

THE WOMEN OF NICODEMUS

The Women of Nicodemus features the early pioneers and the generations that followed. The photographs depict groups of women who over the years gathered for social entertainment as well as for social organization meetings, such as the Priscilla Arts Club, Mission, Lodge, etc.

These women exhibit a spirit of togetherness, friendship and love towards one another. In various pictures it is quite obvious that they knew how to have a good time, in spite of the hard times that they lived through during various eras in western Kansas history.

The exhibit was first put together by Angela Bates for a presentation to an audience at Wichita State University. Sides were made from the photographs and used as a part of a women's program sponsored by the Women's Studies department at Wichita State University on March 2, 1991.

The exhibit will be expanded to include various individual photos of women at various times during Nicodemus' history.

We want to thank Gil Alexander of Nicodemus for the use of these fine photos. Most of these photos were from Bernice Bates' personal files. Thank God for her interest in taking photos and recording the names and dates on the photographs. Unfortunately she is not seen in most of the photos.

We want to thank the Dane Hansen Foundation in Logan, Kansas for their monetary gift that assisted in enlarging and framing the photos. Also a special thanks goes out to Pioneer Studio in Hays, Kansas for the fine reproduction and sepia tone prints. A special thanks to the Madd Matter of Hays, Kansas for their fine matting and framing work.

The exhibit will be scheduled for libraries and museums around the state, and if interest is generated then around the nation. When the exhibit is completed, the photos will be compiled into a book and made available for purchase.