

## Exploring historical Abilene

Twenty-one SIA members met in Abilene September 30-October 2, 2022, to explore a historical town. Members from Colorado, Nebraska and Oklahoma joined the Kansas group.

Seeley Mansion was the first stop. Dr. and A.B. Seelye built this home in 1905 at a cost of \$55,000. Daughters Helen and Marion never married. In 1982 Terry Tietjens and his twin brother Jerry purchased the home from the sisters. They agreed to let them live there until their deaths and restore it.

Dinner and annual meeting were held at "Legacy Kansas", formerly known as Brookville Hotel Chicken restaurant. The family style meal was delicious. After the meal President Wilma South called the annual meeting to order. Secretary and treasurer reports were given. If anyone has ideas for future outings please call Wilma or Jill McCollum with your suggestions. At the meeting conclusion we sang "Happy Birthday" to Larry Voth who had a birthday September 25.

Several members went to Joe Snuffy's for breakfast Saturday morning. No one went away hungry. Rest of the group met us at the Greyhound Hall of Fame. This museum is devoted to greyhound breeding, racing and the history of the sport. We were greeted by resident greyhounds Ginger and Buddy.

The Dickinson County Museum was having Heritage Days. This festival featured a living history with historic agricultural demonstrations, steam engine carousel rides, an antique tractor show, a classic car show and much more.

Members went back to the motel to rest and got ready for a fun evening. We went to the Abilene and Smoky Valley railroad depot. We board a 1904 dining car to enjoy another delicious meal catered by Legacy Kansas. The cars were pulled by a 1919 Baldwin steam engine. We journeyed to the little community of Enterprise. While the steam engine was moving from the front to the back passengers got off to tour the Hoffman Grist Mill. Mr. Hoffman started the mill in 1869 and gave the town its name. The mill reopened in 2016 and sells many types of flour.

Sunday breakfast was at the Hitching Post. People could eat off the buffet or order from a menu. We said our good-byes and wished each other safe travel.

The event, hosted by Janice Rose and Jill McCullom-Dilli, was an interesting event and enjoyed by all.

