



September 2007 Newsletter

301 SW Third, PO Box 1111

Ankeny, IA 50021 Phone: 515-965-5795

www.ankenyhistorical.org email: history@ankenyhistorical.org

Volume 13, Number 3

New Barn is Grandly Opened

Just 10 years after the Civil War ended the town of Ankeny was platted. Now, 132 years—two world wars—a few conflicts—the automobile—electricity—telephones—television and computers—and nearly 40,000 residents later, we are dedicating the new addition to the historical preservation to what is Ankeny's link to a very important past.



On Wednesday, July 11 over fifty Chamber of Commerce and Society members attended the ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening the new "old barn." Later that week on Sunday, July 15 over 150 folks toured the new facility and admired the treasures from early days in agriculture, education, medicine, business and life.

Calling All Pies, Bars and Brownies Sunday, September 16 Is Ice Cream Social!

Get your plates and palates ready! Sunday, September 16 is the date for the 2007 Ice Cream Social on the lush lawns of the Ankeny Area Historical Society. Those wishing to contribute bars, cookies, cakes and/or pies to the event are asked to call 965-5795 for details. Those wishing to partake in bars,



cookies, cakes and/or pies with ice cream and a beverage are asked to bring friends and family members to the event from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and contribute \$3 and then sit and enjoy the afternoon. All proceeds go to the effort to retire the mortgage of the new barn.



City Accelerates Funding Pledge To Society

The Ankeny City Council made their funding pledge even more valuable in July by accelerating their contribution by 18 months. This generous and appreciated move saves on the interest payments made by the Society towards the mortgage on the barn. Just about \$80,000 is left to pay on the \$680,000 project.

In the photo on the left, Mayor Steve Van Oort makes the announcement of the city's contribution.

October Marks 100 Years For Fire Protection As Part Of Lights On! For Iowa Museums - October 25

Ankeny's first fire protection began in 1907 when the town purchased three ladders and twenty galvanized pails.

Now, 100-years later, Ankeny is looking to build a second fire station.

The Ankeny Fire Department will join the Ankeny Area Historical Society as we celebrate Lights On! For Iowa Museums on October 25. The department will have equipment and displays here at the museum parking lot and inside for everyone to enjoy. The museums will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. that day.

Were you ever a "Miss Fire-fighter" contestant? We are looking for photos and memorabilia about fire department history in Ankeny. If you have any that you would like to share, please contact the society at 965-5795.



Pictured on top of the 1953 engine: (l-r) Paul Kochheiser, Marvin Frisk, Charlie Mynatt, Dick Hornberg. In front of engine: (l-r) Tike Ballard, Lowell Lein, Chief Louie Fontanini, Cato Gioffredi, Gerald Ballard and Don Whiting.

Painting Project Planned for Fall

Norm McCleary, lifetime Ankeny resident, local house painter and one-time resident of the house museum along with his family has generously offered to paint the south side of the century-old structure as part of an Eagle Scout project with his son. Norm has been instrumental in the upkeep of the house for several years.

Did You Know?

The term "the whole 9 yards" came from W.W.II fighter pilots in the South Pacific. When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "the whole 9 yards."

My Memories. . .

A New Column for the Newsletter

A new column that features members' memories of Ankeny begins this month with a short story by Joe Morr. Joe's family roots go deep in Ankeny and he tells his stories in a folksy, matter-of-fact manner.

Contributions are welcome. Please bring (301 SW Third St.), send (P.O. Box 1111, Ankeny, IA 50021) or e-mail history@ankenyhistorical.org to the museum office.



My Great-Grandfather L.D. Weinhart

By Joe Morr

On July 10th 1921, some eighty-six years ago, my great grandfather, L. D. "Dad" Weinhart, Mayor of Ankeny and Mayor

Barton of Des Moines celebrated the opening of the first paved road from Ankeny to Des Moines. My great grandfather lived to be 104 and appeared on Art Linkletter's House Party television show. He enjoyed making over forty scrapbooks and playing

Chinese checkers. I visited him in Huntington Park, California while stationed in the Navy in Long Beach. He always asked me, "How's the Army treating you"? as this was the only service he was familiar with. I remember one day helping him on the bus carrying him to the Senior Citizens Club and he smacked me with his cane and said, "I can get on this bus by myself". He was known as the "chicken man" in Ankeny, selling chickens and eggs to farmers in Elkhart, Mitchellville, Farrar, Cambridge, Maxwell, Alleman, Crocker, Polk City, Sheldahl, Slater and I found a book showing he sold to Pete Logli of Logli's Super Value in Ankeny. His old homestead is located on the corner of Walnut and Railroad streets. He was born May 12th 1855 near Adel, living a few years in Polk City, but spent most of his life in Ankeny until moving to Huntington Park to reside with his daughter Bertha Gose. He served as Mayor, Justice of the Peace, Constable, and Crocker Township Superintendent of Roads. He was a member of the Ankeny Methodist Church and a lifetime member of the IOOF Ankeny Star Lodge. He has seven daughters Elsie, Bertha, Josie, Faye, Alice, Grace, and my grandmother Beulah (Weinhart) Lawson.

Looking For Ankeny School Memorabilia

One of our exhibits in the barn is about Ankeny Schools. We are looking for memorabilia from any of the Ankeny schools (Northwest, Northeast, Westwood, Southeast, Terrace, Crocker, Central, Northview, Neveln, Parkview and High School). We have a special display on Parkview. So if you have items you have saved from school and don't know what to do with it, please consider donating it to the society.



Arrange A Tour

We are open for tours the first Sunday of each month May to December from 2-4. Call to arrange other tours as well as structured tours with guest speakers.

965-5795

Read Our History

For Ankeny's centennial in 1975, Marjorie Mehlis, a teacher in Ankeny, did extensive research and put together Ankeny's first history book. 25 years later former Press Citizen publisher Ron Sampson did a 25 year follow-up edition.

Get them both for **\$7.00**

Call or stop by - 965-5795

ANKENY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
“NEW BARN” PROJECT MENU OF SUPPORT

LEGACY: \$250,000 - \$500,000

Dennis & Sue Albaugh & Family

DIAMOND: \$100,000--\$249,999

City of Ankeny

RUBY: \$50,000--\$99,000

Don & Charlene Lamberti & Family

SAPPHIRE: \$10,000--\$49,999

John Deere Des Moines Works

Des Moines Register & Ankeny Press Citizen

Ankeny Building Association

Rod & Dee Lein

Prairie Meadows Race Track & Casino

PEARL: \$5,000--\$9,999

VGI Design

Snyder & Associates, Inc.

Polk County

Community State Bank

First American Bank

Gateway Savings Bank

Richard Logli & Dena Randolph

In Memory of the P.A. Logli Family

Wells Fargo

Winnifred Spahr In Memory of Wayne R. Spahr

PLATINUM: \$1,000--\$4,999

Ankeny Hy-Vee

Norma Righi & Delores Manny

In Memory Frank & Mary Ghitalli, Paul & Isola

Fontana, Leno & Rose Carzoli

L & L Insulation & Supply Company (In-Kind)

Bell Brothers Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

Family & Friends In Memory of Verna Howard

Family & Friends In Memory of Jack Dennler

John Deere Community Credit Union

Don & Barbara Penquite

Barbara White, Family & Friends

In Memory Dale A. White

Family and Friends In Memory of Larry Donaghy

Valley Bank

Family & Friends In Memory of Evelyn Dann

Zane Smith In Memory V.W. and Ann Smith

Rich and Patrick Taylor (In-Kind)

In Memory of Cor Hutton

Family & Friends In Memory of Jean Jones

Gene & Bev Samuelson

Family & Friends In Memory of Blasco Fontanini

Terry & JoAnn Adamson

Albaugh-McGovern Legion Post #42

Gerald & Marie Ballard

Orville & Bonnie Ballard

Casey's General Stores

Lynn & Nancy DeLapp In Memory Delma DeLapp

Larry & Dorothy Donaghy

Jeanne Ersland, Eleanor Tilton & Gale Gibson

In Memory of the Max & Ella Gibson

Handley, Block, Lamberti, Zinno & Gocke, P.C.

Huber Grading, Inc.

Harris & Deloris Manny

Ralph Mathis

Abel McCleary Family

MidAmerican Energy Foundation

Carl Moyer

Donald & Norma Righi

Everett Sather

Roger & Sandra Spahr

Evelyn Sexauer

Myrtle Sexauer

Ollie J. Weigel

Dorothy Wyant

Don & Carolyn Zuck

GOLD: \$500--\$999

Richard Logli In Memory of Rico Logli

Bill & Barb Agan

Phillip M. Thompson (In-Kind)

Fred & Fran Smith

In Memory of Manilla Coppock

In Memory of Ralph Mathis

Ankeny High Class of 1956

Bob Brown Chevrolet, Inc.

W.H. & Marjorie Chase

Commercial Federal Bank

Craig R. Hawkins

In Memorial of Nina & Harold Weston

Joyce Lundstrom

Amanda Kuhns-American Bank of Iowa

Scholes Family

Eric Sheldahl

Struthers Bros. - Lee Lundstrom

Silver: \$100-499

Family & Friends Memory of George Hart

Family & Friends In Memory of LeRoy Bachman

Vince Sanders

Alpha Rho of Beta Sigma Phi

Glen Cornwell Family In Memory Clifford Cornwell

Evelyn Dann In Memory Ralph C. Dann

Gerald & Marilyn Dennler

Evelyn Rigby

Cecil & Carole Ballard

Denman & Company LLP

In Memory of Larry Donaghy

Marilyn Shay In Memory Bill Shay

Ankeny High School Class of 1967

Herbert J. Brown In Memory Mary N. Brown

Beryl Coulson - Coulson Signs

Don & Carole Lea Kraber

Maurices Inc. - Match to Carol Lea Kraber

Loren Sampson Family

Doug & Ellen Smith

David & Anne Gardner In Memory of John Price,

Edith & Bee Morris, J. Arthur, Evelyn, Judy Ault,

Silver: \$100-499 (Cont.)

The Mutcher Family
Ben & Jean Norman
Clarence & Betty Altenburger
Ethel Harmon, Jill, Robert, & Jan
 In Memory of Mary Gilbrech French
Lee Ahlberg
James W. Anderlik
Duane Anderson
Ober & Iolene Anderson
Ankeny Genealogy Chapter
Ankeny Lions Club
Ankeny Visual Image Committee
LeRoy & Evelyn Bachman
Victoria Bachman
Gary & Toni Baugher
Geri Begg In Memory of Wayne Begg
Joe, Charles, & Maribeth Begg
 In Memory of Wayne Begg
James Blair
Ruth Bond
Dennis & Pat Brazelton
Barb & Patrick Breen
Rob & Jennifer Davies
Gail Dippold
Robert & Nancy Frisk
Joshua J. Frisk
Justin R. Frisk & Family
Anna Hick
Evalynne Higgins
Harold & Charlene Hildreth
Raymond Hildreth
Jerry Homes, Inc.
Victor Johnson
Kimberly Development Corp.
Robert & Virginia Koch
Cyndy Lammert
Jose & Shelley Laracuenta
Marlyn & Zeldia Larson
 In Memory of Angela Larson Pilkington
Betty Leonard
Earl & Janet Leonard
Grant & Sherri Lewis
Luke Brothers, Inc.
John E. Lundstrom
Madrid Historical Society
Bill & Sarah Magnani
Jim & Barb McNamee
Memory Lane Questers
John & Mary Moffitt
Janet & Marvin Nichols
Don & Doris Ott
Timothy & Teresa Powers
 In Memory of Larry Donaghy
Tom & Joan Quinlin
P & R Inc. - Brandt & Janet Crocker
Dick & Suzan Rasmussen
Greg Rasmussen
Louise Vander Linden
Bill & Eva Wallace

Larry & Linda Wellendorf
Jack & Ruby Wheatly In Memory of Jean Jones
Louise Woods

BRONZE: \$50-\$99

Craig Hawkins In Memory of Erma M. Hawkins
MidAmerican Matching Jan & Merlin Christians
In Memory of Mary Gilbrech French
Community Bank Plymouth
 In Memory of George Hart
72 Degree Heating & Cooling, Inc.
Ankeny—Class of 1967 In Memory of Ed Medici
Bless This House, Inc.
Nancy Carr
Merlin & Jan Christians
LeNora Coe
Gilded Angel Photography
Dale & JoAnn Goins
Ethel Harmon
Craig Hawkins
Heartland floors
Laks Jagnandan D.D.S.
Franny & JoAn Johnson
Ken & Donna Kelling
Chris Lamberti
Margaret McBride
Bill Michael Family
Lynn Pitts
Delores & Fred Reynolds
Dennis & Susan Roupe
Dennis Shaltanis
Roger & Fran Stefani
Greg Suddeth
Steve & Darlene VanOort
Mike & Rose White
Larry & Marcia Zach
FRIENDS: \$1-\$49
Friends Investing Together
Ethel Harmon In Memory of Mary Gilbrech French
Rich and Rosemary Taylor
 In Memory of Betty Hutton
Arlene Bates In Honor of Sue Rasmussen
Tim Garner
Gene & Kathryn Hill
Ideal Rebekah Lodge
Bob & Jean Jones
Joe & Edie Morr
Clare Ann Stubbs
Virginia Wheeler
Margaret Grant
Terry McAnally
Marvin Rankin
Ms. Schima 3rd Grade -Terrace '04-'05
Raymond Thornton
Lois Hughes
Ward Mally
Hazel Moeckly
Kelly Morrow
Richard & Gina Sokol
Roy Stoll
Warren W. Thornton

***Tour of Ankeny's Museums
Could Be
A Great Program For Your
Club or Organization***

If you are in charge of entertainment or education for a club, church group, business or class. . . consider a tour of the Ankeny Area Historical Museums. These tours can be as simple as "wandering about" tours with one tour guide in about an hour of time. . . or they can be done with guest speakers from the society to talk about the WWII Ordnance Plant, agriculture and coal mines of the area., old classrooms, a country kitchen and the period house. Tours are free but donations are always appreciated and needed.

***Still In Need Of
Tour Hosts and Hostesses***

We are still in need of volunteers to host Sunday Open Houses in October, November and December. Please call to say you will help. The "casual tour" times are from 2-4 on the first Sunday of those months. Mostly you will welcome folks and hand them the tour guide information tabloids. Call 965-5795. It's a great time.

***Family Finding You Hard To
Buy For? How About Asking
For A Window!***

If you have all the Hummel figurines, cookbooks, tools, neckties and retirement-saying hats you can use AND your family keeps asking what can we get you this year???. . . ask them for a window! Or, part of one.

That's right. A new window for the Ankeny Area Historical will help defray the costs of energy year-round and will help preserve that treasure through better temperature control in the 100-year old house. Replacing the windows in the century home will total about \$7,000 and those contributing towards them will have a special plate near the window to recognize donors.

The society is also planning an insulation program with assistance from Mid-American Energy.

Did You Know?

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2nd, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

<p>Gift Ideas! The perfect gift for that hard-to-buy for Ankenian. Historical or Alumni T-shirts, Centennial Key Rings & Commemorative Calendars.</p>	<p>Centennial Key Rings</p> 	\$3 ⁰⁰
	<p>Historic Photo Calendars</p> 	\$5 ⁰⁰
	<p>Polo Shirts</p> <p><i>"Once A Hawk Always A Hawk"</i> Denim long sleeve also available \$25 Hats \$15</p> 	\$20 ⁰⁰



SummerFest BBQ

Ward Mally, Abe McCleary and Joe Morr graced the Ankeny SummerFest parade again this year as they smiled and waved their way through the throngs. Their advertising of the BBQ luncheon paid off as over 300 folks came by to enjoy sandwiches, slaw, beans, chips and lemonade.



Share Your Photos With Us!

The Historical Society is looking for photos to help us tell Ankeny's history (anything that happened before today is history).

Check your photo albums for family photos and photos of community, school and organizational activities and events that help tell our history, then contact us.

You may send you photos by :

- e-mail to: history@ankenyhistorical.org
- mail to: Ankeny Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 1111, Ankeny, IA 50021
- Or drop them off at the house: 301 SW 3rd St. (In the heart of Uptown).

If you send photos that you would like returned, be sure to note that on the photo. We will scan it and return the original to you.

Did You Get Your's ? Extra—Extra. . . We've Got Them!

In case you did not get one. . . or misplaced your copy. . . the Ankeny Area Historical Museum tabloid is available to anyone, anytime. The 12-page piece gives you the history of Ankeny, the society, the founder, the new barn effort and much, much more. Stop by the office and pick up your copies. Plus, 2007 calendars with historic photos are still available.



DATES TO REMEMBER 2007

September 16—Ice Cream Social
2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
September 26—Monthly Meeting—7 pm
October 1—Open House—2-4 pm
October 23—Board Meeting—6 pm
October 23—Monthly Meeting—7pm
October 25—Lights ON! For Iowa
Museums - Featuring the Ankeny Fire
Department 5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
November 3—Santa's North Pole Village
November 27—Monthly Meeting—7 pm
December 1— Uptown Christmas
December 2—Open House—2-4 pm
O

The Ankeny Area Historical Society is established to collect and secure artifacts and historical records representing Ankeny, Alleman, Bondurant, Carney, Elkhart, Enterprise, Polk City, and Sheldahl for the purpose of preserving American

2007 Officers

Ron Sampson - President
Rachel Jones - Vice President
Norma Righi - Secretary
Joyce Lundstrom - Treasurer

Board of Directors

Barbara Agan, Terry Adamson,
Ward Mally
Ober Anderson, Lynn Pitts
Dorothy Thornton
Don Penquite, Marilyn Shay,
Bryan Lundstrom

Ex-Officio

Joe Morr - Past President
JoAnn Adamson - Past President
Myrtle L. Sexauer - Past President
Bonnie S. Ballard - Past President
Barbara J. White - Past President

Past Presidents

*Wayne A. Begg
James W. Anderlik
*Richard D. Hermann
*Willard L. Nagle
*Deceased



301 S.W Third Street, P.O. Box 1111
Ankeny, IA 50021-3059
515-965-5795
www.ankenyhistorical.org