



# The Robinson Voice

December 2022  
Issue 307

[www.RobinsonKansas.org](http://www.RobinsonKansas.org)

**Santa Visited Downtown Robinson**—Thank you to volunteers Kaitlyn Burnett, Brenda Lewis, Melanie & Dennis Mears, Reta & Dave Taylor, and Dennis Tietjens for organizing another successful holiday party! Children were able to celebrate the season, see Santa, enjoy a variety of homemade treats, win prizes, and enjoy festive goody bags.



**January 1st First Sunday Dinner**—Community dinners are held the first Sunday of each month at the Robinson City Hall Community Center. Free-will donations support community projects. Serving from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Menu**  
Chili Soup  
Broccoli Cheese Soup  
Relishes  
Homemade Cinnamon Rolls  
Desserts  
Tea, Coffee, & Water

*Invite a friend and enjoy some fellowship!*



**Zion United Methodist Church**—Regular Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m., followed by worship service at 10:45 a.m.

**Upper Wolf Lutheran Church**—1803 Sumac Road, 4½ miles southeast of Robinson  
For church information, the contact person is Denise at (785) 741-3142  
Regular Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.  
Holy Communion—1st Sunday of each month & Festival Sundays  
Donut Sunday—2nd Sunday of each month  
Healing Service—2nd Sunday of each month  
Bible Study—9:30 a.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month—call Denise for more information.  
Quilt Tying—9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday of each month. Quilts are donated to NEK Hospice patients, Homeless Veterans in KC area, and foster children in Brown and Doniphan county areas. All volunteers welcome to come help For confirmation of the schedule, you may call Denise at (785) 741-3142

**Bellevue United Methodist Church**—1499 Ash Point Rd, Leona, KS  
All are welcome! For church information, contact Pastor Darlene Sheffer at (785) 445-8611 or [dsheffer@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:dsheffer@greatplainsumc.org)  
*Sundays:* Worship—9:00 a.m., Bible School—10:00 a.m.

- **Reminders**
- **January** —Robinson City Council meets at 7:00 p.m.
- **January 7**—RCBA board meets at 9:00 a.m. at the store.
- **January 16**—Robinson History Association meets at the old Bank building at 7:00 p.m.

**Thank You from the Robinson Lions Club**—The Robinson Lions Club put on our inaugural Christmas Play December 2nd & 3rd with the intention of giving proceeds as monetary Christmas gifts to organizations in Brown County to help with their individual needs. The turnout to the play was exceptional, and we were able to give \$240 to six different recipients! Recipient organizations include the Brown County Genealogical Society, Robinson Community Store, Horton Elementary School, Everest Middle School, Hiawatha Elementary School, and Hiawatha Middle School.

Thank you to those that donated, John Andres and Northeast Kansas Drainage Supply, and thank you to the many people who came to watch our play. Without you, this wouldn't have been possible.



*Merry Christmas from Robinson Lions Club!*



**History Uncovered**—On October 1st, 2022, Upper Wolf Farm, owned by Wendell and Marsha Ganstrom, was visited by over 50 persons representing the Oregon/California Trails Association and representatives of five area county historical societies and the Daughters of the American Revolution. This group examined the old wagon swale going through the farm's timber. Relics found in and alongside the swale and in nearby streams are currently being cataloged as evidence of significant early day emigrant use. Much historical research is in progress to document local accounts and state histories which claim that the old Oregon/California trail had a branch that followed the ridge south of Wolf River. "Old Robinson" was established on the hill between Wolf River and Buttermilk Creek in 1857, incorporated in 1858. The old Robinson town plat map shows that the main east/west street (now 205th St.) was named California Avenue – the only street in the old town that was named after a state.

The main route of the Oregon/California trail called the St. Joe Road is clearly documented and is marked just north of old 36 on Raccoon Rd. at the northwest corner of the Unanda Cemetery which was close to Prairie Spring, a popular overnight stopping place on the trail. There are many branches or feeder trails in northeast Kansas, and the legends about one on the ridge south of Robinson could very well refer to a route that left from Doniphan or Atchison in the early days and perhaps joined the main trail near Hiawatha.

When the railroad came through north of Wolf River in 1871, most of the town moved to the new town that formed there. Much of the history of Robinson can be learned from "The History of Robinson" by Myrta Martindale and from "Robinson, Kansas: The Birth and Growth of a Country Town" by Emery Austin, Jr. Both of these histories can be checked out by residents at the Robinson Community Store. Several other newer histories about different aspects of Robinson by Duane Kriensieck, Edwin Thornton, and others can also be checked out through the Robinson History Association which meets in the Bank of Robinson on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Visitors and interested persons are always welcome.

Wendell Ganstrom has prepared a PowerPoint presentation which lists and illustrates all the evidence about the trail so far. This presentation will soon be available to watch on computer in the bank building for anyone interested in learning more about this local legend.

***Thank You, Robinson Lions Club From Robinson Community Store!***



**Milestones:**

*Recent Highland Community College graduate Claire Geiger plans to continue her education at Kansas State.*



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