

Cornerstone Coffee Haus

By: Michaela J. Altenhofen

Out of the all the buildings on Seneca's Main Street, one of them has quite the story behind it. This building is located at 431 Main Street Seneca, Kansas.

Throughout the generations some might have known it to be a Bank or a Dentist office, but as of May 2009, it is now known as the Cornerstone Coffee Haus and Suits, own and run by Cathy Holthaus and her husband.

Cathy has always had a love for special treats and for old buildings. One day while standing outside on Main Street looking at the building, she thought it would be a great coffee house. When I asked Cathy why a coffee house she stated, "It's like nowhere else in town. It's somewhere you can sit and enjoy a fresh cup of Kansas Roasted coffee." Not only do they serve coffee but breakfast, brunch, salad, sandwiches and vegetarian cuisine, and ice cream treats from an authentic soda fountain.

The renovation on the Cornerstone building started November 2007; they worked steadily on the building and poured all their time into it till they got to the end. Their greatest accomplishment so far is getting the building back up to shape. The building adds character to Main Street and draws people in just by the curiosity



of what it might look like on the inside. Since the building was built in 1890, everything from the wiring to the windows needed to be replaced, or restored. They repaired the floors, walls, and ceilings and are currently working on restoring the facade of the building.

For the upcoming fall season, Cathy will be open for Lady's Night, Halloween and other events that may happen downtown. Cathy stated that she'd be reducing her hours in the fall to fit around school hours and events that the school holds.

It has now been six years since the opening of the Cornerstone Coffee Haus and Cathy and her husband are now working on renovating the upstairs and basement for short-term living. When I asked Cathy if this was set in the plans at the beginning she stated, "It was set in the plans, but we just weren't set on what it would be. As we thought more about it we figured the best use of the space would be for apartments." These areas can be rented out for daily, weekly, or monthly stays.

Cathy likes to keep in touch with her customers by her website <http://cornerstonecoffeehaus.com> and keeping her Facebook updated on daily specials and drinks. One way Cathy rewards her customers is by having a punch card. For every drink whether it be hot coffee, a blended smoothie or a limeade you will get a punch and on the 11th punch you will receive a free drink.

So why not sit down and enjoy a fresh cup of coffee or other specialty treats, where the service is unbeatable and so much history lays behinds it. If you are interested in stopping by the Cornerstone Coffee Haus it is open Monday – Saturday 7 am to 5 pm and for special events. You can also reach them at 785.334.4287.