



## From the Executive Director

by Colton Neely

We have had an exciting year, and it's hard to believe we are halfway through it and into July.

We just received from the Greater Burlington Partnership an official schedule of riverboats for July through October. Our first boat is on the 4th of July, and *Viking* is expected to arrive at the heritage center at 10:00 a.m. and depart at 4:30 p.m. We strongly encourage our volunteers to assist us with the Heritage Center by guiding traffic, conducting tours, and assisting patrons with directional needs!

Please contact the Heritage Center and request me at (319) 752-7449 or Coltonn@dmchs.org.

Here is the entire docking schedule, as it currently stands. Please remember that it is also subject to change due to river conditions or issues with the ships. As we receive up-to-date information, we will update our website at [www.dmchs.org](http://www.dmchs.org) and Facebook page.

Date	Cruise Liner	Arrive	Depart
Jul 4	Viking	10:00 am	4:30 pm
Jul 13	Viking	8:00 am	5:00 pm
Jul 16	American Countess	TBD	TBD
Jul 29	American Queen	TBD	TBD
Jul 30	American Countess	TBD	TBD
Aug 1	Viking	10:00 am	5:00 pm
Aug 10,	Viking	8:00 am	4:30 pm
Aug 12	American Queen	TBD	TBD
Aug 14	Viking	9:30 am	4:30 pm
Aug 24	Viking	8:00 am	5:00 pm
Aug 28	Viking	9:30 am	4:30 pm
Sep 7	Viking	8:00 AM	5:00 PM
Sep 10	American Countess	TBD	TBD
Sep 11	Viking	9:30 am	4:30 pm
Oct 7	American Queen	TBD	TBD
Oct 10	Viking	10:00 am	4:30 pm
Oct 19	Viking	8:00 am	5:00 pm

## Update on “Wedding Cake”

Object No. 75.576 Wedding Cake was discussed at length in the last newsletter. Unbelievably, we had an enormous input from volunteers and patrons with stories of the cake. On top of the various stories, we also got various theories about why it still exists to this very day!

Luckily, a patron, Judy Hulse, visited the museum and introduced herself to me as the granddaughter of Francis William Brooks and Hester McConnell. If you recall, those are the initials on both slices of the wedding cake. Their residence was at 1015 N. 6th Street in Burlington, near Mosquito Park. Judy clarified that the piece of cake was indeed between the years of 1910 and 1913 and most likely

petrified from the flour and sugar not being able to disintegrate. Another patron, Cyndy Fabel, had a similar theory on how sugar can preserve bakery goods into something similar to sponge candy.

We are not sure how it landed in our possession, but rumor has it that when we acquired the Garrett-Phelps House, the cake had been stored in the back of the pantry closet and was forgotten by the family. When volunteers were inventorying the contents of house, they decided they might as well inventory the wedding cake slices as well!

# Upcoming Events

## **Town Hall Lectures First Saturday of Every Month**

**12 to 3 pm**

Every first Saturday of the month, the Heritage Center will host a speaker, historian, or lecturer to give a presentation to the community about a particular topic related to Burlington or Des Moines County. This program will typically be free for patrons; the only time admission is charged for this program is for *special* lectures. Each participating patron will get a sticker from our museum staff that allows free admission all day at the Heritage Center. Please use the Columbia Street door (with the blue awning). Doors open at 11:45.

## **Tea for Lunch Call for Available Dates**

**1 pm**

Tea for Lunch is a grand social gathering in the Garrett-Phelps House dining room. Scones, Savories & Sweets will be served. Maximum capacity 12 participants.

**Cost \$25 per person**

## **Heritage Center Kids Camp (Ages 7 - 12) July 24 - 28**

**10 - 11:30 am**

This summer program is full of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) and STEAM-related activities, with kids learning with museum officials about crinoids, plant pressing, bug identification, Victorian parlor games, Native American arrowhead excavations, corn production, and much more! This includes a field trip to the Garrett-Phelps House and Crapo Park Log Cabin.

Contact Colton Neely to sign your kids up for these fun, historical activities and other details!

Maximum capacity 15 participants.

**Monday-** Plant Pressing and Bugging Identification

**Tuesday-** Victorian Parlor Games with Queen of Hearts Croquet, Stick and Hoop, and Find-the-Thimble

**Wednesday-** Native American Arrowhead Excavation

**Thursday-** Antique Corn Husker and other Corney Fun Crafts

**Friday-** Crinoid Sluicing for Fossils

**Cost \$75 each per person**

**For selected days of your choosing, \$15 each day per person**

## Taste of the Holidays December 7 and 9

This holiday dinner at the Garrett-Phelps house hosts up to 12 people per night. The night will start off in the library, where our volunteers will serve wine and refreshments. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served while guests socialize in the back parlor. When dinner is ready to be served, our interpreters will guide guests to be seated in the dining rooms. As dinner is being served, our historians will give a presentation of the Garrett-Phelps house and family heritage. This holiday dinner experience is a beloved tradition in the community hosted by the Des Moines County Historical Society.

Note that due to heavy demand, seats are available only for the December 9 dinner. Please call Kay at 319-752-7449 to make your reservation.

---

## Become a Volunteer

This summer will be one of the busiest and most exciting times for the Des Moines County Historical Society. Very quickly a new season of American Queen and Viking dockings will start up, and 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.

## Board Members

Megan Brincks  
Martha Clyde  
Terri Dowell  
Michael Herron  
Paula Logan  
Don Weiss

Forest Gahn, Honorary Board Member

### 2023-24 Officers

President .....Don Weiss  
Vice President.....Paula Logan  
Treasurer .....Terri Dowell  
Secretary .....Megan Brincks

## DMCHS Staff

Executive Director .....Colton Neely  
Museum Assistant .....Kay Swanson



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 Collection

By Colton Neely

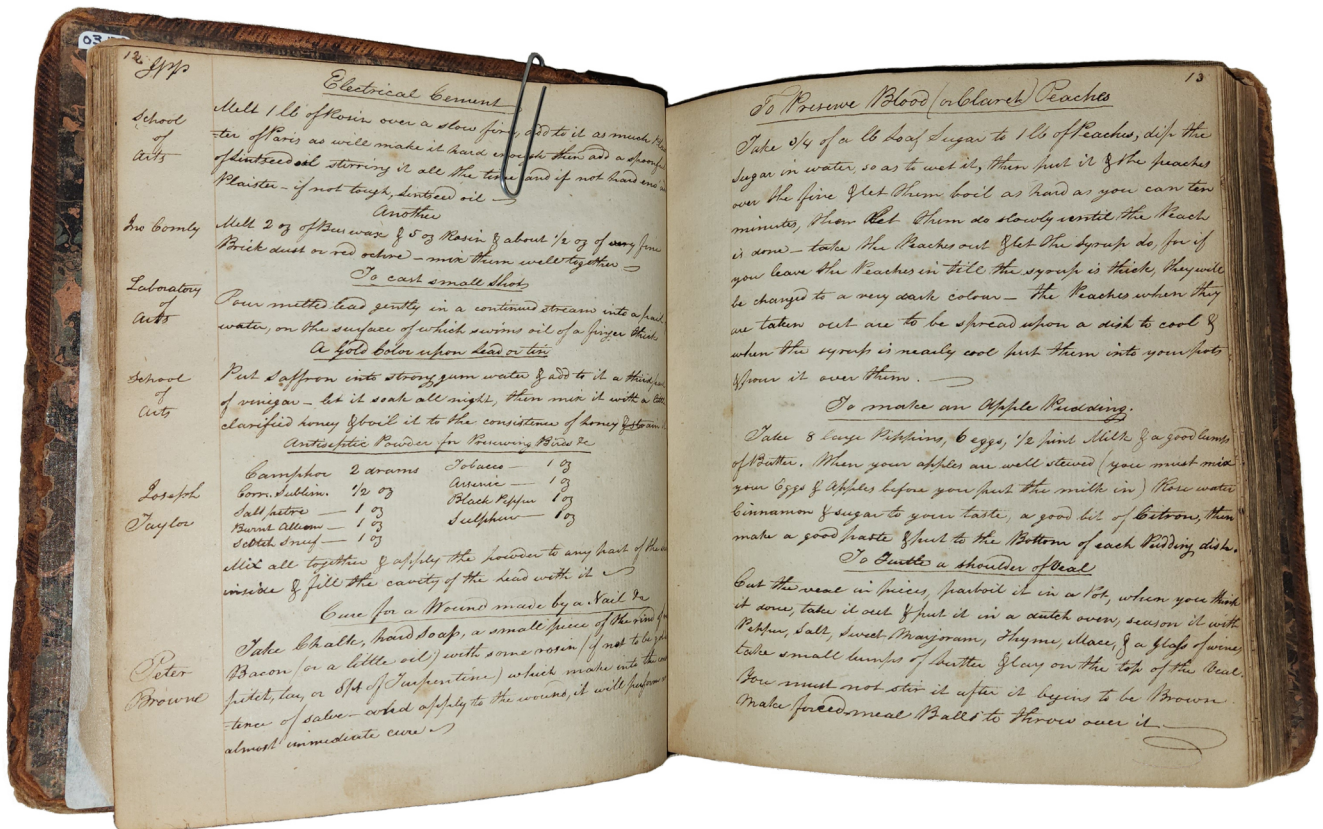
Object No. 03.132

Handwritten Recipe Book with Written Recipes from 1801, 1833, & 1839  
Several Generations of Dishes from the Jones Family  
Donated by Morn & Mary Ad Jones in 2003

## 1833 Lemon Drops Recipe

“Squeeze and strain the juice of a good sized lemon;  
Mix it with pounded + sifted loaf sugar, till so thick that it  
is stirred with difficulty;  
Pour it into a preserving pan, and with a wooden spoon,  
stir it constantly, and  
Let it boil juice or size minutes;  
Then drop it from the point of a knife, upon writing  
proper, in drops as lays on a shilling.  
When cold, they will readily come off.”

Note: This is a direct translation from the text; as you can tell, this recipe is up for various reinterpretations. Back in those days, many families did not have measuring cups and utensils, and recipes were judged by eye. It is also interesting to note the dialect of the recipe; this gives us clues to where the family immigrated from!



# Donations & Memberships

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

**In Memory of**  
**William and Martha Pratt**  
Jeff Heland

**Donations:**  
Shoquouon Chapter of Questers  
Colleen Heibner  
Milton Paule  
Mary Krohlow

**Memberships:**  
Nancy Hoelzen  
Gene and Joy Anderson  
Jerry and Patricia Courtney  
Judy Hinesley  
Doris Van Winkle  
Kierstin Boak  
Jim and Jackie Holtkamp  
Bill and Susan Bauer  
Diane Van Duzen  
Alan and Cyndy Fabel  
Cheryl Bell  
Paul and Suzanne French  
Ron and Marcia Glasgow  
Jim and Beth Ross  
Marissa Crowdis  
Mary L. Marsh  
Craig and Sue Gilchrist  
Ralph and Nancy Montrone  
Russ Fry  
Rick and Jill Helmuth

## A Gift in Your Will or Living Trust

A gift in your will or living trust is one of the most effective ways to provide for the future of DMCHS and allows you to retain your assets during your lifetime. In addition, your estate may benefit from a charitable estate tax deduction.

The gift may be easily included in your will when it is written, or it may be added through a simple codicil or amendment. You may wish to leave DMCHS a stated dollar amount; a percentage of your residual estate (what remains after debts, taxes and specific bequests have been made); or a specific asset, such as securities or other marketable property.

It can be as simple as adding the following language to your last will and testament: *"I give and bequeath to the Des Moines County Historical Society, presently of 501 N 4th Street, Burlington, IA 52601, the sum of \$\_\_\_ to be used for its general support."*

For further information, contact Colton Neely, Executive Director, at 319-752-7449.

## 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



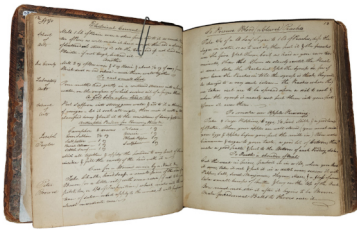


DES MOINES COUNTY  
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 501 N 4th Street  
 Burlington, IA 52601  
 Return Service Requested

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



## What's inside this issue



From the Executive Director .....	1
Update on "Wedding Cake" .....	1
Upcoming Events .....	2
Become a Volunteer.....	3
Out of the Collection.....	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](http://www.dmchs.org).