



**NEXT MEETING:**

**Hominy Library  
April 5, 2016  
1:30 PM**

# HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

ISSUE 4, MARCH 2016

## HERITAGE MEMBER JOE HAINES PASSES



Earlier this month the Heritage was saddened to learn that one of our long time members and Hominy alumni, Joe Haines, had passed away. Mr. Haines tirelessly served our community in many different capacities over the years. His contributions to make our town a better place coupled with his wealth of knowledge, truly made him a local treasure. His loss was felt by the whole community and his passing leaves a void in our Heritage group that no one else can fill. The Heritage offers condolences to Joe's family during this difficult time.

## PHOTO FUND RAISER

Heritage members have been hard at work selecting old photographs that are being made into a slide show, and will be sold as a fund raiser later this year. Most of the photographs are historic buildings and other well known places that have been part of Hominy's past. More updates in our next issue!

## VANDALISM AT DEPOT!

Vandals broke into multiple buildings earlier this year, destroying property including doing some damage at the MKT Depot, located at the intersection of Main and Katy Streets. While the Hominy Police Department investigated the scenes, names of those involved have not been released to local news media. The depot and the accompanying red caboose have become a local landmark. Even though the last freight

train went through Hominy in 1977, the building was later remodeled, and the north section is still utilized by the Heritage Association as a display for railroading memorabilia. More depot history in our next issue!



Above: A door which was salvaged from the old bank in Hominy before it was demolished, was broken by vandals.

## DONATED PHOTOS RE- DISCOVERED, SHARED

While working to catalog our collection, the Heritage found some photographs that were donated a couple of years ago by the Hominy News-Progress newspaper.

The vast majority of these photos were people that had been in the News-Progress at some point. More than 350 photos were scanned and shared on social media, much to the delight of users, who over the course of three days, liked and commented on them nearly 5,000 times! Even more, social media statistics show that the album was seen by more than 27,000 people during that time!

We will be sharing more photographs as we make our way through our collection, so stay tuned to [www.facebook.com/hominyheritage](http://www.facebook.com/hominyheritage) for more in the coming weeks!

## I REMEMBER HOMINY WHEN

*By Sybil Hayes Copeland*

The sound and sight of the school bus driving past my house recently started me thinking about my school days in Hominy. In 1942, my triplet sisters, Sharlene and Shirley, and I started school at Horace Mann elementary. Back in those days, Hominy boasted two elementary schools, Mullins and Horace Mann. We lived three blocks from Horace Mann so our mother and sister, Eva, accompanied us to school for the first few weeks.

We attended Horace Mann School from first grade (1942) through fifth grade (1946). Superintendent was J.R. Staib and Miss Nevada Cowan was Principal at Horace Mann. Our first grade teacher was Miss Bernice Singree. Second grade teacher was Mrs. Irene Gardner. Mrs. Kathleen Peck taught us in the third grade. Our fourth grade teacher was Mrs. McWilliams and we finished grade school with Mrs. Stella Adams as our fifth grade teacher. My sisters and I are the only set of identical triplets who have attended and graduated from Hominy schools.

Horace Mann School was a three story structure but it has been torn down and a new school has taken its place. Setting on the grounds is the little sandstone school house built in 1904. It was the first school house in Hominy and has been preserved by the Oklahoma Historical Society. My sisters and I attended Brownie meetings and music classes in this building. Even back then, we could feel the oldness of the school but it was very sturdy considering its age. The Superintendent of

Hominy schools, Russell Hull and his staff, currently occupy this landmark building.

When I drive by the little sandstone school house and play grounds, I am reminded that on these hallowed grounds once stood a learning institution, Horace Mann School, where my sisters and I received our elementary education. I know the people of Hominy share lots of happy memories as I do about our beloved Horace Mann School as we remember Hominy when...

*Sybil resides in Bartlesville, Ok. She writes for the Word-Weavers Writers club and has authored several of her stories in their two anthology books: Seasons Remembered and Seasons of Life. She is currently working on the 2016 Word-Weavers anthology book: Seasons of Life Celebrations and her family memoirs.*



The Horace Mann School

The above contribution comes to us courtesy of Hominy native Sybil Hayes Copeland and is featured as this issue's "YOUR VOICE, OUR HISTORY" selection.

If you have a story or memory to share about Hominy, we would love to feature it in our newsletter. E-mail it to us at [hominyheritage@gmail.com](mailto:hominyheritage@gmail.com) and we may share it with our subscribers and add it to our ever-growing Heritage archive!