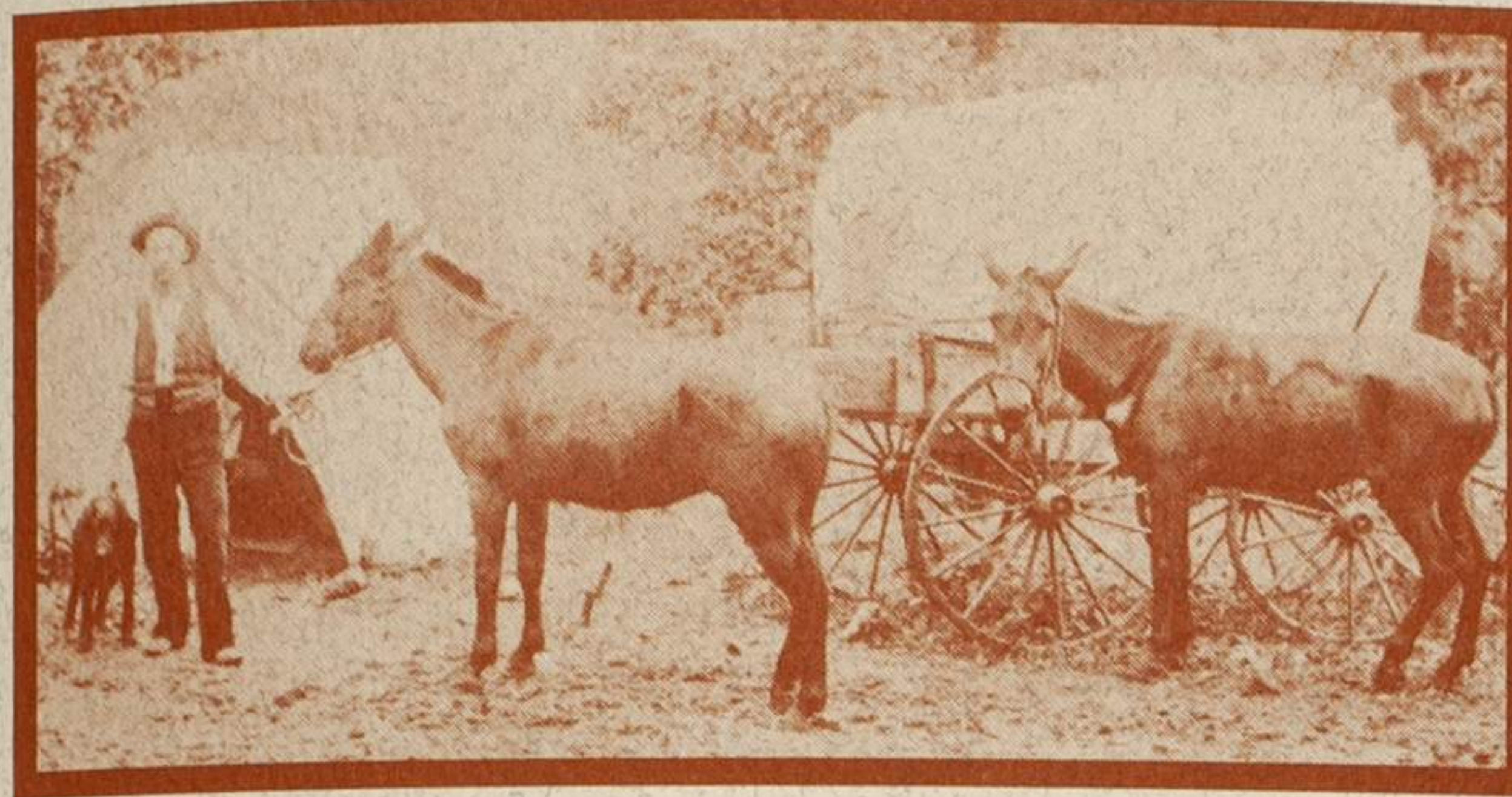


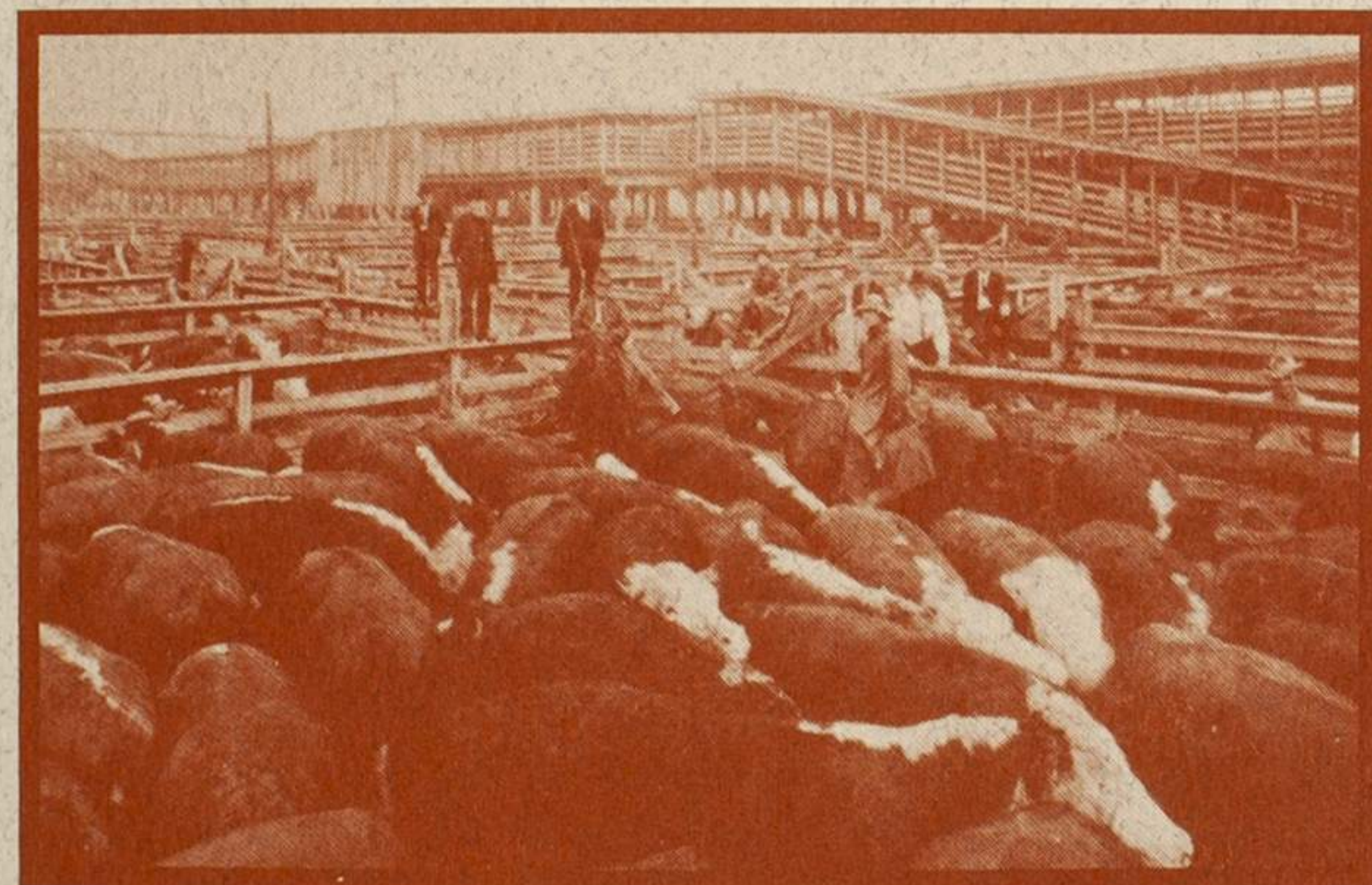
Exhibits at the Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum cover 350 million years of development. Fossil remains and shells are examples of the area's first geologic ages of swamp land and inland sea. Representing the later mastodons, ground sloths and other giant mammals who once occupied the woods and plains of the middle west, are teeth and bone artifacts. Pottery and stone tools attest to the nature of some of our earliest human residents, spanning a period from the Stone Age to the later Woodland and Hopewell cultures.



The native Kanza Indian culture is documented in maps and pictures as are the travels and settlements of the emigrant Shawnee, Delaware and Wyandotte tribes. These people made their homes in Wyandotte County for over two decades, leaving a legacy of pride and accomplishment. When they were forced to move to Oklahoma in 1857, the westward expansion movement brought hundreds of pioneer settlers onto the former Indian lands. Heirlooms, tools and clothing tell the story of the pioneers as they moved their households by way of covered wagon across the country, hoping to establish new beginnings in Kansas Territory.



By the time Wyandotte County was organized in 1859, it had already grown from a primarily agricultural area to a busy river port location. The 1850s were turbulent years for residents of Wyandott and Quindaro, two Missouri River port towns that operated under constant threat of border raids. Civil War and post-Civil War industrial expansion brought the railroads, the meat packing plants and the stockyards.



Other industries developed through the years bringing factories, soap manufacturers, grain elevators, foundries, smelters, oil refineries and steel industries. These in turn created an extensive job market, resulting in a massive wave of immigration from the 1880's to the 1920's. Foreign laborers came from Sweden, Russia, Poland, Germany, Belgium, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Greece, England, Scotland, Ireland and Mexico.

Although Wyandotte County's ethnic and economic base has changed throughout the twentieth century, descendants of our early Indian, Exoduster and immigrant residents remain, as do landmark reminders of our past. Photographs and artifacts relating to Wyandotte County's industrial heritage and multi-cultural background may be found throughout the exhibit gallery and in the archives.



The Harry M. Trowbridge Research Library offers scholars and historians a wealth of information about Wyandotte County and its environs. Newspapers, county records and personal papers comprise part of our collections as do books, maps and photographs. Holdings also include extensive genealogical materials for those interested in family history. A fully trained staff of professionals and volunteers is available for your assistance.

Outreach programs include periodically scheduled arts events and exhibits at the Museum. Lectures on local history and other subjects of community interest are also available for presentation in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Information on scheduling may be obtained by contacting the Museum.

The Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum welcomes you to join our efforts to save the heritage of our area and to present our story to future generations.

An individual membership of \$10 will pay for the cost of the newsletters which are mailed to you during the year. Please consider a contributing or sustaining membership, your tax deductible donation will help the Museum acquire additional artifacts, present programs of historical significance and create exhibits that reflect the rich and varied ancestry of our community.

*Persons donating in the life, patron and benefactor categories will have their name permanently inscribed within the museum.

The Museum is a private, 501(C)3 non-profit organization, incorporated within the State of Kansas. A portion of the membership fee is tax deductible.

Please indicate Membership Category:

- Student (under 18) \$ 5.00
- Individual \$ 10.00
- Family/Contributing \$ 20.00
- Sustaining \$ 30.00
- Life-Single \$ 150.00
- Life-Joint \$ 200.00
- Memorial \$ 100.00
- Corporate \$ 100.00
- Corporate-Permanent \$ 500.00
- Patron* \$ 500.00
- Benefactor* \$ 1,000.00
- Senior Citizen \$ 7.50

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I would like to make a donation _____

Does your company match employee gifts? _____

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I would like to volunteer _____