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Cedar County Trivia

- * Cedar County was created December 1837.
- * No more than 150 people lived in Cedar County in 1837.
- * Rochester was made County Seat 1838.
- * Durant was the first county community with a railroad in 1855.
- * Mechanicsville is derived from the first settlers who were artisans and mechanics.
- * Bennett was named for Mr. Bennett the Right-of-Way man for the railroad.
- * West Branch was a Quaker settlement.
- * Clarence moved 2 miles to be near the railroad.
- * Stanwood used be Flourney, the name of the man who sold the land for a depot.
- * Lowden used to be spelled Louden.

COMING EVENTS

Musical Performers

Heaven's Promise

Thursday
February 2, 2017
Watch the website and
Facebook for time
South Bethel Church
Prairie Village
1094 Hwy 38
(Just North of Tipton)
Free Admission

March

Women in Cedar County History



Ella Marie Noring
Red Cross Nurse WWI

WHERE AM I?



Camp Dodge

Most if not all of Cedar County's men, enlisting in the Army, went here to receive training before serving their country.

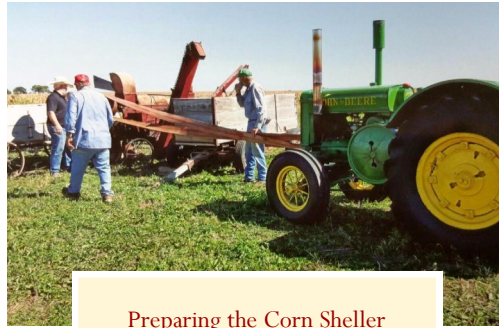
NEWSLETTER

Blessings

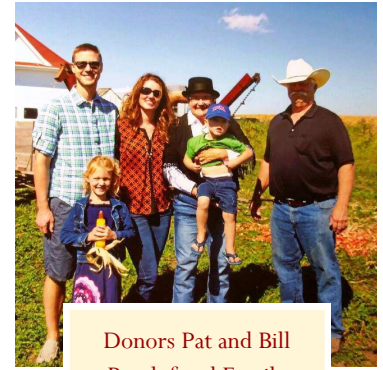
If asked to describe 2016 in one word I would have to use "blessed". The Cedar County Historical Society had numerous blessings this year. Our collection of Cedar County Artifacts continues to grow because of the generosity of so very many people both in and out of Cedar County bringing these artifacts home to a place where we can share them with everyone. The generous donations that we received this year have enabled us to add to the Prairie Village with more county businesses from the past and finish up projects that were already in motion. Of course we have our wonderful volunteers who help with all the details that go on behind the scenes that help keep the museum running smoothly – truly a blessing. Another big blessing is all of the members who contribute to the society. Your contributions are what enable us to keep things running on a daily basis. Thank you all for the blessings you have bestowed on the Cedar County Historical Society and Museum.



McCormick-Deering IH No. 2
Cylinder Corn Sheller



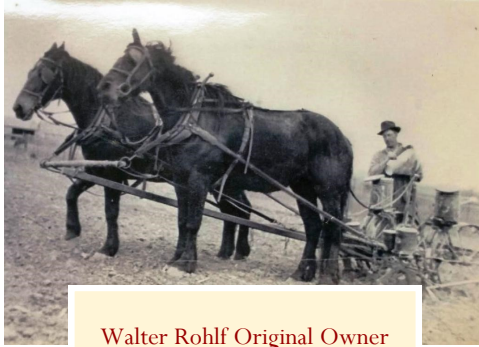
Preparing the Corn Sheller



Donors Pat and Bill
Barglof and Family

McCormick-Deering IH No. 2 Cylinder Corn Sheller

This year The Cedar County Historical Society and Museum was the lucky recipient of a McCormick-Deering IH No. 2 Cylinder Corn Sheller donated by Pat and Bill Barglof. The original owner of the corn sheller was Walter Rohlf, father in-law to Delores Rohlf. The corn sheller was used to shell corn kernels off the cob for feeding to livestock or for other uses. After a lot of hard work and a little finesse Mike Rekemeyer was able to breathe new life into this old machine which was then demonstrated during our latest Day on the Prairie.



Walter Rohlf Original Owner



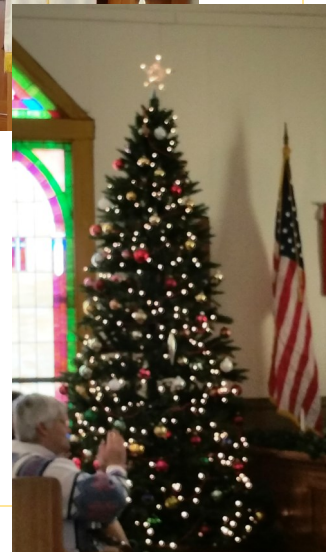
Corn Shelled by
the Corn Sheller



Though the weather outside was frightful the music was sure delightful at this years' Holly Jolly Christmas thanks to Mary Barnum and all of the talented performers from the area.

Thank you to the Open Prairie Chapter of NSDAR who served yummy punch and cookies after the program.

The church was beautifully decorated as well . Thank you to the volunteers who come and dress South Bethel in holiday colors and help celebrate the meaning of Christmas.



What's New at the Museum

100 Years Ago

A Day on the Prairie— A Learning Experience



Bob's Corn Crib

Robert Decker was born and raised on his family's farm in Iowa. A native of Clarence he was born August 14, 1932 to Robert and Anita (Hunwardsen) Decker. Bob attended Clarence Community school and worked on the farm after graduation until he enlisted in the military. He served in the Army in Korea, raised a family (daughters Deborah Loring and Sue Carter) with his wife Marilyn Smrcek (married 1954), been a plumber, small business owner, worked in a nuclear plant, and built houses. While helping on his brother-in-law's farm he became interested in the functioning of the corn crib. He then decided to make an exact working replica of the corn crib, setting out to make it with a working elevator, electric lights and lightning rods. Bob then spent over 40 years working off and on, on the large scale model of the corn crib. Sadly Bob passed August 20, 2016, before fully completing the corn crib as he had planned. His family kindly donated it to the Cedar County Historical Society and shared his story with us. Already this gift has opened many conversations on the functions of a corn crib and how it was necessary on an Iowa farm in the 1900's. We are thankful his family thought of us and shared this treasure of his with us.

Durant Star Newspapers

Most recently we have been the recipient of a small collection of Durant Star newspapers from the early 1900's. Very few publications of the Durant Star still exist as all of the paper's archived copies were destroyed in a fire long before they could be digitally duplicated. I will admit this tid bit of news is somewhat of a teaser as these issues will not go on display for awhile. The papers are quite fragile and will need a lot of TLC in preserving what remains. Once they are safely preserved we will make digital copies so that you too can share in a piece of Cedar County's lost history.

Taking a look back at Cedar County in 1916 even as the war raged on across the ocean life continued uninterrupted at home as the article below from the Mechanicsville Pioneer Press, December 28, 1916 would seem to indicate.

A recent issue of one of our dairy newspapers inters, although it does not definitely state, that there is a federal tax on all oleomargarine of ten cents per pound. There is not such tax nor has there ever been one on oleomargarine except when it is colored yellow in imitation of butter. Uncolored oleomargarine is taxed under the U.S. Internal Revenue laws at the rate of one-fourth cent (1/4) a pound, a tax so small as to in no way influence the retail price of it. Renovated butter is also taxed at the same rate. At this time of the year when butter very naturally sells at a high rate due to the fact that there is much less cream produced the oleomargarine manufacturers take advantage of the situation to advance the price of their product. Apparently the price of oleomargarine is not controlled by the prices of the raw materials from which it is produced but is regulated so as to sell under the price of butter.

When oleomargarine is selling at 20 cents per pound, we again hear the old "bugbear" of "Government tax of ten cents per pound in order to get a good price for an article which should sell very cheaply throughout the entire year.

Oleomargarine has never been taxed more than one-fourth (1/4) cent per pound except when it has been artificially colored, thereby rendering it possible to sell it at butter prices to unsuspecting purchasers. The sale of colored oleomargarine is prohibited in Iowa by the State statutes.

(Please note I try to reproduce these articles as they appeared in the original printing thus duplicating any spelling and grammatical differences.)

We have all come to love the annual Day on the Prairie event at the Historical Society's Prairie Village because of the time we get to spend with family and friends experiencing some of the same activities our ancestor's did when they settled in the area in the 1800's. And perhaps one of the best moments is when a child, and sometimes the adults, have that light bulb moment—something clicks and they have a new understanding and appreciation of the work it took to be a pioneer or how things were different without all of the gadgets we have today.

I would like to reflect back on the most recent A Day on the Prairie and share with you some of the other learning that goes on that day and the day before with the students from the University of Iowa who come with our Old Capitol partners not only to volunteer but to learn and advance their knowledge in Museum Studies. The students who help us each year are here as part of one of their classes and they are assigned to create a paper/presentation on their experiences and what they have learned about operating an event like A Day on the Prairie. This year I was especially excited about how hard they worked and how much they learned. Below are some of their comments:

This service learning project allowed me to realize authenticity and the ability to connect to a story are driven by enthusiasm.

Where I grew up, there were no programs like the Day on the Prairie to make history approachable. It's for this reason that I believe programs like Day on the Prairie are beneficial to local communities, especially the young people among them.

...taught me a lot about museum work, and the amount of research and labor goes into running a single event.

I also learned different styles of historical interpretation and how to perform them (first, second, and third person interpretation).

You have to be knowledgeable in every aspect of your character's life to become a credible source for your audience

The small size of our group and the museum meant we wore many different hats throughout the weekend, from historical interpreter in period clothing, to grounds maintenance and set up crew, chef, exhibit designer, or management.

This project makes me have a deeper understanding of the definition of a museum, and how museum works as a system.

WHO'S THE NEW KID?



For those of you who don't know me yet my name is Tanya Demmel and I am very excited to be taking on the role of Museum Coordinator. I have been a resident of Tipton for the last 10 years and an Iowa native who has also lived in North

Dakota and Missouri but will forever call Iowa my home and first love. I have earned a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Missouri Western State College now Missouri Western State University in St. Joe, Missouri and a Master's in Adult Education and Training from the University of Phoenix online. Currently I'm working on a degree for Instructional Design for Online Learning from Capella University online out of Minneapolis. For the last eight years I have worked at AT&T mobility as a trainer and worked at Walmart as an assistant manager before that. I have also been working on the inventory at the museum for the last four years with the newsletter, website, and membership added along the way, as many of you have probably noticed.

I have a passion for learning then taking what I have learned and making it accessible and understandable for others. This is why I feel I can help the museum continue to grow for its current and future members. My goals are to not only keep up with the great exhibits that Sandy has put together for us and continuing to inventory the fantastic artifacts people have donated but I also want to start digitizing the museum. I want to continue to expand the website, adding new features and searchable information.

But in order to keep the museum exhibits interesting and expand the website in a manner that will be valuable to you; I need to know what you find interesting, what you want to learn more about, basically I need your opinions and feedback. In this issue you will find a survey, please fill it out and send it back in the mail or go online to complete it there. Whichever way you complete it the information will be invaluable to me to ensure I'm sharing information that is of value to you. I also appreciate any thoughts and suggestions you may have that are not on the survey or that may come to you after the survey is done. The Cedar County Historical Society and Museum is here to serve you as well as the citizens and friends of Cedar County and to do that best is to know what you want and need from us.

What good is the warmth of *summer* without the cold of *winter* to give it sweetness. -John Steinbeck

Interest Survey

Please take a moment to fill out the survey below and mail it back to us at PO Box 254 Tipton, Iowa 52772; or you can go to our website cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.com and complete it there. Your feedback will help in providing you the services you expect from the Cedar County Historical Society. Thank you for your participation, your feedback is greatly appreciated.

What would you like to see on display at the museum?

What events would you like to see the museum host? (I.e. traveling exhibits, presentations, demonstrations, etc.)

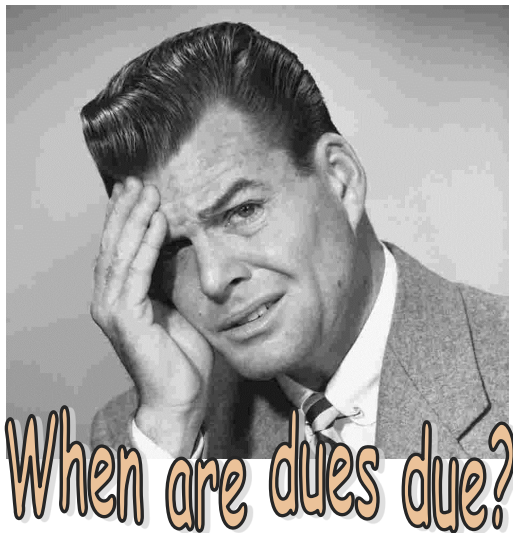
Where do you go first to find information?

☐ Library ☐ Online ☐ Personal resource
☐ A person knowledgeable in the topic

Would extending the museum's hours one day a week make the museum and its resources more accessible to you?

What would you like to see as benefit of being a member of the Cedar County Historical Society?

Other Comments, Suggestions, and Ideas:



If you have been a bit confused about when dues are due and what time frame they cover do not worry you are not alone. Dues are for one Calendar Year; so from January 1 through December 31. Even if you pay your dues in July they will be due again on January 1 for the next year. However, if a new membership is activated in the month of December we apply those dues to the up coming new year so that you may give the gift of history by buying your loved one a membership to CCHS.

To help you keep track of what year(s) you are paid up for a date is now behind your name on all mailings from the historical society. This date is the expiration date of your membership. Failure to renew your membership within the first quarter of the new year will make you ineligible to receive any newsletters and the annual review until you have paid your dues. Also this year you will see that we have brought back membership cards and they are attached to this newsletter if you have already paid. Keep this in a safe place and refer to it to help you keep track of your membership. If you have any questions always feel free to reach out to Tanya at the museum 563.886.2899.

This space reserved for attaching membership cards for individual memberships.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Cedar County Historical Society was held on December 3, 2016. Committee reports were given. The program was provided by Sandy reminiscing about her years at the Historical Society, how it has grown, the people she has met, and the changes that have occurred. Tanya gave the second part of the program sharing a bit about herself and the goals she has for the Historical Society and Museum. A quorum of 25 was not met so election of officers could not be held. Refreshments were served during the meeting. A special annual meeting was held January 5, 2017 for the election of officers. Having officers in place ensures the Cedar County Historical Society and Museum can continue to conduct business. A quorum was met with 27 eligible voting members present. The results of the election and this year's board are as follows: Mike Bixler, President; Shirley Geadelmann, Vice President; Sandra Harmel, Recording Secretary; Mike Boyle, Treasurer; Jeff Kaufmann, Review Editor; and Directors Pat Barglof, Bruce Barnhart, Larry Beck, Krista Clark, Bob Davidson, Hobert Flory, Ann Hinkhouse, Wayne Nebergall, Teresa Wendt, Mike Reke-meyer, Beryl Rocca, Rodne Wendt, Ray Eserhaut, Sharon Lynch-Voparil, Kurtis Voparil, Keith Whitlatch. Regular board meetings held on the fourth Thursday of the month will resume in January.



Extra Extra Extra

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Please send your contributions to:

Tanya@
cedarcounthistoricalociety.com

Please put "CCHS Newsletter" in the subject line.

All suggestions and feedback are welcome. Because of available space all contributions may not be immediately utilized.

You cannot be friends upon any other terms than upon the terms of equality.

Woodrow Wilson



**NEWSLETTER
OCT NOV DEC
2016**

**HISTORICAL MUSEUM
and Prairie Village
1094 Hwy 38 N.**

**Mailing address
P O Box 254
TIPTON, IA 52772**

**AGRICULTURAL
MUSEUM, west of Tipton
at the Cedar County Fair
Grounds**

**Open
Tuesday and Thursday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday
10:00 AM to 2:00PM**

Telephone:
563-886-2899
E-mail:
cchsmus@netins.net

Sandy Harmel
Museum Coordinator

Tanya Demmel
Newsletter Editor
Tanya@
cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.com

To join the Cedar County Historical Society annual dues are \$22.00, plus \$3.00 if you want the Annual Review mailed to your address. Dues may be paid at the Historical Museum, 1094 Highway 38 N., Tipton. Or be mailed to: Attn: CCHS Membership P.O. Box 254, Tipton, IA 52772



WANTED

*Historic items from Sunbury to
feature with the grand opening
of the Sunbury Bank in the
Prairie Village.*

*Pictures of the 2016 A Day on
the Prairie. If you have pic-
tures to share please send them
to:
cchsmus@netins.net*

CCHS 2016 Sustaining Members

1. Barnhart's Custom Services, LLC , West Branch ***
2. Hames Communities LLC., West Branch***
3. Liberty Trust & Savings Banks, Durant, New Liberty, Bennett, Tipton ***
4. Open Prairie Chapter NSDAR ***
5. Lynch's Plumbing, Inc., West Branch **
6. Keller's Home Furnishings. Tipton*
7. Bridge Comm. Bank, Mechanicsville *
8. Citizens Bank, Tipton*
9. Clarence Nursing Home, Inc., Clarence *
10. City of Tipton, *
11. D.S. Webb & Company, P.C., Tipton*
12. Frederick Drexler, DDS, Clarence*
13. Hills Bank and Trust Company*
14. Images in Ink, Durant *
15. Jenkins Construction/Sheds/Siding, Tipton *
16. Layers of Life, Dr. Annette Flora DC, Tipton *
17. Liberty Insurance Agency, Inc., Durant*
18. Moeller Tipton Tire & Auto, Tipton *
19. Niermeyer-Maurer Insurance, Clarence*
20. Bradley Norton, Attorney, Clarence*

Cedar County Historical Society owes special thanks to our sustaining members for their help in allowing us to continue to save and protect the history of Cedar County. Please remember to thank these businesses and professionals for their contributions. Each * represents a contribution of \$50 to the Society annually. To become a sustaining member please contact Membership Secretary, at PO Box 254, Tipton, IA 52772.

We're on the Web!

[http://
cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.webs.com/](http://cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.webs.com/)