

Katy Days Heritage Crafters 2017

What distinguishes our heritage crafters? We look people who practice traditional crafts or skills - and then ask them to explain what they do and demonstrate how they do it.

So feel free to pull up a hay bale and ask away! Many will have items for sale as well.

Look for them under the two tents on the north side of the park.

Basket Weaving

Wanda Seward

Windsor, Missouri

This is Wanda's first year, after many years of sending her invitations, so we're very happy she is able to be at Katy Days. Wanda will be demonstrating the traditional craft of basketweaving. She will have completed projects for people to look at as well, but will not be selling anything.

Spinning

Vonda Sager

Butler, Missouri

Vonda will demonstrate making yarn on a spinning wheel using locally grown Shetland wool. It's much harder than it looks!

Hot Glass Marble Making

ChaGlaz - Keith Wilson, ably assisted by his granddaughter,

Parsons, KS

Marbles are one of the world's oldest toys. Using modern equipment, Keith and his granddaughter will make glass marbles. They will explain the total process and make 10-12 marbles throughout the day. They will also demonstrate a few other forms of hot glass work and will have items for sale.

Painting

Debbie Grisby Lynch

Prescott, KS

When painting, Debbie uses acrylic and oil on many types of surfaces such as traditional canvases, but she also likes to paint on more unusual and non-traditional surfaces such as saw blades. She likes to think of every surface as a canvas on which to paint. This is her first year at Katy Days.

Hand-Crafted Pottery

The Pot Pantry - Bobbi Kemna

Fort Scott, KS

Bobbi loves working with clay and prefers the uniqueness of "hand built" pieces to working on a wheel, although she does that too. Clay has been used for millenia by humans for useful pots.

Bobbi's are useful and decorative. She will have clay available for those who are interested to work with and will also have finished pieces for sale.

Hand Carved & Tooled Leather

Original Creations - Michael McCall

Sarcoxie, MO

This is Michael's fifth year at Katy Days. He will have a display of basic tools used in carving and tooling leather and also a couple of small displays of the actual stages in the process. He will also show different types of lacing techniques. Throughout the day he will be lacing an actual product and will have leather items available for sale.

Tinsmithing & Coppersmithing

Robert Stone

Pea Ridge, AR

Mr. Stone will be demonstrating making tin and copperware using old-time machinery and tools by hand. He will start with flat sheets of tinfoil or copper and turn them into cups, funnels, cookie cutters, candle holders and more. This is his first year at Katy Days after many years of inviting, and we are thrilled to have him.

Quilting

Tony Munoz and Quilters Guild of Parsons

Parsons, KS

Whet your quilting appetite with a view of what Tony and other Quilters Guild members will be demonstrating - and then head over to the Arvon Phillips Recreation Center for the Quilt Show ("Past Memories" is the theme for 2017) that will fill up the gymnasium with colorful quilts and more. Under the tent, quilters will display the opportunity quilt they created as a fundraiser for 2017: "Duffy's Irish Chain". They will also be demonstrating how a quilt is hand tied.

Knitting

Jessica Moss

J Baby's Pretties

Parsons, KS

Knitting's origins lie in the basic human need for clothing for protection against the elements. Nowadays it is more of a hobby than it is a necessary skill - but Jessica Moss is a talented knitter.. Watch her work and enjoy her creativity in the dish cloths, baby bibs, dish towels and tissue holders she has on display and for sale.

Wood Carving

Steve Fienen

Parsons, KS

Steve enjoys the age-old skill of wood carving. His display will include a variety of his carvings which include animal figures, plaques, stylized designs, etc. This is his first year as a heritage crafter.

Train Set Painting and More

John Hare

Gladstone, MO

John grew up in Parsons, but now plies his trade in the Kansas City area. He does wonderful paintings of many different subjects, but usually specializes in trains for the Katy Days weekend. Many of his train paintings can be “joined together” and mixed and matched. He will have items for sale and will also be demonstrating his process for painting. <http://www.johnhareart.com/>

Treadle Sewing Machine

Christy Palmer

Fredonia, KS

Christy will be demonstrating how to use a treadle sewing machine. She will also have for display and sale, items she has sewn on her machine, such as dolls, toys, doll clothes, placemats, and coasters..

Cigar Box Guitars

Paul Martin

Parsons, KS

Paul got interested making cigarbox guitars, ukuleles, banjos and mandolins about three years ago after seeing them played at a blue concert in Missouri. He has made over 50 so far and each one is unique with its own sound and life.

Trace evidence of cigar box instruments exist from 1840 to the 1860s. The earliest illustrated proof of a cigar box instrument known is an etching of two Civil War Soldiers at a campsite with one playing a cigar box fiddle in 1876. The etching was created by illustrator and artist Edwin Forbes who, under the banner of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, worked for the Union Army. The etching was included in Forbes work Life Stories of the Great Army. In the etching, the cigar box fiddle clearly shows the brand 'Figaro' on the cigar box.

The cigar box guitars and fiddles were also important in the rise of jug bands and blues. As most of these performers were black Americans living in poverty, many could not afford a “real” instrument. Using these, along with the washtub bass (similar to the cigar box guitar), jugs, washboards, and harmonica, black musicians performed blues during socializations. The Great Depression of the 1930s saw a resurgence of homemade musical instruments. Times were hard in the American south and for entertainment sitting on the front porch singing away their blues was a popular pastime. Musical instruments were beyond the means of everybody, but an old cigar box, a piece of broom handle and a couple wires from the screen door and a guitar were

born. Paul will have his handmade instruments to show and sell. He will also demonstrate their sound.

Shaving Horse

John Olson

Parsons, KS

John has been interested in and collecting woodworking tools for many years. He has also been a member of the Heritage Crafter committee for many years.

This year he will be demonstrating a shaving horse. The shaving horse is a foot-operated clamping device. It is a relative of the saw horse. The wood being worked is held between a stationary table and the movable clamp head. It is primarily used to hold wood while shaping it with the draw knife or a spoke shave. The shaving horse that will be demonstrated is made from the framework of an early Katy wooden boxcar.

Natural Wool Dyeing over wood fire

Leslie Carroll-Bartlett and Gerald Bartlett

Nevada, MO

Leslie and Jerry do natural dyeing of yarn in the traditional way; in a pot over a wood-burning fire.. This year they will demonstrate dyeing fabric, cotton and silk in an ancient Japanese technique creating beautiful designs on the fabric. They will also show Merino and Shetland wool yarn dyed for reds and blues.

Woodcarving

Ernie Loganbill

Independence, KS

Ernie's display will consist of Welsh love spoons, walking sticks and some wooden chains. Ernie loves to do woodcarving but what he really loves is visiting with people. He's been part of Katy Days for 4 or 5 years now!

Scherenschnitte

Debi Lorenz

Parsons, KS

Scherenschnitte, which means "scissor cuts" in German, is the art of paper cutting design. The artwork often has rotational symmetry within the design, and common forms include silhouettes, valentines and love letters. The art tradition was founded in Switzerland and Germany in the 16th century and was brought to Colonial America in the 18th century by Dutch immigrants who settled primarily in Pennsylvania. Debbie has been practicing this for many years and has the "right" kind of brain to see ahead and make the intricate cuts involved.

In the PRC Gym, north end of the Quilt Show

Railroad-Related Paintings

Rick Snavelly

A railroader by career, a painter by vocation. Rick paints a number of topics, several of which have to do with the railroad.

In the Children's Small Tent:

Rope Making

Roy Parsons

McCune, KS

Roy should win the award for the hardest working man at Katy Days. He has a hand-cranked rope-making machine and spends all day Saturday helping children make a souvenir length of rope. He is found at Kid's Crossing in the small tent.

Using a Telegraph Machine

Marvin McKinney

Parsons, KS

Telegraph machines were the cell phones of the 1800's, and the way the railroad communicated. Sit down for a while and experience the world of dots and dashes - also described as dits and dahs of Morse Code.

Throwing Pots on a Wheel

Benjamin & Caleb Newton

Parsons, KS

Twins Benjamin and Caleb have enjoyed creating clay artwork from an early age and discovered the potter's wheel at age seventeen. They love encouraging creativity and want to do so at Katy days. They will have two potter's wheels available for children to try and will be alongside to show them the ropes. Come give it a try!

Old Time Office

Rotary dial phone? Manual typewriters? Adding machines? Whaaat?? Come visit the "Old-Time Office" in the children's tent. Experience how people communicated before computers and cell phones.