



From the Executive Director

By Colton Neely

During the month of September, we saw a variety of things happen at the Heritage Center, Garrett-Phelps Home, and Log Cabin. As autumn is on our heels, I am excited to see the full beauty of the Mississippi River as the trees get to change colors!

First, I want to thank the staff, volunteers, and board members for assisting the patrons of the Viking Cruises landing here at the Heritage Center. We had lots of fun and enjoyed the enthusiasm of the cruise patrons as they toured our site. I would also like to mention that this was Viking's inaugural cruise down the Mississippi, and we are humbled they stopped to see us specifically. We all look forward to future stops here at Des Moines County Historical Society.

Another project we have been working on is revamping of our archive room and library stacks for new materials for our new 2023 projected exhibits. This involves temporarily utilizing the classroom by the Bart Howard Lounge as prep space for our archives before we relocate them to their permanent future spots.

Unfortunately, this means our classroom will not be used for lectures. We've relocated lecture events to the Bart Howard Lounge which will have comfortable seating and refreshments. I can reassure everyone that when the times comes, lectures will return to the classroom.

During our adventures of relocating objects within our archives, we came across a unique and massive piece. Against a wall in a very small room was Crapo's very own china cabinet. This object is what we consider a primary source artifact that is an absolute treasure to us here! But there was one problem; we had to figure out how to maneuver it out of the storage room without damaging it. Kay Swanson, our Museum Assistant and I measured the height of the cabinet in comparison to the doors leading

out of the room. We had two doors to pass the cabinet through. The first door measured 1/2 inch of wiggle room just to pass through. The second door, however, was too short by 4 inches. When we measured the width of the cabinet, it was 6 inches shorter than the height of Crapo's cabinet, which meant we had to flip the cabinet on its side to pass through all doors!

Kay and I very carefully unscrewed the hinges to the glass doors and pulled the drawers to prevent damage. We carefully walked the cabinet forward away from the wall and placed it on its back. Then with all our strength, we tipped the cabinet on its left side with a small furniture dolly underneath it. Ever so slowly, Kay and I rolled the cabinet past the Spirit of Miss Lilly Bar, over the stage and across the Bart Howard Lounge and into the classroom. There, it will sit for the next task!

In the next couple of weeks, especially when it's cooler, our dedicated staff and volunteers will be doing some intense restoration and archival work to clean the cabinet. Ultimately, we will be relocating the cabinet next to Crapo's portrait and place his unique seashell collection inside it. Who knew moving a cabinet could cause this much fuss, but it was worth the while to get it out of storage for a new purpose.

We encourage our patrons to visit us anytime during normal business hours, as we are constantly moving new, historic objects in place for our exhibits! Check out the Martin Bruhl Parlor exhibit and our newly relocated Gift Shop.

As always, stay tuned for our upcoming events, town hall lectures, and boat dockings. I also encourage those who would like to volunteer to visit with me about fun opportunities including several exhibit developments we need help with.

Upcoming Events at the Heritage Center

October 15

Cathy Ziglar: Bat Conservation in Des Moines County

1 to 3 pm

Many people think of bats as mysterious, and maybe even a little scary, but bats provide important pollination, pest control, and seed dispersal benefits to agriculture and natural environments, and they are important players in food webs. In recent years bat populations have been in dramatic decline due to climate change, habitat loss, wind turbines, and a deadly fungal disease that affects mostly hibernating bats in North and Central America. It is estimated that nearly seven million bats have been lost in North America to White-nose Syndrome (WNS) since 2007. Of the 47 bat species living in the United States and Canada, nearly half of them hibernate through the winter. In the U.S. WNS has been confirmed in 37 states, including Iowa, and the disease has killed over 90% of northern long-eared, little brown, and tri-colored bat populations. All three of these species are found in Des Moines County. This presentation will highlight some of the bat conservation efforts taking place in Des Moines County. Doors open at 12:45.

October 20

Mark Tabbert: History of Freemasonry in Burlington, Iowa since 1840

6 to 8 pm

The first Masonic meeting in the Iowa Territory was held on the evening of November 6, 1840, in the Burlington carpenter shop of Brother Evan Evans. That meeting led to the chartering of the Des Moines Lodge No 41 by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. In 1844 the Des Moines Lodge was rechartered as the first lodge in the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and continues to meet to the present day. What is Freemasonry? How did it come to Burlington? And what do Freemasons do? These questions, along with an explanation of the numerous other fraternal organizations that once, and still serve diverse Burlington communities will be presented. Doors open at 5:45.

November 12

Janet Hesler: The History of Danville

1 to 3 pm

Come learn about the early settlers of Danville in 1834, their schools, their churches, and their businesses. Danville Station was a thriving community from 1860 - 1921 when much of the business district burnt down. The community banded together and rebuilt their businesses. The presentation will include the story of the Anne Frank connection in 1940. 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!

December 1 & 3

Christmas Event at the Garrett-Phelps House

Mark your calendars for another special Christmas Event at the Garrett-Phelps House. Details will be announced in the next newsletter.

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

From the Assistant Director

By Tim Blackwell

September was a busy month as dockings of the American Queen & Viking riverboats continued. Both the Heritage Museum and Garrett-Phelps House welcomed hundreds of visitors this month. I'm proud to say that our staff and volunteers received overwhelmingly positive feedback from boat passengers and the Greater Burlington Partnership.

I would like to give a huge thanks to all the hard work our volunteers and staff put in to accommodate numerous boats. Without their help we would not have been able to properly staff and provide a quality experience for these tourists. We still have one more boat left in the season with the docking of Viking on October 20th. If you are interested in volunteering at the Heritage Museum please feel free to reach out to me via email at Timb@dmchs.org. You may also fill out an application to become a volunteer on our website.

Along with the riverboats, the Heritage Museum hosted two very informative Town Hall events in September. Rodney Botts delivered a wonderful talk on "Street Cars in Burlington" on September 10th. Just two weeks later on September 24th, Dave Lotz spoke on "Burlington's Railroads." The turnouts for these events were wonderful.

Our next Town Hall will kick off Spooky Season as Cathy Ziglar, a professor at Southeastern Community College, offers a talk on "Bat Conservation in Des Moines County." I encourage you to follow our Facebook page and check our website to stay up-to-date on events happening at the Heritage Museum.

Become a Volunteer

This autumn will prove to be one of the busiest and most exciting times for the Des Moines County Historical Society. Although the many American Queen and Viking dockings will be winding down, volunteers are needed more than ever to help us provide the best experience to those coming to Burlington.

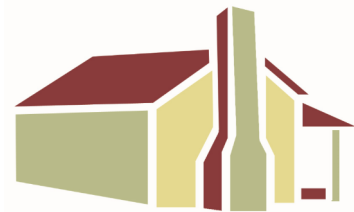
Volunteers are always needed to help catalog and preserve artifacts, prepare exhibits, and maintain our facilities. Please talk to any of our staff about all the opportunities.

Des Moines County Historical Society Board Members

LaVon Worley
Paula Logan
Don Weiss
Terri Dowell
Lin Parks
Martha Clyde
Megan Kubatzke

2021-22 Officers

President LaVon Worley
Vice President Don Weiss
Treasurer Terri Dowell
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

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

Out of the Attic: The Salter Bust

By Tim Blackwell & Colton Neely

Within our collection, there sits a rather interesting connection to the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Pictured is the front side of a bust of Dr. William Salter, a prominent gentleman in Burlington's history. Salter's tenure as pastor of the First Congressional Church began in 1846 and would extend for six decades. His life represented a dedication to the Burlington community as he promoted education and freedom for all youth.

However, if we spin the bust of Dr. Salter around we find etched into the cast-iron the name of the sculptor, L.W. Volk. L.W. Volk's full name is Leonard Wells Volk, an American sculptor responsible for creating the only two life masks of Abraham Lincoln. In May of 1860, Volk would travel to Springfield, Illinois to present the Lincolns a complete cabinet bust as a gift to commemorate Lincoln securing the Republican nomination. That very bust would remain in the Lincoln's front parlor after they departed for Washington D.C. in February of 1861 and can be seen depicted in the *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* published in March of 1861. Although Dr. Salter and President Lincoln aren't with us today, their busts remain as proof of their prominence and of the impact they had on those they reached.



Image courtesy of the NPS/Lincoln Home National Historic Site

Dr. William Salter was one of the main advocates to establish a free public library and construct the original library building, which is now the DMCHS Heritage Center. We plan on renovating our stacks to better exhibit our library's history. We feel the bust of Salter is a primary relic for this exhibit, but since it is in disrepair, the object cannot be put on display. The artifact is in now in three pieces: the moss green marble base, pedestal, and cast-iron head. Although the Salter Bust will need some conservation, at some point, it will be put in the exhibit. We at Des Moines County Historical Society ask our fellow patrons, community members, and businesses for a small donation to directly pay for conservation and preservation of this particular bust. As the Executive Director, I feel we owe Salter for his dedication to the community in establishing this library and museum. Don't You?

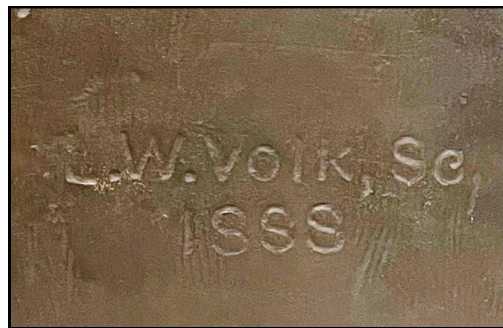


Photo Credit: Tim Blackwell

Donations & Memberships

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

In Memory of
William and Martha Pratt
Jeff Heland

In Memory of
Joan Foley
Diane Waterson
Barb Bonnett

Memberships
Carol Solheim
Steve Zachert
Nancy Halls
Donna & Jan Logan
David & Linda Hall
Keith and Linda Turrill
Carol Messer
Donna & John Carlson
Arlys Cecconi
John & Mary Disselhorst
Craig & Sue Gilchrist
Jerry & Suzanne Bloomer
Mary Fox
Stephen & Dianna Burden
Deb & Mike Bowen
Pauline Lowther
Jim Pilger
Carole Halicki
Jason Stravers

Donations
Robert Osterheld

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



What's inside this issue

From the Executive Director	1
Upcoming Events at the Heritage Center	2
Become a Volunteer.....	3
From the Assistant Director	3
Out of the Attic: The Salter Bust	4
Donations & Memberships.....	5

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.