



# Now & Then

STILL NATIONAL OSTEOPATHIC MUSEUM

NATIONAL CENTER FOR OSTEOPATHIC HISTORY

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL AT IT'S BEST: NOTRE DAME'S "FIGHTING IRISH" VS. A.S.O.'S "FIGHTING OSTEOPATHS" 1903 - WHAT A DIFFERENCE A CENTURY MAKES! - 2003

Few are aware that the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, then known as "The American School of Osteopathy," was once a nationally recognized collegiate football power that once rivaled the University of Notre Dame! The college's football program began in 1899, and was disbanded after 1928 due to lack of funding and a desire to concentrate solely on academic pursuits. [1]

Arguably, ASOs zenith in the sport of collegiate football, occurred in 1903 when, a now long forgotten pioneer and nationally revered football star and coach, Patrick John O'Dea was hired to coach the "Fighting Osteopaths" in 1903.

The son of an Australian rancher, born on March 16, 1872, Pat broke horses, rounded up cattle, and astounded the antipodes with his dazzling athletic abilities. [2] At age 16 he played on professional Victorian football teams kicking field goals from distances beyond fifty yards seemingly at will. A graduate of Kew College, in Melbourne, he took entrance exams for Melbourne University in 1893, and failed three times. [3] He emigrated to the United States to attend the University of Wisconsin, graduating with a Bachelor of Law degree in 1900. During his stay at the University of Wisconsin, he set numerous football records, including the All-Time Western Conference football record for a 110-yard punt in a game against the University of Minnesota in 1897. Pat O'Dea was widely regarded as, arguably, "America's first national collegiate football idol."

Pat O'Dea or the "Kangaroo Kicker," a nickname he earned for his unusual kicking style, was hired in 1902 as the football coach and athletic director at the American School of Osteopathy in Kirksville, Missouri. [4][5] From information at the Still National Osteopathic Museum (SNOM) sent to me from Curator, Debra Summers I've learned of Pat O'Dea's football coaching legacy with the "Fighting Osteopaths" during their 1903, three win and three loss, season.



Patrick O'Dea: The Kangaroo Kicker  
Photograph Courtesy of the University of Wisconsin Archives

They shut out the three smallest colleges: Knox College; S.S. Still College; and Christian Brothers College; and were, in turn, feasted upon by the larger universities they battled on the gridiron in 1903, University of Illinois and University of Wisconsin. [6] It should be noted that Pat O'Dea never won a single football game against his old coach, Phil King, and the University of Wisconsin, while coaching the A.S.O. [7] Despite the loss, special news accounts published in the local Record-Herald newspaper on October 21, 1903 was just short of effusive:

"Wisconsin 32, Osteopaths 0  
Missouri Boys Gave the Badgers  
Hardest Game They Have Had

Republic Special - Madison, Wis., Oct. 21. - By a score of 32-0 the University of Wisconsin today defeated the Missouri Osteopaths. It was the hardest game of the local season. The visitors put up a plucky defense, twice holding the varsity for downs and gaining more distance against their opponents

then any other team has so far succeeded in doing this year..."

Another newspaper article headline of the day's game proclaimed:

"Osteopath Eleven Holds Badgers to 32 Pat O'Dea's Charges Give Wisconsin Good Battle and Allow Only Eleven Points in First Half - Madison Line is Weak" [8]

The final game of the season played on November 7, 1903, pitted the "Fighting Osteopaths" against the "Fighting Irish" football squad, with Pat's former Notre Dame fullback, now student/coach James Faragher with Louis "Red" Salmon the team's Captain, in the game in South Bend, Indiana. [9] [10]

According to an article published in the December 1903 "Journal of Osteopathy" the season was just short of a fiasco, especially for the month of November.

"... Our team has been unfortunate this month in the matter of cancellations by outside teams. Lombard University, Washburn University, St. Louis University and the Denver Athletic Club all canceling, in at least three instances, owing to the fears of a good licking.

On October 31st, the team played CBC (Christian Brothers College)...this year's game was one procession after another up and down the field for our boys, the final score being 50-0, CBC quitting after about ten minutes of the second half had been played.



ASO 1903 Football Team

E. Malone: right end, F. Vandoren: right tackle, Blanchard: right guard, R.L. Starkweather: center, A.S. Bean: left guard, D.H. Craig (captain): left tackle, L.H. McMains, A.F. McWilliams: left end, Carl D. Clapp: quarterback, H.E. Roberts, H.M. Gifford: right half back, Genoung, F.G. Crowley, O.C. Kilbourn: left half back, F.G. Crowley, L.H. McMains, Bowles: full back  
Museum Collection [PH 95] ca. 1902-03

Owing to Lombard's cancellation, November 7th was an open date, which was hurriedly filled with Notre Dame at South Bend, Indiana, by wire. Leaving here Friday morning (by train), the boys traveled until Saturday morning and went down to defeat Saturday afternoon 28 to 0. As Notre Dame has one of the strongest teams in the West, this score under the circumstances was not discouraging." [11]

In South Bend, the Osteopaths disembarked, practically falling out of their train cars half-asleep, and were rushed to Notre Dame shortly before the game began. But the account of the game in the Notre Dame Scholastic (Vol. 37, November 14, 1903 - #10) belied the final score.

"Stubbornly contesting every inch of the way, the Missouri Osteopaths went down before Notre Dame last Saturday by a score of 28-0 in the best game seen on Cartier Field this season. The visitors came here ... and during the game they proved that they well deserved the reputation given them, for seldom if ever has such a gritty and determined squad been seen on Cartier Field. .. Coached by the world-renowned punter, Pat O'Dea, who coached our championship teams in '00 and '01, the Missourians tested the mettle of our men to the utmost. They presented a stubborn defense to the terrific onslaughts of our crack trio of backs, while their offensive work was splendid." [12]

"That's as fast a back-field as there is in the West," was Pat O'Dea's comment. [13] Returning the compliments to the victorious Notre Dame "Fighting Irish" football squad.

The last documentation of Pat O'Dea is his listing in the graduation exercise program for the Class of 1904, on June 22nd. He is listed as Director of Athletics. [14]

In the 1903-04 Quarterly Catalogue of the American School of Osteopathy, Patrick John O'Dea claimed he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1893 from Melbourne University in Australia. [15] The year of his "graduation" was the same year he failed that academic institution's entrance exam three times and never attended it! [16]

No record readily exists in the Still National Osteopathic Museum documenting when and why he left town and where Pat O'Dea went following the 1904 commencement exercises. But Curator Debra Summers and I believe that ASO's administration

may have discovered Pat's academic deception in mid-1904 and dismissed him. After leaving Kirksville Pat O'Dea never coached collegiate football again!

Patrick John O'Dea died on April 4, 1962 at age 90, the day after his greatest honor, his induction into the National College Football Hall of Fame was announced. He wasn't alone. His "Badger" coach Phil King was enshrined with him. [17]

The revered, and long forgotten "Kangaroo Kicker," Pat O'Dea succeeded in kicking collegiate

football deep into the American consciousness, and himself into oblivion.

If you would like more information on Patrick O'Dea or have information on his career please contact:  
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By Michael D. Shutko, Guest Writer  
and Debra Loguda-Summers, Curator

### Bibliography

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3. University of Melbourne, Australia, Archives, J. Benjamin Archivist, The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010.
4. "Pat O'Dea Gets a Job," South Bend Tribune, 1902 Dec 6.
5. "Bulletin/Quarterly Catalogue 1903-04," American School of Osteopathy, pp 19, Still National Osteopathic Museum, Kirksville, Missouri.
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7. Ibid.
8. "Republic" & "Herald Record" news clippings, 1903 Oct 21, plate #954, Still National Osteopathic Museum, Kirksville, Missouri.
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10. "Notre Dame Scholastic," Volume 37, No. 10, 1903 Nov 14, pp. 165, University of Notre Dame Archives.
11. "This Past Month in Football," The Journal of Osteopathy, 1903 Dec, pp 398-399, Still National Osteopathic Museum, Kirksville, Missouri.
12. "Notre Dame Scholastic," Volume 37, No. 10, 1903 Nov 14, pp. 165, University of Notre Dame Archives.
13. Ibid.
14. "American School of Osteopathy, Class of 1904 Graduation Exercise Program," June 22, 1904, 8:00 p.m. at Memorial Hall, Still National Osteopathic Museum, Kirksville, Missouri.
15. "Bulletin/Quarterly Catalogue 1903-04," American School of Osteopathy, pp 19, Still National Osteopathic Museum, Kirksville, Missouri.
16. University of Melbourne, Australia, Archives, J. Benjamin Archivist, The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010.
17. "Pat O'Dea is Dead;" Obituary, San Francisco Chronicle, 1962 Apr 5, San Francisco Chronicle Archives.

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## DIGITAL IMAGING PROJECT

During the past year the Museum has been working on digitalizing our photo collection. We have already scanned over 170 images of Dr. A.T. Still! This is a very time consuming project, since each image must be evaluated, identified and scanned into our computer. A big 'thank you' goes out to our former work-study student Missy Nicol (Truman State University), who spent countless hours at the computer and scanner.

The goal of this project (as with all of our projects) is to help the researcher identify images they may want to use for publishing projects such as videos, books, shirts, etc. At this time the images are not on the web for public viewing. If you would like to view any of these images please contact the Museum. We do have a listing of what images have been scanned and may be viewed on our computers.

We do offer image reproduction services, including photocopies, photographic reproductions, and scanned images. Contact the Curator or Curatorial Assistant at ([museum@atsu.edu](mailto:museum@atsu.edu)) for information and fees.



## MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS

The interest in osteopathy has spread worldwide and more people are fascinated with the history of osteopathy than ever before. The Museum has sent a traveling exhibit, "The Healer Within," to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and has placed a portrait of A.T. Still in the National Portrait Gallery. Currently, the education department of the Museum has free support curriculum for educators on-line in the areas of health and science and has written a grant to create a similar pilot program for schools across the United States. With projects like these as well as others, the Museum is informing the public of the history of osteopathy. The Museum itself is expanding and changing to meet the interest of the public and we are currently planning new exhibits and programs. In order for the Museum to reach its mission of preserving the history of Osteopathy and educating the general public, the Museum needs people like you for support. We depend on donations and memberships to allow us to reach our goals.

The Museum would like to thank all of its members for their contributions throughout the years. If you are a current member, we hope that you enjoy knowing that your contribution is preserving the rich history of osteopathy. If you are not a member and would like to become one, or you would like to renew your membership, to help the Museum reach its missions, we invite you to fill out the membership card on the back of the newsletter and return it to us.

The Museum also has three different funds to which you may make a contribution to. Each of the funds is equally important to the Museum, and they help in their own unique and individual ways. The different funds that the Museum has are: Exhibit, Education, and Collection. The **Exhibit Fund** allows the Museum to update and create new exhibitions and allows us to expand our gallery to displaying more of our collection for the public. The **Education Fund** allows us to inform the public about Osteopathy in new and exciting ways and it provides the money for the many different programs that we offer our patrons throughout the year. The **Collection Fund** provides the Museum with the ability to preserve the artifacts that we have. With the collection fund, we are able to keep old documents intact and house them in a safe environment for years to come. If you would like to make a contribution to any of these specific funds, please fill out the information form on the back of this newsletter.

Without memberships and donations the Museum would not be able to do the many wonderful things that we do. We have several new and exciting projects, but they will not be possible without your help. Please consider the importance of osteopathy to you and help us preserve and educate others of this wonderful history.



### Museum Gift Shop

A new addition to the front of the Museum has provided a whole new look for the gift shop. We have several new items that you can purchase through the gift shop, including nervous system key chains and new postcards. We also have several new books in stock such as: "The Lengthening Shadow of A. T. Still," and "Your Healer Within," written by Dr. James J. McGovern, President, A. T. Still University of Health Sciences. The "Nervous System" posters are now only \$20, and we have a brand new "Still Carving" poster for \$20. For a limited time only you can purchase "Early Osteopathy in the Words of A. T. Still," "First School of Osteopathic Medicine," and "Frontier Doctor, Medical Pioneer" for only \$45. These are key books for understanding A. T. Still's life and the creation of osteopathy. By purchasing these three books you are saving \$30. Also for a limited time only you can purchase "Osteopathy Medicine Past and Present" and "Women and Osteopathic Medicine" for only \$3. You can save \$5 from the original prices. For these special prices please contact us at [museum@atsu.edu](mailto:museum@atsu.edu). For a complete list with pictures and descriptions please check out the gift shop webpage at: [www.kcom.edu/newmuseum/giftshop](http://www.kcom.edu/newmuseum/giftshop)

## THE EVER-CHANGING FACE OF THE MUSEUM

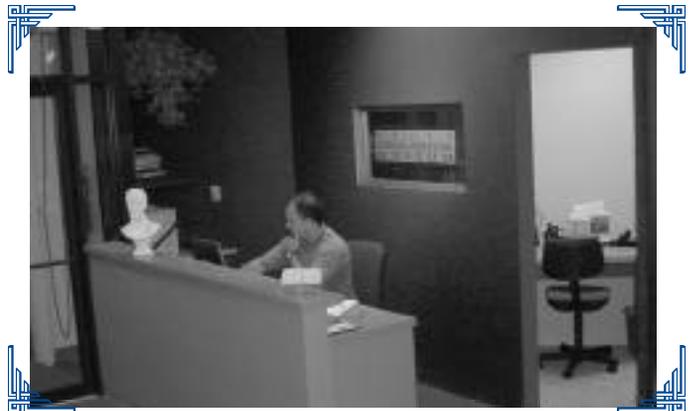
It is no secret that the Museum has dramatically grown over the past five years. With ongoing expansion, we have had the opportunity to develop new exhibits, expand old ones, and constantly re-think the future of both our large and small galleries. It is, and always has been, our collective goal to produce timely, high-quality, informative exhibits for patrons.

As mentioned in previous issues of *Now & Then*, the Museum maintains both short and long-range exhibit plans. However, when we plan exhibits, we not only deal with interpretation, design, and production, we also think of our overall space and how we can best involve the patron and enhance their museum experience. Exhibit design is never a static process—to be successful and adapt to the times, exhibits should always be undergoing a metamorphosis. These transformations should always conform to the overall mission of the Museum—to educate visitors about the wonderful and complex history of osteopathic medicine and the osteopathic profession.

During the spring and summer of 2003, the Museum has both added new and upgraded existing exhibits, literally inside and out. Starting in the early spring, we spent considerable effort to enhance our Historic Medicinal Plant Garden by adding several new plant varieties and planning for its ongoing development. Currently the garden features thirty-one varieties, with twenty to twenty-five more planned for installation in the spring of 2004; we are scheduled to complete the overall design by the summer of 2005. During the course of its completion, we will continue to add more plant varieties, update informative brochures, and possibly additional seating. As enjoyable as it is, it is easy to understand that the garden, by far, requires the most intensive maintenance of all our exhibits. We gladly accept any local volunteers with a green thumb!

Inside, we've recently put a lot of energy into dramatically enhancing our entryway and gift shop areas. Although not technically exhibits, these spaces are the first impressions that our visitors receive as they enter our main gallery. When the Museum was designed and constructed in the early to mid-1990s, the front space was designed to house the entire staff—then consisting of one-and-a-half employees. We now have a staff of six and a modestly sized group of local volunteers and student workers. As one could imagine, our steady growth has required constant facility changes—primarily the modification and expansion of spaces to better facilitate staff needs and

functionality. Starting in July, we redesigned the front and created separate office spaces (for the educator, office manager, and volunteers), a new, more cohesive gift shop area, and have created an aesthetic more in line with the main gallery. These changes will allow museum employees to work much more efficiently, but more importantly, de-emphasizes the old office space and will allow visitors to focus their attention on the main gallery.



Once inside the main gallery, visitors will soon take note of some small but notable changes to the Grayson Smith Period Room. (Dedicated in April 2000, the Period Room is an ancillary gallery featuring selected personal artifacts from A.T. Still and his family. This permanent exhibit is in actuality an ongoing exhibit that will eventually be a fully reproduced Victorian home interior.) By late August, we will be slightly re-arranging the room and installing several personal items of A.T. Still, including a suit, pair of boots, and a walking staff. We will also be exhibiting a period grandfather clock (on loan from a Kirksville family) reputedly owned by the Still family and housed in their Kirksville home.

Starting in September and ongoing through next spring, we will be working on several new and older exhibits. Among these are: a new exhibit on human anatomy and the early development of the anatomy curriculum at the American School of Osteopathy (KCOM), a significantly upgraded exhibit on the Kirksville campus, and a new exhibit on A.T. Still and the philosophical origins of Osteopathy (a counterpart exhibit to our “Medical Practices and Treatments” exhibit).

If you can, stop by to check out the latest changes or look us up on our webpage at [www.kcom.edu/museum](http://www.kcom.edu/museum)





## DONATION TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

With every gift donation made to the Museum, we find that sometimes we are unable to accession certain artifacts into our collection due to the Museums guidelines. When this happens we try to find good homes for these items. The Museum just recently donated the Reading High School Diploma of Dr. George Snyder, DO, to the Historical Society of Berks County, Pennsylvania.

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## RESEARCH TOOLS

Over the past several years the Still National Osteopathic Museum's Research Center has been expanding its research base.

We have created research aids for several of the collection including the Dr. Andrew Taylor Still Papers; this research tool is now available for purchase, \$15 for a hard copy and \$20 for a CD-ROM. The finding aid also includes handwriting samples of Dr. A.T. Still as well as samples from unidentified individuals who assisted him in his work.

Below is a list of other collections research aids at the Museum. We are always working to expand this list for the benefit of our researchers. You may obtain copies of these finding aids for \$5 each for a CD-ROM or 15¢ per page for a hard copy. Please contact our Curator or Curatorial Assistant at (museum@atsu.edu)

1. Bohm Collection (Wilbur H.S.Bohm,DO)
2. Charles E. Still Collection (Charles E. Still,Sr.,DO and Charles E.Still,Jr.,DO)
3. Cranial Osteopathy Collection (including information on Dr.W.G. Sutherland)
4. Gasperich Glass Slide Collection (Frank Gasperich,DO)
5. Humphries Postcard Collection (Ernest Humphries,DO)
6. Laughlin Papers (George M.Laughlin,DO)
7. Littlejohn Material (Drs.David, James B.,and J.Martin Littlejohn,DO)
8. Littlejohn Papers (Drs.David, James B.,and J.Martin Littlejohn,DO)
9. Magoun Collection (Harold I. Magoun,Sr.,DO)
10. Rural Clinics Collection
11. Still-Hildreth Osteopathic Sanatorium Collection

## HEY, BUDDY CAN YOU SPARE A . . . ?

Over the years,our members and others have generously supported the Museum's operations through both monetary and in-kind donations.Some contributions have been large,other small,but each has allowed the Museum staff and volunteers do their work more effectively and comfortably.

The list below is a sample from our current 'wish list' of items needed to support the Museum's ever-growing range of activities.If you are interested in funding one of these items,or would like to learn about others on the list, give the director a call at (660) 626-2359 or email him at museum@atsu.edu .

- **Laptop Computer** (\$1500) A laptop computer for our History Center's Reading and Research room would enable researchers to look at the thousands of scanned images and documents in our collection without ever touching the real artifact (which can deteriorate when handled.)
- **Vacuum for Museum Main Gallery** (\$250) For the safety of the artifacts,all cleaning in our exhibit areas is done by Museum staff and volunteers.The vacuum currently being used for this task is at least 15 years old.
- **Gallery Lighting** (\$6000) Good lighting is important both for the comfort of our visitors and the well-being of our artifacts (which can deteriorate when expose to harmful types and levels of light.)
- **Office Chairs** (\$125 each) Planned renovations to the reception area/gift shop area have been completed but there is still a need for other office items to provide a better workspace for a staff and volunteers.

To those of you that have donated already to our 'wish list,' we would like to say THANK YOU!

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## STILL BUST AVAILABLE SOON

The Museum has been working with the Northwest Oklahoma Osteopathic Foundation to create a new bronze bust of Dr. A. T. Still, MD, DO. The clay model by nationally recognized artist Harold T. Holden is a stunning, and accurate rendering of the founder of Osteopathic Medicine. Images of the clay model were sent to the descendants and living relations of Dr. A. T. Still with very positive reviews. The organization is already taking orders for the bust and plan to unveil an artist proof at the October AOA Conference in New Orleans. For more information contact Steve Whitfill at (580) 234-6071.

## MUSEUM AIDS EDUCATORS

Educational support particularly in the areas of health and science in grades K-8th grade are important components of the museum's daily work. After research showed poor academic ability in these academic areas throughout Northeast Missouri's public schools, the Museum decided to take an active role.

The museum director and education coordinator, assisted by ATSU's Grant Department wrote a Learning Opportunities grant for \$300,000 through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Office in Washington, DC. If successful the grant would provide hands on materials and specially designed curriculum for the K-8th grade students. The Museum received a letter stating that our grant application was complete and being reviewed. Award announcements will be made in October 2003. If you would like to view a sample of the curriculum developed by the Museum you can go on-line to: [www.healerwithin.org](http://www.healerwithin.org) and click on 'Healer Within Classroom Materials.'

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## SMITHSONIAN GETS HEALTHY THIS SUMMER

If you visited Washington, D.C. this summer, it would have been hard not to notice The Healer Within® a health and wellness exhibit, produced by the A.T. Still University of Health Sciences, was in town. Banners on the Washington Mall and advertising on the Metro transit system directed visitors to learn more about their healing processes at the Arts and Industries Building next door to the Historic Smithsonian Castle.

Ellen Dorn, Director of the building where the exhibit is located calls The Healer Within®, "a real winner – one of the best exhibits they have had on display. Hundreds of thousands of visitors to DC have enjoyed learning from this exhibit." Also, featured all summer was a display on Dr. A.T. Still alongside a rare dissected nervous system that ATSU (formerly the KOC) donated to the Smithsonian in 1936.

After the Smithsonian venue, The Healer Within® traveled to the Science Museum of Western Virginia in Roanoke to commemorate the opening of the new Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) and in January 2004 the exhibit will go to the Exploration Place in Wichita, Kansas.

## MUSEUM CURATOR TO RECEIVE TRAINING AT THE SMITHSONIAN

Debra Loguda-Summers, Curator for the Still National Osteopathic Museum has been accepted at the Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies located in Washington, DC. She will be attending a one-week workshop in October on the Management of Museum Collections. This workshop is sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and was limited to 25 museum professionals. Museum Director Jason Haxton said, "It is an honor to have Debra selected to be trained at our nation's museum where our country's most treasured artifacts reside. She will be working with and learning from the best authorities in the field of museum studies."



"Our museum's collection of materials which includes manuscripts, photographs, books and 3-D objects, form the core of our museum's research and public education programs. The artifacts that we keep as part of the public trust provide visual and physical evidence of our osteopathic medical heritage. Each day, museums must address the critical legal and ethical obligations in the management and care of their collections to preserve them for the future. I will be discussing these types of issues with the other attendees and Smithsonian staff, said Debra."

Debra has worked with the Museum for two and a half years, starting as the Curatorial Assistant in 2001 and she recently was promoted to Curator. Debra first became interested in a career with the museum due to her genealogy research. Debra encourages the community to visit the Museum on the campus of A. T. Still University of Health Sciences to see our new exhibits.

## MEMBER REGISTRATION

- \$5 Student
- \$15 Resident/Intern
- \$25 Associate
- \$50 Friend
- \$100 Patron
- \$500 Sponsor
- \$1000 Benefactor
- \$5000 Donor Laureate

I would like to make an additional donation to the following Fund(s)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Collections

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Education

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibition

If you are a D.O., please include your school and graduation year.

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Would you want to receive the Museum newsletter by email?  Yes  No

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## MUSEUM HOURS

Monday – Wednesday  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday  
10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday  
noon – 4 p.m.

Closed on major holidays,  
during exhibit installations,  
and for special campus events.

(660) 626-2359

(660) 626-2984 fax

museum@atsu.edu email

[www.kcom.edu/museum](http://www.kcom.edu/museum)

## MUSEUM STAFF

Director.....Jason Haxton  
Curator .....Debra Loguda-Summers  
Exhibits Preparator.....Rob Clement  
Education Coordinator .....Penny Rott  
Office Manager .....Brian Grubbs

The mission of the Still National Osteopathic Museum is to collect, preserve, and make available for research, artifacts that tell the national history of the osteopathic profession, from its beginning in 1874 as a rural, midwestern, alternative medical practice to its full acceptance one hundred years later as a medical profession practiced worldwide; and to educate the general public about osteopathic history and principles through exhibits and programs.

**National Center for Osteopathic History**



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