

VISITORS FROM KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

On March 18, the staff at Kansas Originals Market was pleased to have Norine Kruse, newly appointed Director of Tourism, Mary Lou McPhail and Sonya Woertz all from the Kansas Department of Commerce visit KOM.

SEEKING COMPUTER FUNDS

The need for a complete computer system at KOM is growing daily. We would like to have all the inventory, cash register sales, and daily consignment bookkeeping put on the computer database. This would speed up paying our consignors as well as quickly indicating the merchandise that we need restocked. This will necessitate purchasing several work stations, a scanner, receipt printer and the software. All of this is going to take money. We need to prove to our grantors that we are trying to be self-supporting, so we have started a fund to purchase the computer equipment. Ten dollars from each consignor for the system, would help tremendously in reaching our goal. We have approached several members with this idea and they have been supportive. If you would like to contribute and help get the system on line, please send your donation to Kansas Originals Market, and indicate that it is for the computer system.

MINORITIES INCLUDED IN CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

At the February meeting, the board voted to change the by-laws to include minorities in the contributing class of members. The amendment reads that "Individuals who are otherwise members of a protected class of citizens as defined by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by virtue of their national origin be eligible as contributing members." Contributing members are those members who are considered any one of the following: 62 or over, low income, handicapped, a non-profit organization or a member of a protected class of citizens (minority). If you can qualify under any of these, please indicate this on your membership form or call and let us know as this is the basis for our non-profit status.

PROMOTING YOU AND YOUR MERCHANDISE

We try to attract as many visitors and tourists to the Market as possible. We spent nearly \$4,000 last year on sign rent on Interstate 70 and our print advertising budget was \$300 a month. We have ads or been featured in such publications as *Tour Kansas*, *Interstate Traveler*, *Kansas! Magazine* and the *Lake Wilson Guide*. We just had 30,000 of our brochures printed. In addition, we promote our artists and craftsmen through our artists biographies and our *Featured Artists and Craftsmen* on Sunday afternoons.

MEMORIAL WEEKEND

Memorial Day Weekend will be here before we know it. In the past this has been one of our busiest times. We can not notify everyone when their merchandise has sold -- especially during our busy times. Because the lapse between the time items sell and the time you get paid may be 30 days, it is very important that those of you who have really saleable merchandise, check and make sure we have enough of your items. Waiting for your check and itemized list may not be in your best interest. The really busy tourist season only lasts from Memorial Day to Labor Day.



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