

ALTOONA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 15, 2006

Number Eleven

HISTORIC SUMMER 2006

Historic events took place throughout eastern Polk County this summer. Our friends in Mitchellville celebrated the city's 150th birthday in July. A tour of historic homes was conducted during the celebration. Dawn Bentley, a member of both the AAHS and the Mitchellville Historical Society, wrote monthly articles in the Altoona Herald about local history. AAHS member, Karen Hanley, joined Dawn in period costume and participated in a cemetery walk as part of the Mitchellville celebration. Many members of the AAHS enjoyed the historic celebration.

Prairie City also celebrated its Sesquicentennial in July. A number of AAHS members toured the local museum, enjoyed an antique wedding dress display, played games of yesteryear, and were treated to 150th anniversary cake. A DVD of old settlers from previous years was shown continually during the event and was a favorite of those who visited.

At our June meeting, State Senator Dennis Black gave a program on the Medal of Honor and Medal recipients from the Mitchellville area. Senator Black also distributed copies of his newly published book, "*Mitchellville: City of Heroes*".

In July, the AAHS enjoyed a delicious dinner at the Amish Pantry restaurant in Olde Town Altoona. The program for the evening centered on the history of the Haines Park Hotel, now the site of the Amish Pantry.

Don't forget to visit the AAHS display at the Altoona Area Chamber of Commerce Taste of Altoona on September 28!!!

7th Annual
Altoona Area Chamber of Commerce

TASTE OF ALTOONA

Thursday, September 28, 2006

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Centennial Elementary

910 7th Ave SE, Altoona

Cost - \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door

Contact the Altoona Chamber of Commerce to purchase tickets in advance
967-3366

IOWA BARN FOUNDATION TOUR

The sixth annual Iowa Barn Foundation statewide tour will be held September 23-24. Featured barns and other farm buildings will be open to the public from 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. each day. The self-guided tour is free.

For more information, including directions, go to www.iowabarnfoundation.org or call Roxanne Mehlisch at 641-487-7690.

THANK YOU

Thanks to Barb Bolt for her donation of a coffee maker and supplies in September.

Our appreciation to Roxanne Rissman for the delicious dinner she served at the Amish Pantry for the AAHS meeting in July!

ADOPT A FLAG PROGRAM

The State Historical Society of Iowa is looking for Civil War descendants, re-enactors and history buffs to consider making a contribution to the “Adopt a Flag” program.

The Historical Society’s battle flag collection includes more than 200 flags carried by Iowa regiments during the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and World War I. The “Adopt a Flag” program supports battle flag restoration efforts. The cost of restoring one Civil War battle flag is at least \$4800.

Different levels of support qualify donors for certain benefits. For more information about the program, call the Historical Society at 281-5111.

AAHS T-SHIRTS

A logo design for AAHS t-shirts was approved at our August meeting. The design features the Society’s name and a lamp post on the front of the t-shirt. Members who attended the August meeting ordered shirts to be delivered at the September meeting. Cost of the shirts is \$12.00.

If you would like to order a t-shirt please contact Diane Burget at 967-4815.

NEW AAHS OFFICES

The City of Altoona has set aside office space for the AAHS in the new city office building located just south of the Altoona Campus. The building is the former Altoona Family Care Center.

The AAHS offices are located just inside the south entrance of the building. Once painting and maintenance work is completed, the Society will be setting up an office.

JUST A REMINDER.....

Don't forget your AAHS Membership dues for 2007!

\$10.00	Individual
\$25.00	Family
\$30.00	Business

Send checks to: Altoona Area Historical Society, 1060-14th Street SE, Altoona, Iowa 50009

Celebrate Skills to Remember!

PICTURE THIS

Saturday, September 30, 2006

Living History Farms will celebrate "Skills to Remember" through September in Partnership with Prairie Meadows. Perfect your photography skills during "Picture This", Saturday, September 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Christian Photo will have professional photographers and representatives from the photography industry at sites around the Living History Farm museum to offer tips and teach visitors trade secrets. Bring your own camera and enjoy the day in the museum's picturesque setting.

The Ties that Bind: A Quilt Show

Living History Farms

Wednesday through Sunday, October 4-8, 2006

Thirty rarely-seen historic quilts from the nationally-recognized Living History Farms quilt collection will be on display in the Church of the Land along with historic clothing and household textiles. Children's hands-on activities include quilt block coloring and sewing cards. Discounted tickets to the show and for a town only tour are available.

Calendar of Events

September 23-34	Iowa Barn Foundation Tour
September 25	Regular monthly meeting
September 28	Taste of Altoona – Centennial Elementary – 5:30-7:30p.m.
September 30	“Picture This” – Living History Farms
October 4-8	Historic Quilt Show – Living History Farms
October 23	Regular monthly meeting
November 23	Regular monthly meeting

*** * * WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT SPECIAL HOLIDAY
EVENTS * * ***

**Altoona Area Historical Society
1060-14th Street SE
Altoona, IA 50009**

Tim Burget, President

Dan Higginbottom, Vice President

Diane Burget, Secretary

Barb Bolt, Treasurer