

Appanoose County Historical Society Newsletter

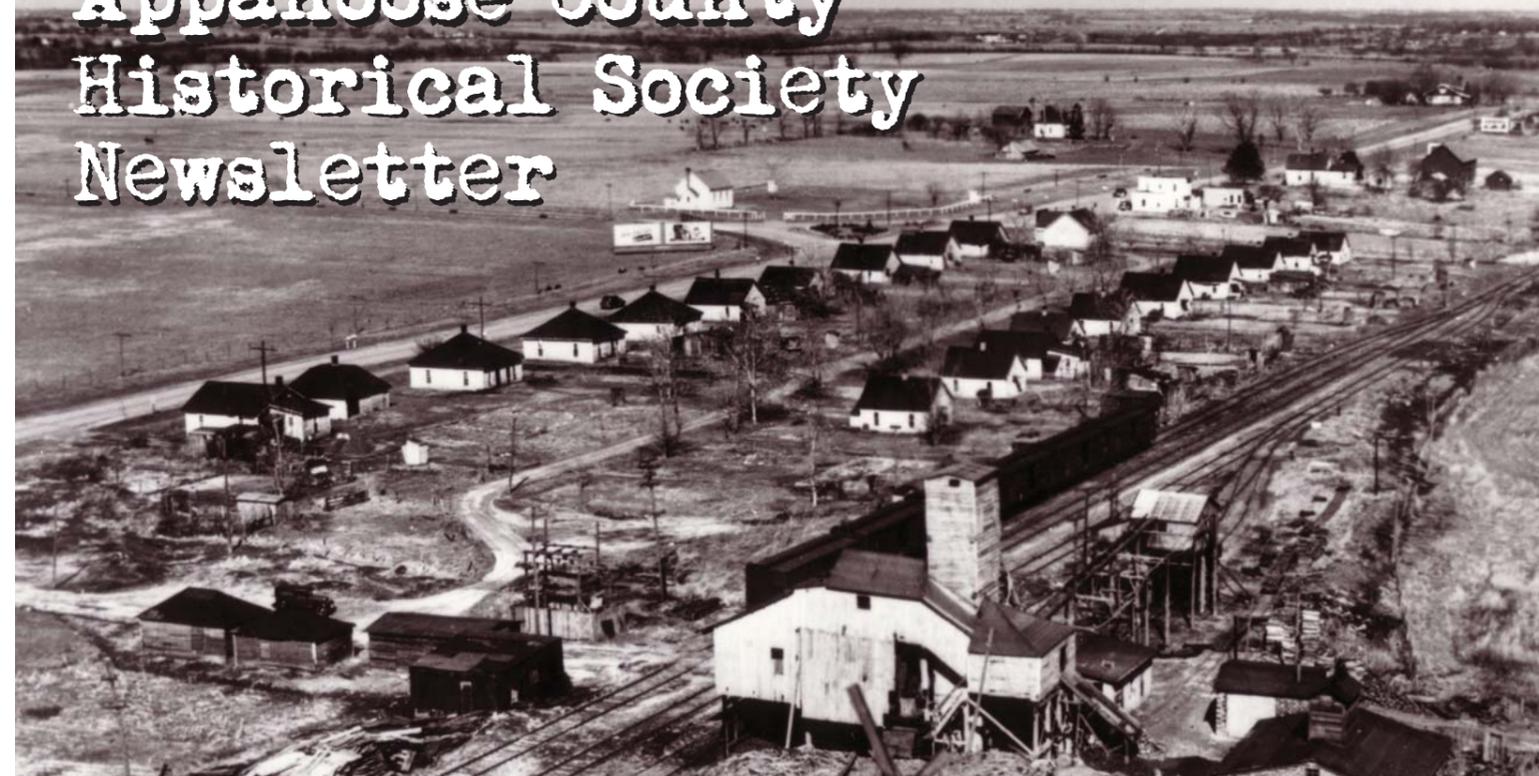


Photo of Sunshine Mine & Mining Camp, west of Centerville

Patrons of our Heritage - 2016 (as of 4/8/2017)

In an effort to recognize donations and estate gifts over \$5,000, we have created a new category in our Patrons of Our Heritage program called "Appanoose Legends". Gifts in honor of those who have passed will remain on this list in perpetuity. However, anyone living can attain this level of patronage (for that year) with their gift of \$5,000 or more.

Appanoose Legends - Over \$5,000 - Tom & Opal King

Governor Drake's Council
(\$1,000-\$4,999)
The Coons Foundation
Gary Craver
Jim & Mary Milani
Mercy Medical Center
Bob Warren

Chaldea League - (\$100 - \$499)

Carolyn Bauman	Jody & Susan McDanel
Dick Baze	Enfys McMurry
Bill & Diane Buss	Tyler Morgan
Ron & Terri Clark	Glenn & Dana Moritz
John & Barbara Cortesio	Russ Ocker
Lois Criddlebaugh	Paul & Sandy Poncy
Linda Davis	Frank Reznicek
Glenda Davis-Driggs	Deb & Ray Robinson
Larry & Carol Drake	Daryl & Joyce Heusinkveld
Dr. Kurt Dubrowski & Natalie Essary	Sherman
Brian & Kevin Harrington	George & Liz Stimson
Bill & Francina Hawkins	Robert Theile
Dr. Wm. & Justine Heffron	Marilyn Vanderlinden
Judy Hendershot	Kenneth Vruble
Linda Jones	Benedict Vruble
Lyle & Natalie Kesterson	Larry & Winona Whitaker
Kris Koestner	Jeff & Ann Young
Nancy Logan	Tom & Mary Sue Zaputil
Larry Mallett & Beverly Cosby	Jim & Linda Zirnhelt

Appanoose Chieftain's Circle
(\$500 - \$999)

Jim & Beverly Beer
Loren & Wilma Eddy
John Maletta
Dr. Brad & Dewey McConville

Coal Miner's Club - (\$50 - 99)

Gary & Dorothy Barrickman	Mark Hoffman	Bob & Pat Parks
Howard & Joy Davis	Gladys Houser	Joan Pierson
Mark & Shawn Dekker	David Kauzlarich	Jim & Rosemary Porter
Rosemary Dusablon	Mark Kelly	Cathy Proffitt
George & Lisa Eddy	David Koziol	Fern Roberts
Gretchen Fadiga	Dennis & Beverly Laurson	Lawrence & Mary Ellen Schmitz
Myrtle Felkner	Long Repair	Kent Stansberry
Dean & Mary Ann Green	Kae & Steve Morgan	Sheila & Loren Walker
Loretta Guzzi	Judy Heusinkveld Olsen	James & Dorothy Zaputil

Eye Deep in Hell: Life in the Trenches

The annual meeting of the Appanoose County Historical Society will feature a presentation by Soap Creek Productions, called Eye Deep in Hell: Life in the Trenches to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United States involvement in World War I.

Soap Creek Productions is the company created by Appanoose County native, avid military re-enactor and former history professor Russell Corder and his partner, Kelly Miller. Russell will present the program in full World War I uniform and it will include a powerpoint presentation. They also offer another presentation that the Historical Society may use later - Knights of the Skies: Aerial Combat in WW I. That presentation examines the evolution of fighter planes and combat in the skies during World War I.

The Eye Deep in Hell: Life in the Trenches presentation will follow a very brief business meeting, election of officers & board members, and year in review.

Date: Monday, April 24, 2017
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Centerville City Hall



Return Service Requested

Museum Hours for 2016
Mid-May - Mid-Oct: Mon - Fri 1:00 - 5:00
Saturday 10:00 - 4:00
Mid-Oct - Mid-May: Wed - Fri 1:00 - 4:00

APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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www.appanoosehistory.com

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Curator's Corner by Lisa Eddy

Ah, I love Spring! But it's kind of felt like Spring all winter. We've really enjoyed and taken advantage of the warm weather.

Here at the museum, we're still observing our shortened winter hours, but that gives us more time to prepare for the our numerous events that we have coming up. Our fall Trivia Nights were a resounding success, and by the time you read this, we'll have already had our spring Trivia Nights. If you haven't had the chance to come to a one of these, you should really try it out. It's so much fun! Our Trivia Nights have proven to be our 2nd largest source of income for the Historical Society, so we hope to continue them for many years to come.

Also last fall we held our annual Haunted History Tour at Oakland Cemetery which is always an educational and entertaining experience. This year we added a new attraction to our fall roster - The Haunted Jail. The Haunted Jail was held at the old Jail & Sheriff's residence and the Bland Cabin and was spearheaded by Historical Society Board members Debbie Robinson, Susan McDanel and Dana Moritz with a tremendous amount of help from haunted house expert Larry Henderson. The murder mystery haunted tour included around 50 volunteers who brought it all to life. The proceeds from this event are earmarked specifically for improvements to the cabin roof and chinking of the cabin or whatever other repairs are needed at that property. This team did an amazing job and our hats go off to them for all their hard work. Repairs at the old jail are ongoing and headed up by Jody McDanel and Ray Robinson with help from Marlin O'Connor, Dave Walljasper, Scott Palmer and others.

In January we held our very first Gangster Bash! It was an evening full of 1920's fun. Enfy's McMurry spoke about the crime and KKK history in Centerville during that time, then we served some 1920's

appetizers and held a couple of raffles, and had a photo booth supplied by Soap Creek Productions. We capped off the evening with a showing of "The Wonderful Thing", the silent movie with some scenes filmed here in Appanoose County. We're trying to



decide whether to have this same type of event next year, but just change the decade that we'll celebrate.

April is always a busy month for us! Our two Trivia Nights, plus our annual meeting. In May, Debbie Robinson's team will be hosting Pioneer Days again this year at the old Jail & Sheriff's residence for all of the 5th graders in the county. The kids really enjoy the day, learning about how the pioneers performed day-to-day tasks.

Have you ever accessed our digitized newspaper database? A few years ago, the Historical Society embarked on a project to get all of the Centerville area newspapers digitized and made available online. It has been the most valuable resource we have for doing research about Appanoose County! Over the past few years, though, we have discovered that several issues were missing. Our esteemed colleague and researcher extraordinaire Gary Craver has chased down the list of all of the papers that need to be added to the database and has contacted the company to arrange that those issues be added. He has also offered to foot the bill to make the database complete. Thank you, Gary Craver for your commitment to Appanoose County history. You're the best! For those of you who might not have know it, Gary was also honored this past year for his efforts by being named the Grand Marshal for the 2016 Pancake Day Parade!

A few weeks after you receive this newsletter, you will receive a letter from us. It is an invitation to join our cause. If you see the value in preserving and teaching about Appanoose County's rich heritage, I encourage you to please consider becoming a member of the Appanoose County Historical Society. We have a patron sponsorship program that is our main source of income for the year. If you check out the back page of this newsletter, you'll see the list of people and amounts of donations that are given. We'd

love to put YOUR name on that list. If you find value in what we do here at the museum, please help us. We are a private institution and depend on these sponsorships and our fund-raisers to keep the doors of the museum open. This funding is so important, not only to keep the museum open, but to make vital repairs and improvements.

Currently, we are working on two big projects at the Post Office location this year that are very costly, but very necessary. One project is to restore the three fanlight windows on the front of the building. These are the half-circle windows above the regular windows on the front of the museum. There are 99 small panes of glass that need to be reglazed and frames painted. This project will cost about \$6,000.

The other project that is long overdue is to install a handicapped ramp on the west side of the building, which will cost about \$18,000. We have applied for grant funding, but that only pays for a small portion of the projects. That being said, you'll understand why your sponsorship means so much to us. Thank you so much for your support!

Our condolences go out to our fellow board member and former curator, Judy Lamb, on the death of her husband, Jack. Our warmest thoughts and sincere prayers are with you.

I hope that everyone has a pleasant summer and please take some time to stop by the museum!



Like us on Facebook! And join our conversations on the Facebook group called "Centerville, Iowa Memories".



The Ramp Project

Here's our ramp. It's old, it's falling apart, and worst of all, it's not ADA compliant. This ramp was built for postal workers to push carts of mail out to their jeeps for delivery, not for disabled persons to use. But, when we have a visitor who needs a ramp to enter the building, this is what they use, and they always struggle. We need a new ramp.

The project will cost about \$18,000. It will be a long ramp that allows for the gradual slope that it needs to become ADA compliant, plus we will incur some miscellaneous costs for changing the door on our dock to convert it into an entrance.

We will be hosting different fundraising activities to raise money specifically for this project. Please help us by participating in our fundraisers!



The Window Project

Our beautiful fanlight windows also need some attention. We have three of these beautiful windows that add up to 99 separate small panes. They all need reglazing, a couple of them need repair. All of the framework needs repainted. We have submitted grant applications for help with this project, but haven't yet heard if we are to receive anything. This project will likely cost us about \$6,000.

Thank you, United Way!

United Way



United Way has helped fund the Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum for many years. We appreciate all you do for us and for the community!



The History of Gas Stations in Cenerville

Do you remember when there was a gas station on almost every corner of some intersections in town? Appanoose County Historical Society members Kris Kesterson and his father Lyle, with help from his sister, Lori, have put together a wonderful website where all of that information is gathered in one place. Go to:

www.centervilegas.com

and see the results of all their research! What a great website! There are maps, photos, and articles about the old gas stations. This was a tremendous amount of work for the Kestersons and we appreciate all of their efforts. Well done!! The Historical Society was glad to be able to help.