusing sourdough recipes, and anything with eight eggs will catch my eye when the chickens are laying well. They were so fast to whip together, and if you like the tang of sourdough, you'll love these healthy crepes with filling.

- Sourdough Crepes
8 eggs
1 cup sourdough starter
3 tablespoons melted butter
1/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup milk
1 tsp vanilla extract
Whipped Cream Cheese
- Filling Ingredients
4 ounces cream cheese
1/4 cup maple syrup
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 pint whipping cream
- Instructions
Preheat cast iron skillet and melt butter in them.

Good For All



A host of hungry eaters gathered on Saturday, February 21 at the Gaylord Community Center for the yearly Firemen Pancake Fundraiser. Events like these are not only helpful for the beneficiary, but it also helps those who do not get out very often to eat and have a chance to visit with others.

Pam Gibble/SCP

Mix together sourdough starter, eggs, milk, and salt.

Add melted butter and mix until smooth.

Pour crepe batter into hot skillet, about half a cup per skillet, and use spatula to spread out batter into a thin pancake.

Allow to cook until almost completely cooked through, and then flip. This will help them not break.

Allow to cook for 1-2 more minutes and then place on a plate.

To make the filling, mix together room temperature cream cheese with maple syrup and vanilla until smooth.

Whip heavy cream until stiff peaks form, then fold in with the cream cheese mixture.

Shadow Riders

by Deborah Hadley, aka Kansas Belle

Deborah Hadley, aka Kansas Belle and Sheary Pumphrey, aka Shady Lady started the season off with a trip to the National and Florida State Shoot on February 5-8th in St. Augustine, Florida. A new adventure was undertaken with flying to a shoot, generally they travel via ground but the distance and time made it impossible so off on a big plane they went. Although, the flights were without major adventures it was interesting to see the many different cultures that were encountered. On arriving in Florida to a

brisk 43 degree weather, the car was rented and the trip really began.

The first day was spent exploring the Oldest City in the country, St. Augustine, checking out the ocean front, and registering for the 4 day shooting event. So after checking out local eating establishments and renewing old friendships the real reason for the travel was to start.

Thursday saw the temperatures remain in the 40's with a brisk wind and overcast skies but the category shoot was underway. Shady Lady finished in 1st

place with Kansas Belle coming in a close 2nd in the Super Senior ladies category (this is for ladies 65-69). That evening a social time was held at a local diner for all the shoots to get caught up on the events of the time since the last shoot in September.

Friday held the Florida state contest and had 37 women, 99 men, 2 Annie Oakley's (kids 8-18) and 4 Billy The Girls (boys 8-18). Although, the temperatures remained in the 40's the shooting was anything but cold. When the dust had

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