

ALTOONA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

April 15, 2007

Number Twelve

COMING SOON – ALTOONA HISTORICAL CENTER

In May of 2007, work will begin on establishing an Altoona Historical Center located in the Old Porter Hardware building (formerly Back Door Fabrics) at 106-2nd Street SE. The building will be the headquarters of the Altoona Area Historical Society and eventually a museum dedicated to preserving our local heritage. Members of the AAHS will hold their regular May meeting at the building.

Once again, the AAHS will participate in the Altoona Public Library Literacy Festival on Saturday, May 12, from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Our group will display information about historical organizations and points of interest in Iowa. At 2:00 p.m., we will give a program on the history of Riverview Park. Please come to the Library on May 12 and share your enthusiasm about local history!

Two years ago, work began on a website for the AAHS. It has been a lengthy process to gather the photographs and historic information that will be included on the site. The website will include an interactive version of our historic map, the history of Altoona, profiles of famous citizens, and information about our group. We hope to have a live demonstration of our website at our June meeting. Watch for an announcement about www.altoonahistory.org in the near future!!

If you know of anyone who is interested in attending one of our meetings or programs, please encourage them to attend. Membership in the Society is open to anyone in the Altoona area interested in preserving local history. Benefits of membership include a quarterly newsletter, a calendar of events and information about historical tours.

Regular monthly meeting of the

Altoona Area Historical Society

Tuesday, May 29, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Olde Porter Hardware Building

106 – 2nd Street SE, Altoona

****Soon to become the Altoona Historical Center****

CENTURY, HERITAGE FARMS PROGRAM

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has announced that is accepting applications from families seeking to qualify for the Century or Heritage Farm Program. Applications must be submitted no later than June 1.

Applications are available online at: www.agriculture.state.ia.us/century.htm.

Applications may also be requested from Janet Lee, Coordinator of the Century Farm Program at 515-281-5323 or by email at Janet.Lee@idals.state.ia.us.

For more information, write to: Janet Lee, Heritage or Century Farms Program, The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Henry A. Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319.

CAN YOU HELP?

LIVING HISTORY FARMS

Living History Farms needs historical interpreters to work in the 1875 town of Walnut Hill. Volunteers are also needed for short term projects such as special events and large maintenance projects. If you can help in any way, please contact Jan Milroy at 278-5286, ext. 118 or volunteers@ihf.org.

IOWA RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Would you like to learn to be a railroad conductor, engineer, firefighter or tour guide on vintage trains that travel through the Des Moines River Valley? You can also volunteer to help in the museum gift shop, in ticket sales, or other areas. Call 800-626-0319 or e-mail bandsvrr@tdsi.net.

NEAL SMITH WILDLIFE REFUGE

Volunteers are needed to help with prairie preservation at the Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge near Prairie City. Adopt a trail and check your assigned area twice a month. Pull invasive species, plant native plants, remove branches, and pick up litter. Help preserve our natural prairie! Call Allan Murray at 994-3400.

IOWA HISTORICAL FUN FACT:

May 31, 1889 – Latest killing frost recorded in Iowa

IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

628 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-276-0287

www.iowagenealogy.org

SPRING EVENTS

FREE CLASSES: - please call 515-276-0287 to register:

Saturday, April 21	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Beginning Genealogy 101
Tuesday, May 8	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	Beginning Genealogy 101
Saturday, May 19	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Beginning Genealogy 101

FREE TOURS DURING REGULAR HOURS:

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

HUGE GARAGE SALE in West Wing at IGS:

Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days
Free parking in front or in ramp to the east next door

SEARCH 'TIL YOU DROP SLUMBER PARTY – call 515-276-0287 to register:

Saturday, April 28 – the party starts at 5:00 p.m., after usual Saturday hours at IGS, and goes until 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 29.
\$10 per person for pizza and sodas – bring snacks to share – fridge and microwave in the lunchroom – bring sleeping bag or cot
Extensive collection of periodicals and books from the original 13 colonies and westward, many one of a kind are available.

PUBLIC HISTORY CONNECTIONS

Published by the History Department at the University of Northern Iowa

“Public History Connections”, a publication of the History Department at the University of Northern Iowa is an e-newsletter used to facilitate knowledge of public history in Iowa. The newsletter is a forum where museums, historical societies, and public history workers can alert people about upcoming special events, workshops, classes, and collection news of historical interest.

If you would like to receive this free e-newsletter, please send you name, regular mail address, and e-mail address to: Public-History-Editor@UNI.Edu.

