

COTTONWOOD CONNECTIONS

SEASON 7 (FALL 2025)

Updated 11/3/25

- **Amber Waves of Grain (Sept. 21)** - Explore the history and traditions of Kansas as the Wheat State.
- **The Dragon's Legacy (Sept. 28)** - Recount the story of Dr. Theophilis Turner's discovery, the later re-discovery of his involvement, the current home of the fossils and the legacy of his discovery for Kansas paleontology.
- **Soldier State (Oct. 5)** - Delve into Kansas' relationship with the Civil War beyond "Bloody Kansas" as we look at the advantages offered to Union Soldiers to settle.
- **Retracing Family Connection (Oct. 12)** - Discuss the value of discovering history through the story of your own family, and recognize the role local historical societies play in tracing genealogy.
- **Welcome to the Cottonwood Ranch (Oct. 19)** - Cottonwood Connections takes its name from the Cottonwood Ranch Historic Site where Don Rowlison, our show host, has served as curator for 40 years. We take a look at the story of the ranch and Don's career of digging into and sharing this historic site's story.
- **Bring in the Cavalry (Oct. 26)** - Look at the history of the cavalry on the Plains, including a visit to Calvary Museum at Fort Riley.
- **The People of the Ancient Plains (Nov. 2)** - Research shows that human activities in northwest Kansas date back at least 13,000 years. We dig into the evidence and discuss many of the ideas of who they were and how they lived.
- **Public Postcards (Nov. 9)** - A look at the historic aspect of how murals represented communities and how this art form is being revived.
- **For Those Who Served (Nov. 16)** - Rural communities of the High Plains take the honoring of veterans seriously. We take a look at three specific ways communities pay tribute to those who have worn the uniform, including the dedication of a new constructed memorial years in the making.
- **The Pheasant "Migration" (Nov. 23)** - To be clear, pheasants do not migrate. The hunters, however, who seek this specific game make an annual pilgrimage to western Kansas in the fall.
- **Kansas in Pop Culture (Nov. 30)** - From Dorothy to Clark Kent, Kansas regularly takes center stage in American pop culture.
- **Ad Astra (Dec. 7)** - We explore Kansas' connection to space exploration.