

## Kansas Sesquicentennial 2011



*Photo: National Agricultural Hall of Fame*

### MARK A. CARLETON

BOTANY

United States Department of  
Agriculture (USDA)



### Mark A. Carleton 1866-1925

- Grew up on a farm in Cloud County.
- Earned biology, chemistry and horticulture degrees at what is now Kansas State University.
- Observed that the Russian Mennonites and the Volga Germans had been successfully raising red hard winter wheat in Kansas for a generation while other varieties of wheat crops suffered from drought and disease.
- In 1898, working for the USDA, he made a plant exploration trip to Russia to bring back the best varieties of hard winter wheat to the U.S. Within five years, U.S. wheat production went from 60,000 to 20 million bushels a year.

**EXTRA COOL:** Honored in the National Agricultural Hall of Fame (which is in Bonner Springs).

Project of the Ad Astra Kansas Initiative [www.adastra-ks.org](http://www.adastra-ks.org)



*Courtesy of Walter Chrysler Boyhood Home, Ellis*

### Walter CHRYSLER

Automotive Pioneer  
Chrysler Motor Company

### Walter CHRYSLER 1875-1940

- Born in Wamego, grew up in Ellis.
- Good with mechanical things, interested in engines. Gained expertise working in railroad shops as an apprentice.
- Bought his first car just to take it apart and learn how it worked.
- In 1924, he developed the Chrysler 6 car, which offered innovations like 4-wheel hydraulic brakes and a high compression engine. The car was an immediate success.
- By 1929, Chrysler Corporation was the #2 producer of automobiles in the world.
- Inducted into the American Automobile Hall of Fame in 1967.

**EXTRA COOL:** His boyhood homes in Wamego and Ellis are still there and open to the public.

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2011

SCIENCE in KANSAS  
150 years and counting



*Courtesy of KU University Relations*

### David DARWIN

Civil Engineering  
University of Kansas

### David DARWIN current

- A civil engineer works on the designing, building and maintaining of public works projects like roads, dams, bridges, tunnels, waterworks or harbors. Darwin is an expert in concrete engineering.
- His research into bond strength (how well concrete and its steel reinforcement hold together), corrosion resistance and his development of testing measures have changed the way engineers design and research reinforced concrete structures.
- Leading a ten-year study with highway groups from 19 states to construct bridge decks with minimal cracking.

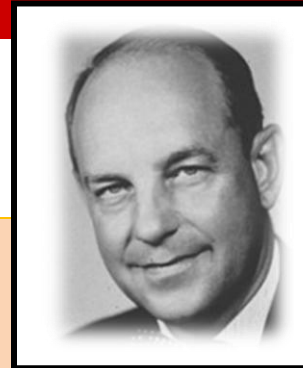
**EXTRA COOL:** Recognized in 2010 by *Concrete Construction* magazine as one of the five most influential persons in the concrete industry.

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PAUL HARRINGTON  
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

KU School of Medicine

### Paul Harrington 1911-1980

- Grew up in Kansas City, Kansas.
- Developed the first successful implant for the surgical correction of scoliosis, a medical condition where a person's spine is crooked. His "Harrington Rod" helped a million patients and was used through the 1990s.
- Served as chief of orthopedic services for the U.S. Army's 77th Evacuation Hospital in World War II.
- Harrington Archives at KU contain professional papers, photographs, manuscripts, blueprints, drawings, and examples of the Harrington Rod.

**EXTRA COOL:** Attending KU, he was a member of the three-time Big Eight championship basketball team and team captain his senior year. He worked his way through medical school playing semi-pro basketball, graduating in 1939.

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