

# ALTOONA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 15, 2004

Number Five

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## A SUMMER FILLED WITH HISTORY

Members of the Altoona Area Historical Society enjoyed a summer filled with historical activities. In June, our group toured the Old Porter Hardware Building (Back Door Fabrics) owned by Helen and Jim Blaney in Old Town Altoona. In August, City Historian Bob Thompson repeated his popular cemetery tour and demonstration on grave douching at the Old Altoona Cemetery. In September, we were invited to visit the Old Citizen's Bank Building at 101-2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE in Old Town and learned about the restoration project recently completed by owner Roger Duncan.

Community interest in the Altoona Area Historical Society continues to grow. Every month we see new faces at our meetings and are contacted by people wanting information about our group. If you know anyone interested in attending a meeting or program, please encourage them to attend.

The Society has a limited number of Altoona Centennial Books for sale at our monthly meetings. The cost of a book is \$2.50, the same as when they were published in 1968. If you are interested in purchasing a book, please contact Tim or Diane Burget at 967-4815.

**The Altoona Area Historical Society  
is invited to attend a private tour of**

**The Fort Des Moines Memorial Museum and Park  
Saturday, October 16, 2004  
2:00pm**

**The museum is a tribute to the first black officers unit in the U.S. Army and the Women's  
Army Auxillary stationed in Des Moines in 1942.**

**Please call Diane Burget at 967-4815 to reserve your spot.**

## NEWSLETTER DELAY

We are sorry for the delay in our September newsletter. Computer troubles caused a two week delay in printing. Hopefully the problem has been repaired, and we will be on schedule for the December mailing.

## **IF WE HAVE A CHANGE IN PLANS.....**

**A calling committee has been formed to notify members of changes in meeting or event schedules if they occur. If you have an e-mail address, we will also send you e-mail notices as early as possible. Please let us know if you do not receive phone notification, so we can add you to our calling list.**

## **THANK YOU**

**Thank you to Roger Duncan and Ellen Bell for inviting us to tour their building in Old Town Altoona at the September meeting.**

**A belated thank you to Chris Penquite for locating a freezer to use for treatment of clothing donations.**

**Thanks to Norma Teuber, Chris Fisher, and Helen Blaney for offering to serve as calling committee members.**

**A big thank you to Helen and Jim Blaney for opening their business and home at the Old Porter Hardware Building for our meeting and tour at the June meeting.**

**Thank you to Bob Thompson for conducting the tour of Old Altoona Cemetery in August and for giving demonstrations on grave doucing.**

## **WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**The Altoona Area Historical Society has begun work on a website to be completed sometime this year. The site will include a brief history of Altoona, information about membership and meetings, a map of historical locations in Altoona, and a list of descriptions of the historic sites. Plans are for the site to link to the City of Altoona and Altoona Public Library websites. Web designer Jason Cross is working on the project.**

## **T-SHIRTS BEING DESIGNED**

**T-shirts are being designed for the AAHS. The shirts will be available in a range of sizes and feature our lamppost logo and the Society's name. The shirts will help to identify AAHS members when we participate in community events. It is estimated that the cost of the shirts will be \$12-\$15. There should be a sample available to show members at the October meeting.**

# **CHRISTMAS IN OLD TOWN**

**The Altoona Area Historical Society has been asked to participate in the Christmas in Old Town event on November 26, 2004. Again this year, our storytellers will entertain children and adults with stories of Christmas Past in the front window of Back Door Fabrics. More information will follow at our October meeting.**

## **Calendar of Events**

<b>September 27</b>	<b>Special meeting at the Old Citizen's Bank Building</b>
<b>October 16</b>	<b>Tour of Fort Des Moines Historical Museum</b>
<b>October 25</b>	<b>Regular monthly meeting</b>
<b>November 22</b>	<b>Thanksgiving week – no regular meeting</b>
<b>November 26</b>	<b>Christmas in Old Town</b>
<b>December 27</b>	<b>Regular monthly meeting</b>

**Altoona Area Historical Society  
1060-14<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Altoona, IA 50009**

**Tim Burget, President**

**Dan Higginbottom, Vice President**

**Diane Burget, Secretary**

**Cheryl Phillips, Treasurer**