

From the Executive Director

by Colton Overton

Above all, I would want to express my gratitude to the board, employees, and volunteers for their support of the Garrett-Phelps House during the Snake Alley Art Fair. We appreciate the many families and friends of the museums who supported us. A total of 106 individuals toured the property between 9:00 am and 3:30 pm. It was enjoyable to stroll around and discuss what our neighborhood museum has to offer to the families and patrons. We also set up a croquet set outside and a stick and hoop for the kids because so many people wanted to tour our house! Our board can't wait to see those faces again next year at the Garrett-Phelps House.

With support of the Heritage Trust, our staff has started repainting the interior of the Heritage Center. We made the decision to restore the original stencil work located between our front door, atrium, rotunda, and stacks after extensive discussion with personnel and donors. The old yellow paint is being removed in favor of a deeper, more tasteful jade nouveau green and linen white. These hues were selected to reflect of one of the library's original interior color schemes. In addition to being historically accurate, these colors bring out the gilded paintings and brass accents and warm the wood grain on the massive carpentry surrounding the building's original interior. We also learned with great excitement we will be getting a \$25,000 donation to help restore our stacks room. The new library exhibit will occupy half of the space, while the remaining portion will be used for gift shops and donation preparation. October through December will see conservation and restoration. If you would like to participate with the conservation work, please contact me before the start of the process.

As a reminder, we would like to call out to those interested in volunteering at either the Garrett-Phelps House or Heritage Center for the Viking Mississippi River docking dates. Contact me at coltonn@dmchs.org or (319) 752 - 7449 to schedule a day(s), a location, and duty you would like.

Date	Ship	Day	Time
7/6/2024	Viking	Sat	8 – 4 pm
7/18/2024	Viking	Thu	8 – 5 pm
8/10/2024	Viking	Sat	8 – 4 pm
8/22/2024	Viking	Thu	8 – 5 pm
8/26/2024	Viking	Mon	9:30 – 4:30 pm
9/5/2024	Viking	Thu	8 – 5 pm
9/9/2024	Viking	Mon	9:30 – 4:30 pm
9/19/2024	Viking	Thu	8 – 5 pm
10/12/2024	Viking	Sat	8 – 4 pm
10/24/2024	Viking	Thu	8 – 5 pm

As of February 28, 2024. Docking dates are subject to change.

Upcoming Events

Sounds of the Past

Saturday, July 20, August 20

10 am to 12 pm

In the Heritage Center's atrium, Colton Overton, Executive Director, will play ragtime on the historic Martin Bruhl piano. In addition, he will demonstrate the Edison phonograph on special occasions. Please use the main entrance on the east side at the top of the ramp, 4th Street. Doors open at 9:45 am.

Town Hall Lecture

Saturday, August 10

11 am, Bart Howard Lounge

Crapo Park and its Early History

The Des Moines County Historical Society features staff member Amy Power in a talk about the growth of Crapo Park. See the August Newsletter for additional details.

Town Hall Lecture

Saturday, September 14

11 am in Bart Howard Lounge

The lost Parlor Organs of the Midwest & Concert

Colton Overton, Executive Director, gives a presentation about the history, astounding mechanics, and downfall of the Midwest's parlor organs. A Newman Pump Organ donated to the museum is currently undergoing restoration and will be used for programming. This event will present a tastefully recreated sample of what our ancestors' homes would have sounded like.

*Program note: In the event that restoration reports delays in operation, Facebook and the newspaper will both provide updates on the program.

SilverCord Walk-In

Thursday, July 4, 11, 18, 25

Thursday, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

4 - 6 pm

All Silver Cord students are welcome to come to the museum if they need hours and do volunteer work with staff and peers.

Town Hall Lecture

Saturday, October 12

11 am in Bart Howard Lounge

Philip Crapo Seashell Collection & Exhibit

Museum staff member Cora Hermann-Wickham has been working on Philip Crapo's personal seashell collection from all around the world for the past few months. A new display at the Heritage Center's historic front door will be unveiled during this presentation. She will discuss Philip Crapo, a founder of Burlington, and his supposed trips, including how he collected unusual seashells and how, after his death, the old Burlington Public Library acquired it.

Kids Museum Camp

July 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

\$75.00 per child (Free with Family Membership)

Is your child or grandchild interested in Corney Crafts, Backyard Archaeology, Parlor Games and Art, Mining for Gemstones, and Scavenger Hunts? Then sign the up the Kids Museum Camp. Visit the Heritage Center for information and take our flier.

Scones, Savories & Sweets

Tuesday, July 16, August 20, September 17

1 pm

Now accepting reservations for a three-course Tea Luncheon, a grand social gathering in the Garrett-Phelps House dining room. \$25 per person. Maximum capacity 12 participants. Call 319-752-7449 to reserve your seat.

Historic Newspaper Reading

Wednesday, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wednesday, August 7, 14, 21, 28

10 - 12 pm

Historic Newspaper Discussion of current issues that can affect history, and pulling random themes/dates in Des Moines County History. Meet in Bart Howard Lounge.

Memorial Brick Garden

Engraving to start on 11 bricks! Another 1 waits for 9 more.

Outside of the Heritage Museum, many of you remember our memorial brick garden. The bricks are the perfect way to show your support of the museums, memorialize or honor a family, or mark a special occasion.

Each donation of \$150 per 4" x 8" India red granite brick will include a maximum of two lines of 15 characters each. Spaces between words count as characters. The opportunity also exists for donors of \$1,000 or more to be recognized with a special, light gray granite brick.

Making a gift will last beyond a lifetime and will be a stepping stone towards the history and future of the Des Moines County Historical Society and our three historical locations.

For more information on adding your engraved brick, please visit our website at www.dmchs.org for a request form, or contact me at coltonn@dmchs.org or 319-752-7449, and I will be happy to help. We need 2 more to meet the minimum of 10 to start the additional engraving process. Sign up today to have your name added to the outdoor classroom and picnic space!

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 Overton, Executive Director, by phone at 319-752-7449.

Want to Volunteer?

There is still time to volunteer to assist with Viking dockings 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
- Kara Houston
- Paula Logan
- Don Weiss

Forest Gahn, Honorary Board Member

2024-25 Officers

- ChairDon Weiss
- Vice Chair.....Paula Logan
- TreasurerTerri Dowell
- SecretaryMegan Brincks

DMCHS Staff

- Executive DirectorColton Overton
- Museum AssistantKay Swanson
- Docent.....Cora Hermann-Wickham
- Docent.....Jarod Shaffer
- Docent.....Amy Power



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 Overton

Object #94.458(2)

Object # Unknown

At the Port of Burlington, on August 12, 2023, the American Queen played the ship's well-known steam calliope as a salute to the Burlington community. The American Queen's beautiful set of 37 gleaming, gold-plated whistles and the keyboard were designed and installed in Peru, Indiana by resident David Morecraft. Although a calliope can have as many as 25 or 67 whistles, 32 is the more common number, particularly for steam calliopes. Among the calliopes was the renowned Delta Queen, which is currently kept in Sacramento, California, as a floating hotel and museum. The steam calliope works by letting outward steam to produce sound. typically in sequence of a

chromatic scale in steam whistles that are emitted from the ship's boilers. These calliopes were invented in America around 1850 by A. S. Denny and then patented in 1855 by Joshua Stoddart. These calliopes were originally intended to be used in churches, but circuses quickly acquired them and they eventually made their way to the Lower Mississippi River. Steam calliopes were given as a means of amusement and engagement with other riverboats during the height of riverboat traffic on the Mississippi River and other minor rivers. Reports of Calliope duels between boats were common. Because of their expensive installation and stringent boiler restrictions, steam calliopes are becoming increasingly rare.

Burlington may not hear a steam calliope on the riverfront for a very long time since the American Queen left on August 12. We were lucky that our museum was able to acquire a video of its last performance for our collection of audiovisual materials. To hear the American Queen play their calliope one last time in Burlington, scan the QR code below.



Donations & Memberships

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

In Memory of
James Pilger
Rick Helmuth
Ed Minard II

Donations
Wayne & Colleen Heibner
Ralph Anderson
Janet Calvin
Milton & Laurine Paule

Memberships
Jacqueline Johnson-Onesto
Jane Tadelski
Gene & Ann Marie Anderson
Zachary Ireland
Marcia Lohmann
Judy Stevens
Ralph Anderson
Wayne & Colleen Heibner
Andy & Joyce Chouinard
Mary L Marsh
Bill & Susan Bauer
Marcia & Ron Glasgow
Jerry & Julie Anderson
Pat Unander
Ron Ritson
Ed Minard II
Clay & Olivia Baker
Jonnie Tiemeier
Paul & Suzanne French

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

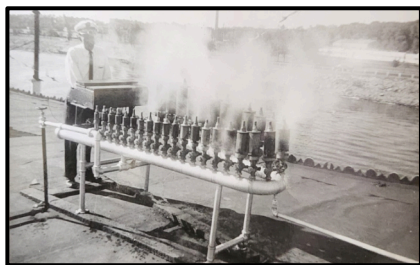
I am making this donation (Select one)

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



What's inside this issue



Island Queen Calliope

From the Executive Director	1
Upcoming Events	2
Want to Volunteer?	3
Memorial Brick Garden.....	3
A Gift in Your Will or Living Trust.....	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: Please contact Heritage Center for private tours.
Updates will be posted through Facebook, email and our webpage: www.dmchs.org.