



## From the Executive Director's Desk

I want to take the opportunity to introduce myself to the Burlington community as the Executive Director for the Des Moines County Historical Society! I can't wait to develop not just the Heritage Center, Garrett-Phelps House, and Crapo Log Cabin, but to reach out further to the community in continuing the Des Moines County experience. Between conservation work to grant writing, I look forward to expanding our historical resources to the community to all channels.

With a Bachelor's Degree in American History and Museum Studies from the University of Iowa, I have had the privilege to work in Iowa's most significant museums such as Iowa City's Old Capital Museum, the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, and the Living History Farms in Urbandale, Iowa. I've had almost 7 years of experience on all levels of museum and library science work and look forward to the expanding potential of the Des Moines County Historical Society.

As a pianist and ragtime historian, I have the largest private collection of antique sheet music in the state of Iowa with over 30,000 individual scores going all the way back before the 1850's to when the sheet music industry started to collapse! I also collect Edison Cylinder's, records, player piano rolls, and other mechanical musical instruments related to the golden era of ragtime! I've also had the excitement of working with extensive collections of bird eggs, DNR caught fish in jars, fossils, pinned insects, & taxidermy.

Looking back at the extensive history collection within all three museum sites here in Burlington, I look forward to working with staff, board members, and community partners to show off the true Des Moines County Experience.



Colton Neely



Is it time to renew your membership? Check your mailing label to find out.

# Upcoming Events at the Heritage Center

## **August 20 - Rescheduled**

### **Rodney Botts: Early Street Cars in Burlington**

**1 to 3 pm**

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances, this Town Hall Meeting will be rescheduled. Please check our website for the new date.

## **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 8**

### **Robin Schneiderman: Iowa GenWeb**

**1 to 3 pm**

Robin Schneiderman, a local genealogist and former Executive Director of DMCHS, will be discussing the Iowa GenWeb website and why it is important to both genealogists and historians. If you are interested in researching your family history, you will want to attend this Town Hall Meeting. Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 12:45.

## **November 12**

### **Bob and Janet Hesler: The History of Danville**

**1 to 3 pm**

Bob and Janet Hesler will be discussing the history of Danville and its evolution from a stagecoach stop to a thriving small town in SE Iowa. They will also discuss the Anne Frank pen pal connection and museum. To find out more about these interesting topics, you will want to attend this Town Hall Meeting. 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.

## 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!

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## 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](mailto:ljworley227@gmail.com) or Don Weiss at [don.weiss2@outlook.com](mailto:don.weiss2@outlook.com) for immediate consideration.

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## Check Out Our New Website

The DMCHS website has been completely overhauled with a fresh, new look, new content, and new capabilities. You can now renew your membership and make donations online with our secure credit card processing system. You can download archival issues of the monthly newsletter and keep abreast of news and scheduled events at the Heritage Center. Check it out and let us know what you think!

## Des Moines County Historical Society Board Members

LaVon Worley  
Paula Logan  
Don Weiss  
Terri Dowell  
Eric O'Brien  
Andrew Mahoney  
Josh Schier

### 2021-22 Officers

President ..... LaVon Worley  
Vice President, Treas ..... Don Weiss  
Secretary ..... Paula Logan



Offices located at Heritage Museum  
501 N 4th Street Burlington, IA 52601  
Voice: 319-752-7449 FAX: 319-753-2449  
[dmchs@dmchs.org](mailto:dmchs@dmchs.org)

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

## From the Assistant Director

I want to take the time to thank all those who have greeted me with such a warm welcome here in Burlington. As I settle into my new role as the new Assistant Director I look forward to meeting all those who make up this wonderful community. I am beyond thrilled to begin collaborating with our staff, board, and community in efforts to re-envision our three spaces!

Now a little about myself and background, I hold a bachelor's degree in History with a Public History concentration from Illinois College. Prior to taking this position I had the privilege of working as a Park Ranger at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Illinois. My passion is rooted in connecting history with those that it represents and fostering a community that extends beyond the walls of our three facilities.

I currently live across the bridge on the Illinois side in Abingdon, Illinois with my girlfriend, Alyssa, and our two cats. My leisure time is often spent enjoying a book or catching up on whatever is new in the Marvel Universe. During football season I can be found glued to the couch every Saturday cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes whom I love dearly!

I am absolutely delighted to become a part of this community and excited for all the future work to be done for the Des Moines County Historical Society. Please feel free to stop into the Heritage Center anytime. I would love to get the chance to meet and get to know all of you.



Tim Blackwell



Mix things up!  
Come in and see our new exhibits.

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

# Donations & Memberships

Names are for receipts dated from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Donations

Margaret Bean  
Wendy Wendland  
Colton Neely  
LaVon Worley  
Annette Kuhlemeier

## In Memory of Martha and Wilson Pratt

Jeff Heland

## Peter Richardson

Julie Oriano  
WT Lile  
Bonnie Jordan

## Louis M. Weiss

Lavonn Staub

## Memberships

Marcia Holsinger  
Connie Geiselhart

Bill & Susan Bauer  
Gene & Joy Anderson  
Michael & Tammy McCoy  
Russ Fry  
Gary & Ruth Mansheim  
Connie & Mike Hinson  
Ann Hass  
David & Amy Camp  
Jerry & Helen Smith  
Steve & Trina Spencer  
Rodney & Barbara Botts  
Kenny & Joyce Johnson  
Richard & Lois Bailey  
David & Inez Metzger  
Margie Zeran  
Judy Hulsey  
Jane Housewright  
Burton & Joanne Prugh  
Kevin & Diane Mueller  
Mary Rubens  
Ray Delmege & Martha Clyde  
Todd & Cheryl Dirth

## Memorial Brick Garden

Edward E Weiss  
Odessa Starnes  
by Lavonn Staub  
Sarah Virginia Camp  
Ruth E Buehlir  
Mary E Ward  
Mike & Connie Hinson Family  
John & Peggy McCormally  
Gloria M Jewett  
Scott W Wood  
Evangeline Ray  
Keri Mendenhall  
Khyla Dean  
Mike & Elyn Dean  
Cecil Eugene Rideout  
Yvonne McCune  
Geraldine Othello Brown  
Phyllis Irene McAdams  
by Terry Strother

## 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**



DES MOINES COUNTY  
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 Heritage Museum • Bart Howard Lounge  
 Garrett-Phelps House • Crapo Park Log Cabin  
 501 N 4th Steet • Burlington, IA 52601

Non-Profit Org  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Burlington, IA 52601  
 Permit No. 568



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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](http://www.dmchs.org).