

ALTOONA AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2005

Number Eight

AN EXCITING FALL FOR AAHS MEMBERS

Fall will be a busy season for AAHS Members. Our ongoing efforts for local historic preservation continue to raise interest in Altoona and the surrounding area. In the past three months, we have received numerous donations to our collection. One item of note is a victrola donated by Terry Hopkins, formerly of Altoona, along with musical recordings from the early 1900s.

Our group is moving forward with a project to collect as many photographs of early Altoona as possible. A display of historic photographs will be shown in the lobby display cases at the Altoona Public Library in November and December of this year. Please remember to stop by and see some of our pictures!

Again this year, the AAHS has been asked to participate in the Old Town Christmas event. We are looking for members to help with storytelling and children's crafts on Friday, November 25, 2005, at Back Door Fabrics. Contact Helen Blaney at 967-2321 if you can help.

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. The group meets the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Altoona Public Library. Benefits of membership include a quarterly newsletter, a calendar of events and information about historical tours.

GHOSTS AND GRAVEYARDS TOUR

Presented by Magical History Tours, Inc.

For Altoona Area Historical Society Members and their guests

Saturday, October 1, 2005

6:30 p.m.

Tour leaves from the Hotel Fort Des Moines

Adults - \$26.50; Children - \$16.00

**The tour will go to six haunted locations in Des Moines and West Des Moines.
Participants will visit two homes and two graveyards.**

Call Diane Burget at 967-4815 to make reservations. Deadline is September 9.

BIG CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY WESTERN CAMPAIGN EXHIBIT

A new display will be featured during the monthly open houses of the Big Creek Historical Society Museum in Polk City. The "Western Campaign" exhibit includes information about Polk City residents who served in the Civil War. The society's museum will be open from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. on September 10, and 1:00-4:00p.m. on September 25 and October 30.

REDEDICATION OF THE DES MOINES BIRTHPLACE MEMORIAL CABIN

Saturday, September 17, 2005

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m.

**First Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
North of Principal Park**

Speakers will relate the history of the Dragoons and Fort Des Moines II. The cabin restorations will be explained. You may wish to bring a lawn chair. Presented by the Polk County Historical Society. Call 251-5825 if have questions.

DO YOU HAVE OLD PHOTOGRAPHS?

The Altoona Area Historical Society is looking for old photos of the Altoona area and former residents. Pictures may be dropped off at boxes located at Altoona City Hall, the Altoona Library, or Burget Mill. If you desire, volunteers are also available to pick up your photos. The Society will copy the photos and return them if you would like to keep the originals. Please be sure that each photo is labeled with a description of the location and names of the people in the photo. If you have pictures you would like to donate and need more information, please call Tim or Diane Burget at 967-4815 or Helen Phillips at 967-4641.

Congratulations to AAHS Members

Doug and Norma Teuber

**Who celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary
on August 21, 2005**

COUNTRY SCHOOLS PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance is cooperating with several groups on photography projects for country schools. The 2006 special category photography theme for the 2006 Iowa State Fair is country schools.

Representatives from Successful Farming Magazine hope to produce a twelve-month and a perpetual calendar featuring photos of country schools. Procedures and photo requirements for these projects will be posted on the IHPA website by the end of August. The website address is: iowapreservation.org

SALISBURY HOUSE CLASSIC AUTO SHOW

September 23-25, 2005

On the grounds of Salisbury House
5025 Tonawanda Drive, Des Moines Iowa

The event features 100 classic car models including Auburn, Cadillac, Cord, and Packard. Some British and European automobiles will also be show. Activities include a Gatsby Gala, presentations on automotive history specific to Iowa and a technical session. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets are available online at www.salisburyhouse.org

SOUTHEAST POLK ALUMNI

Are you a Southeast Polk High School alum? Southeast Polk would love to hear from you! The Southeast Polk High School website has been set up to keep the alumni in touch with the district and also other alumni. Marti Kline at the District Office handles all alumni matters. If you have any questions, feel free to contact her at 967-4294 or by e-mail at klinem@se-polk.k12.ia.us.

Planning a Reunion? If so, please contact Marti Kline with the information pertaining to the reunion. Call 515-967-4294 or email Marti at klinem@se-polk.k12.ia.us.

BUSINESS NEWS FROM THE ALTOONA HERALD

- Long has been the time since vegetables were as cheap as now. Cabbage: 30 cents per dozen, corn four cents, and potatoes can hardly be given away.- September 1891
- The meat shop has closed and we will no eat chicken. – April 1900
- The tintype and photograph car will be here October 23rd. Seventeen pictures for 50 cents. – September 1891

- **Mr. Beaty has purchased the ice on Rieman's ponds, and has been cutting. Besides filling his own house, he is also furnishing many others. – January 1897**

Calendar of Events

September 10	Big Creek Historical Museum Open House
September 17	Rededication of Des Moines Birthplace Cabin
September 23-25	Salisbury Automobile Classic
September 25	Big Creek Historical Museum Open House
September 26	Regular Monthly Meeting
October 1	Ghosts and Graveyards Tour
October 10	Big Creek Historical Museum Open House
October 24	Regular Monthly Meeting
November 25	Old Town Christmas
November 28	Regular Monthly Meeting
December 26	No Regular Monthly Meeting

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

Tim Burget, President

Dan Higginbottom, Vice President

Diane Burget, Secretary

Cheryl Phillips, Treasurer