

Dr. John Laurie – the man in Stripes – speaker for Historical Society Annual Meeting – Monday, Oct. 26th

Atchison native, educator, author and maybe most recognized as the man in stripes on BIG 12 Football Saturdays - Dr. John Laurie will be the speaker for the Atchison County Historical Society's Annual Meeting program.

Laurie will visit with the audience about his years growing up in Atchison with his parents Dave and Gerry Laurie (Dave Laurie was Mayor of Atchison) and brothers Dave and Phil. He will also discuss his professional experience in education and his insights on sports from the inside – what he describes as his avocation – officiating high school and college football and basketball.

His life experiences have inspired him to author several books – most on his years as an official but also his most recent book “Killer Quotes: Knock ‘Em Dead Win Your Point” which was published this year and is available through major booksellers Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble. Killer Quotes addresses Laurie's belief “that a good quotation, timely and to the point, can do a great deal to influence a situation or position that might otherwise go unnoticed or not supported.”

Laurie will headline the evening in the Atchison County Historical Society Museum in the Santa Fe Depot, 200 S. 10th Street in Atchison – for the Annual Meeting & Program. The Museum will open for an evening Social Hour beginning at 6 p.m. with heavy snacks and refreshments. At 7 p.m. the Annual Meeting will convene for election of officers and board, special volunteer award and then followed at about 7:15 p.m. by Laurie's program.

“This is always a good turnout and we try to host a program with strong local ties,” said Chris Taylor, executive director of the Atchison County Historical Society. “This year we hosted a Smithsonian Traveling exhibit through the summer looking at how sports has shaped America – and now Dr. Laurie will kind of put a bow on the Smithsonian and local programs from the summer and look at sports from his unique perspective as the man on the field controlling the game. He also has an interesting perspective on our community, education and as an author he has a voice and opinions that are interesting and I think should be able to connect a lot of important life views in a short period of time.”

John Laurie was an educator for 44 years and officiated over 40 years. He has officiated basketball and football at the high school and college level for over 20 years. He was a referee in the Big 8 and Big XII football conferences 24 years. He is the author of five books:

- Managing the Game: the Official's Official Guide to Controlling Pressure Situations
- Why I Don't BOO Officials – Stories by a Striped Shirt
- Between the Stripes: A Leader's Playbook for Earning Your Stripes
- Between the Stripes: Zany Zebra Zingers
- Killer Quotes: Knock ‘Em Dead Win Your Point

Laurie will have a limited number of books available for purchase Oct. 26th at the Museum – but those planning to attend may also purchase Laurie's books ahead and bring them to be signed by the author. All his books have been available at online booksellers and at least three are currently in stock for purchase.

Taylor said the evening program is open to the public and is free to attend. The Museum currently has two temporary exhibits on display: 150 Years: the Butterfield Overland Despatch and Freighters Heading West and the seasonal Burial Practices: Life, Death and the Great Beyond – which looks at the way our and other cultures see the end of life and how we pay tribute to the dead.

For more information on Dr. John Laurie's program and the Annual Meeting – visit our website www.atchisonhistory.org our Facebook page [www.Facebook.com/AtchisonHistory](https://www.facebook.com/AtchisonHistory) , email at GoWest@atchisonhistory.org or call the museum 913-367-6238.

Links for those wishing to purchase Dr. John Laurie's books ahead of the program:

http://www.amazon.com/Killer-Quotes-Knock-Dead-Point/dp/1634175883/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1445206262&sr=1-1&keywords=John+Laurie+killer+quotes

<http://www.amazon.com/John-Laurie/e/B008ONWXHS>