

Who We Are

AAKC, a non-profit affiliate of the Kansas League of Municipalities, provides continuing education opportunities to office professionals and assistants who work for City Managers/Administrators and Department Heads in municipalities throughout Kansas. Formed in 1992, AAKC has members throughout the state and offers semi-annual conferences and workshops that feature dynamic speakers, work-related and timely topics, and ample opportunity for networking and information exchange.



City of Dodge City
P. O. Box 880
Dodge City, KS 67801



AAKC SPRING CONFERENCE April 6-8, 2011



Downtown Dodge City

Registration Form April 6-8, 2011

Name _____

Title _____

_____ Member _____ Member City Guest

City _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Guest Name _____

Registration Fee \$125

Registration includes all conference materials, meals and entertainment. This does not include the Early Bird Dinner or Hotel accommodations.

Mail check and Conference Registration
by March 25, 2011 to:

Susan Rowan, AAKC Treasurer

City of Newton

P.O. Box 1567

Newton, KS 67114

Phone: 316-284-6001

Email: srowan@newtonkansas.com

Conference Agenda

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

- 5:45 p.m. Depart from Hotel for Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. Early Bird Dinner – Fireside Grill at Boot-hill Casino (4000 W. Comanche)

Thursday, April 7, 2011

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast in Hotel Mtg. Room
- 8:30 a.m. Depart from Hotel to United Wireless Arena(4100 W. Comanche St.)
- Welcome- City Manager, Ken Strobel
- Tour United Wireless Arena & Magouirk Convention Center
- “Why Not Dodge” Presented by Jeff Hiers
- 12:00- 1:00 Lunch Break
- Community Development & Your Role, Presented by Jeff Hiers
- Social Media Training, Presented by Tanner Lucas
- 5:45 p.m.-Depart from Hotel to Dinner & Show at Santa Fe Depot Theatre (presentation of this production is a final rehearsal viewing of Tom, Dick & Harry, by Ray Cooney and Michael Cooney)

Friday, April 8, 2011

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast in Hotel Mtg. Room
- 8:30 a.m. 2011 Legislative Review, Presented by League of Kansas Municipalities
- AAKC Business Meeting followed by gift exchange



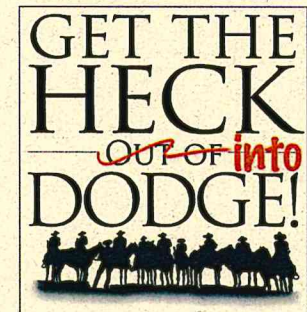
United Wireless Arena

Hotel Accommodations

Best Western Country Inn & Suites
506 N. 14th Ave. (corner of 14th Ave. & Wyatt Earp Blvd.)
(620) 225-7378
www.bestwestern.com

A block of 30 rooms is being held. Mention AAKC Conference when making reservations for the rate of \$89.99 per night. Rooms will be held until March 25, 2011. After that date, accommodations will be subject to availability of rooms.

For those that may be interested, hotel does have an indoor pool & hot tub.



ADDITIONAL INFO.

- Dress is casual.
- Bring City Pins
- Bring gift for exchange on Friday (optional)

HOST CELL NUMBERS

Leslie Lomas 620-338-7620
Jennifer Gutierrez 620-408-6374
Jane Graf 620-255-6651

ACCOMMODATIONS

Garnett Inn Suites

109 Prairie Plaza Parkway (U.S. 169)

Garnett, KS 66032

877-448-4200

Block of rooms under AAKC;
cutoff is August 26.

Double Queen, Double Occupancy: \$71.00

Single Queen/King, Single Occupancy: \$61.00

Amenities include continental breakfast, lounge, free wireless internet, exercise room, laundry. Inside doors only.

www.garnettinnandrypark.com



Economy Inn

604 N. Maple St (U.S. 59)

Garnett, KS 66032

785-448-6816

First come, first serve basis.

Double Queen, Double Occupancy: \$55.00

Single Queen, Single Occupancy: \$45.00

Wireless internet. Outside doors only.

www.economyinngarnettks.com



The Kirk House

145 W. Fourth Ave.

Garnett, KS 66032

785-448-6500

The largest and most beautiful home in Garnett (NRHP, 1913).

5 rooms available - \$78 ea.

Mamma Kirk's Suite - \$89

www.thekirkhouse.net



Susan Rowan
City of Newton
PO Box 426
Newton KS 67114



AAKC Fall Conference

September 8-9,
2011



Welcome!

2011

AAKC Fall Conference Agenda

Garnett

Thursday, September 8

Meeting and activities at Garnett Public Library, Archer Room, 129 W. 4th Avenue.



3:00 p.m. Welcome by the Mayor. Mayor Mike Norman greets you.

3:15 p.m. 10 Transformational ideas that will make a difference in rural Kansas. Marci Penner, E.D.- Kansas Sampler Foundation, will inspire you and make you very proud of your Kansas city!



4:30 p.m. Motel check-in.

5:00 p.m. *Chef at the Market*, Garnett Farmer's Market, 4th & Main St.



Watch a chef from a local restaurant take items you can buy at the Garnett Farmer's Market and whip it into a wonderful meal! Browse the market for freshly baked breads, organic items, locally harvested honey, blueberries, craft items and more.



6:30 p.m. Dinner at The Coffee Loft, 130 E. 5th Avenue (on your own). Garnett's newest eatery and entertainment venue. www.coffeeloftgarnett.com

Special Event: PowerUp with Marci Penner!

Friday, September 9

Meeting and activities at Garnett Public Library, Archer Room, 129 W. 4th Avenue.

8:15 a.m. Breakfast in Archer Room and docent tour of The Kirk House and Walker Art Gallery (next door).

9:00 a.m. Welcome by City Manager Joyce Martin.

9:15 a.m. Business Meeting

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Legislative Update by Kansas Representative Bill Feuerborn.

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. KPERS - What You Should Know Before Retirement.

12:00 p.m. Lunch and continue business meeting, if necessary.

Adjournment

Dress is business casual.



Registration

(Due by September 1)

I will attend:

_____ \$50 Thursday evening + Friday

_____ \$40 Friday only

Name

Title

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

E-mail

Spouse/Guest Name

Mail Check and Conference Registration by September 1, 2011 to:

Susan Rowan, Treasurer

City of Newton

PO Box 426

Newton KS 67114

Phone: 316-284-6001

Fax: 316-284-6090

E-mail: srowan@newtonkansas.com



Where Did The Year Go?!



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It was spring and we were looking forward to a fun, informative gathering in Dodge City...quickly came the long hot Kansas summer to swallow up our time and drain our energies....then boom! fall happened and we gathered again in the lovely town of Garnett, asking "where did the year go and how can time fly so quickly?"

So many people worked so hard this year to nurture this wonderful organization! Don't we all find it impressive and encouraging to associate with and work beside such talented, intelligent, hard-working, accomplished, professional women?! How do you all keep doing it? The dedicated members of AAKC continue to promote the organization, expand the membership, educate and encourage each other, and serve their communities throughout the year, all while nurturing and caring for their families and friends! Wow! It's exhausting just to consider!

So....sincere apologies to anyone whose name we may miss as we attempt to briefly recapture the two great conferences held in Dodge City and in Garnett this year. Our memories for detail may fail us, but not our memories of the lovely ladies, impressive towns, and warm camaraderie of AAKC!

Are you an Administrative Assistant
working for City Government in Kansas?

Won't you consider joining AAKC?

See page 4 for contact info.



Spring Conference in Dodge City

What a great town!! I've always wanted to see the "famous" Dodge City, and was not disappointed! The new convention center was very impressive, with so many entertainment opportunities offered and such thorough forethought put into the design to meet the present and future needs of the community. Wouldn't each of our Kansas towns love to have such a wonderful facility?!



laughter and tears?....

The local casino was a definite lure for many of us, some to our joy and some to our sorrow. 🍷 Our early bird dinner and evening entertainment provided new opportunities for many of us to utilize our rusty "math" skills. 🧮 I'm sure we all agree that it, too, is a very nice new facility, and guaranteed to bring increasing business and revenue to the great city of Dodge City.

Our next evening's entertainment was equally enjoyable—a lovely dinner and comedy show at the Santa Fe Depot Theatre. This new entertainment venue is destined to become a favorite of the community!

and we're listening, and we're learning....

How could one conference have so many great speakers?! The welcome from City Manager Ken Strobel was warm and thoughtful, preparing us for a day of interesting topics of discussion presented by riveting and entertaining speakers.

Mr. Jeff Hiers gave a lively, informative discourse on "Community Development & Your Role." His passion for civic involvement definitely comes across to his audience, what a fascinating speaker!

Following a brief break, Tanner Lucas of Garden City spoke about the use of Facebook, Web sites, and Twitter by governmental entities, particularly how his city has used social media to create and maintain a vital and vigorous discourse with its citizens. His humorous and interactive presentation style was an enjoyable learning experience. Many of us probably returned home to consider our cities' social media uses in a new light.

Finally, but certainly no less engaging, was the information Marisela Aragonz of Garden City provided about their Efficiency Kansas energy program. Her knowledge and thorough explanation of the program was a fine and suitable conclusion to our interesting and enlightening day.

...then down to business

On the following day, our organization got down to the business at hand. Committee chairs presented and distributed their reports to the members; new committee chairs were announced and introduced as were new members, and membership and birthday lists were handed out.

Upcoming conference locations and dates were discussed and Susan Wettstein of Garnett offered to host the Fall Conference.

Another successful, fun, and informative conference concluded with heartfelt appreciation gifts presented to our hard-working hosts.

CONGRATULATIONS and **MANY MANY THANKS**
to Jennifer Gutierrez, Jane Graf, Barb Slagle,
and Leslie Lomas on providing such a **GREAT** conference!



WHY NOT DODGE





What a fine conference we had in a really lovely town! Garnett provides all of the charm and warmth that we have come o expect in our favorite small Kansas cities.

early learning for early birds....

The conference began Thursday afternoon with a warm welcome by the Mayor of Garnett, Mike Norman, followed by Marci Penner, Executive Director of the Kansas Sampler Foundation. Her information and enthusiasm encouraged everyone to find ways to help their communities through volunteering and connecting to local and area service organizations.



GARNETT, KS

Following a great dinner (and coffee, of course) at the Coffee Loft, Marci again spoke for about an hour to our group and many local business owners about helping the rural towns in Kansas.

Friday, engage the brains!

Friday began with a great breakfast served in our meeting room in the Garnett Public Library; followed by a tour of the historical Kirk House next door. Several of our members look forward to another opportunity to stay in one of the most beautiful bed & breakfast inns we've ever seen!

We were once again welcomed to Garnett, this time by City Manager Joyce Martin. Ms. Martin talked about fund raising efforts within the community for various projects and needs, and also talked about the many community activities and events through out the year. She was especially proud of the newly forming partnership between high school government classes and the city government.

We then were treated to a very interesting bus tour of the City of Garnett. Many of us commented on Susan's phenomenal memory as she related

...then down to business

As usual, our business meeting was fun and informative, with old and new business brought forward in a professional and thorough manner.

Those committee chairs who were present dispersed their reports to the members, new memberships were announced and introduced, and membership and birthday lists were handed out.

Elections retained Susan Rowan as Treasurer, and selected Celyn Hurtado as our new Vice President. Congratulations ladies for your willingness to serve!

We discussed and agreed upon expanding our web presence with both a larger website capacity and a more active Facebook page.

...more food, for bodies & brains

Following a delicious (and filling) lunch, Allan Schuller with KPERS explained our KPERS program in surprisingly understandable terms! Mr. Schuller was most informative and engaging, and we all came away with considerable knowledge about our retirement futures. Thank you Susan for such a great choice of topic and speaker to round out another great conference!

*Thank you so much Susan for all of your hard work
to host such a warm and interesting conference.
We truly enjoyed visiting your lovely town!!*





An Invitation:

If this is your first time viewing our newsletter, we hope you find AAKC an interesting organization. We invite you to email our President, De Nelson, at dnelson@wichita.gov, if you have questions or are interested in joining AAKC.

For our AAKC Members:

If you have a talent, idea or suggestion, please email De Nelson and let her know your thoughts.

Take a look at the AAKC Committee lists below. If you are not on a committee, please consider joining one or more. Just contact the Chair of the committee you'd like to join. They'd be happy to have you!

AAKC Executive Board

De Nelson
President
 City of Wichita
dnelson@wichita.gov

Celyn Hurtado
Vice President
 City of Garden City
churtado@garden-city.org

Janet Hackney
Secretary
 City of Gardner
jhackney@gardnerkansas.gov

Susan Rowan
Treasurer
 City of Newton
srowan@newtonkansas.com



Did you know?

The AAKC was formed from a desire to promote and improve proficiency of its members and public administration in Kansas and to provide a network of information, ideas and support to its members.



AAKC COMMITTEES

Professional Development

Chair—Denise Duerksen, Newton
 Advisor—De Nelson, Wichita
 Linda Jones, Osage City
 Jennifer Wright, Prairie Village
 Lois Landwehr, Derby
 Charlotte Newkirk, Ottawa
 Marsha Toler, Shawnee

Membership

Chair—Terice Watts, Arkansas City
 Advisor—Celyn Hurtado, Garden City
 Carol Mitchell, Hutchinson
 Darlene Provance, Abilene
 Sherry Conyers, McPherson
 Sharon Brongiel, Shawnee
 Lesley Shook, Arkansas City
 Marisela Aragonéz, Garden City
 Janet Parker, Unified Govt. of Wyandotte Cty.

Publications/Media

Chair—Cindy Weeks, Gardner
 Advisor—Susan Rowan, Newton
 Terri Dexter, Lenexa
 De Nelson, Wichita
 Janet Hackney, Gardner
 Janise Enterkin, Sedgwick
 Paige Achilles, McPherson
 Charlotte Newkirk, Ottawa
 Amy Hawkins, Gardner
 Megan Cates, Great Bend



Member Relations/Public Affairs

Chair—Jennie Hiatt, Abilene
 Vice-Chair—Sarah Somerhalder, Emporia
 Advisor—Janet Hackney, Gardner
 Susan Wettstein, Garnett
 Pat King, Winfield
 Andrea Windholz, Hays
 Wilma Lister, Winfield
 Jennifer Gutierrez, Dodge City
 Susie Denham, Olathe
 Jane Graf, Dodge City
 Mary Ann Monzani, El Dorado

LKM Booth Task Force

Chair—Amanda Iverson, Arkansas City



SPRING



Photos and Layout by:
Amy Hawkins, City of Gardner

AAKC Spring & Fall Conferences

A BUSY DAY IN GARNETT



Written and Edited by: Cindy Weeks,
City of Gardner; with special thanks
to Sharon Brongiel, City of Shawnee