Meet Our New Executive Director

We are excited to announce that Colton Neely will be joining us in July as our new Executive Director.

Mr. Neely is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a degree in History and Museum Studies and has a number of years of experience with the Living History Farms, Ankeny Historic Museum, Benton County Historical Society, the Kendall Young Library, and the Vinton Public Library.

Colton is an accomplished pianist and avid collector of historical sheet music.

Meet Our New Assistant Director

We are also excited to announce that Tim Blackwell will be joining the DMCHS in July as its first Assistant Director.

Mr. Blackwell graduated from Illinois College with a degree in History. His experience includes the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, the Paul Findley Congressional Office Museum, the Jacksonville Area Museum, and the Prairie Land Heritage Museum.

One of Tim’s passions is educational programming with creating and delivering educational content to K-12 students.
Upcoming Events at the Heritage Center

**July 2**
**Paul French: Early Maps of Iowa**
1 to 3 pm
Paul French will be giving a presentation on historic maps of Burlington. See how the town has changed over the last 190 years! Paul is a local historian who specializes in historic maps and finding obscure information. Please use the Columbia Street Door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

**August 6**
**Terry Peterson and John Ramsey: Early Duck Decoy Carvers**
1 to 3 pm
Terry Peterson and John Ramsey will be giving a program on local decoy carvers! Burlington has been the home to some remarkable local carvers over the years, including Hal Sorenson and William O. Ewinger. Come on down and learn about this fascinating craft! Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

**August 20**
**Rodney Botts: Early Street Cars in Burlington**
1 to 3 pm
Ever wonder how people got around in early Burlington? Ever wonder about street cars? Rodney Botts will be discussing early Burlington street cars. Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

**September 24**
**Dave Lotz: The Railroad in Burlington**
1 to 3 pm
Dave Lotz, a railroad historian, will be discussing the role, growth, and decline of the railroad in Burlington. From the earliest iterations of the CB&Q to the Burlington Zephyr, to the BNSF, Dave will cover it all! If you are a railroad enthusiast, you will want to attend this Town Hall Meeting. Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

**October 15**
**Kelly Rundell: Des Moines County Conservation**
1 to 3 pm
Kelly Rundell with Des Moines County Conservation, will be giving a talk on conservation in Des Moines County, and why it is so important. Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

All events are held at the Heritage Museum, 501 N 4 Street.
Please use the Columbia Street entrance. Look for the blue awning!

For more information, please check our web page, newsletter, social media, and the Heritage Museum staff.

Our Mission: Provide Opportunities for education, research and the preservation of Des Moines County History
Calling All Volunteers

This summer will prove to be one of the busiest and most exciting times for the Des Moines County Historical Society. In addition to adding the world-class Tibbits crinoid collection to the museum, both Viking and American Queen are set to dock on our shoreline as many as 19 times between them. Volunteers are needed more than ever to help us provide the best experience to those coming to Burlington.

If you would like to help us share our history, please consider volunteering for one or more of these dates. It will take at least 4 to 6 people at each location (Heritage Museum & Garrett-Phelps House) each day to accomplish this. Volunteers are needed from late July through October. A full list of docking dates and other pertinent information is available if you call the office at 319.752.7449.

If you are more of a back office person, volunteers are also needed to help catalog and preserve artifacts, prepare exhibits, and maintain our facilities. Please talk to any of our staff about all the opportunities.

Many thanks!

Board Openings

The Des Moines County Historical Society currently has two openings for at-large board members.

Board members’ full terms are three years with monthly board meetings at 1:00 pm on the second Thursday of each month. Board members are expected to attend DMCHS events and actively serve on a committee such as Marketing, Collections, Fundraising, Events, or Facilities.

This is a perfect opportunity to serve your community, lend your expertise, and actively be involved with really cool artifacts.

Interested parties should forward their résumé to the attention of either board members LaVon Worley at ljworley227@gmail.com or Don Weiss at don.weiss2@outlook.com for immediate consideration.

Watch for Our New Website

The DMCHS website is in the process of being completely overhauled with a fresh, new look, new content, and new capabilities. You will be able to renew your membership and make donations online with our secure credit card processing system. You will be able to download archival issues of the monthly newsletter and keep abreast of news and scheduled events at the Heritage Center. The new website will be rolled out in the very near future, so keep an eye out for it!
For some, this object brings to mind the halcyon days of our childhoods. Hot summer days, and cool, sweet, creamy treats shared with friends or family. Back in the day, one could walk into an ice cream parlor, soda fountain, or creamery and order all kinds of cold treats. Sodas, syrups, malts, and creams were just some of the myriad wonders that awaited you. You could order an ice cream sundae or perhaps a banana split. If you were in the mood for something more traditional, you could order a dish of ice cream or a cone. You could even order a “Food” or a “Foodette” (if you know, you know!)

If the business offered more than one flavor, you might not be able to make up your mind, so you might ask to sample the different flavors to help you decide. You would be handed something very much like our object, either with your samples or with your order.

Our spoon happens to be aluminum, but other materials used included wood, metal, pottery, and plastic. Most were meant to be disposable, so most didn’t survive to the present.

At its peak, Burlington had several prime places to purchase ice cream treats. Sutter’s, Kresge’s and Stottlander’s immediately come to mind. There were others, of course, but these are the ones that people seem to remember the most.

Our records don’t tell us which creamery our spoon is from. However, it is one of several ice cream-related objects in our collection, some of which are currently on display in the Standard/Stottlander family history exhibit in the Rotunda on the upper level of the Heritage Museum.

Things are changing at the Heritage Museum! Come down, see the world’s largest, accessible exhibit of fossil echinoderms (crinoids, and starfish and blastoids, oh my!), check out the new exhibits, and meet the staff!

Photo credit: Don Weiss Photography
Donations & Memberships

Names are for receipts dated from the 15th through the 15th of each month.

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Donation Form/Membership Renewal

☐ Check (#________) ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card (For credit card please call the Heritage Museum@ 319.752.7449)

Please send completed forms to DMC Historical Society, 501 N 4th Street, Burlington, IA 52601. Make checks payable to DMCHS.

Name __________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________ City __________________________ St ______ Zip ______
Phone ___________________________ Email Address __________________________________

This donation is to renew my membership (Select only one:) Individual $25 Family $50 Bronze $250

I am making this donation (Select one)

IN MEMORY OF    IN HONOR OF    ON THE OCCASION OF __________________________

Our Mission: Provide Opportunities for education, research and the preservation of Des Moines County History
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Museum Hours

Heritage Museum: Open Tuesday through Friday from 10 to 4 pm and Saturday from 10 to 3 pm.
Garrett-Phelps House & Crapo Park Log Cabin: Open Sunday from 1 to 4 pm.
Updates will be posted through Facebook, email and our webpage: www.dmchs.org.