

Marion County Historical Society
Newsletter Summer 2016



DARLENE MILLER-EDITOR

SALUTE TO FREEDOM – Saturday, July 2, 2016

A DAY OF PATRIOTIC HISTORY! FREE ADMISSION

This is the theme for the activities at the Marion County Park on July 2. All of the buildings will be open and reenactors will be present. The Army of the Southwest will present Civil War drills, open camp and a cannon demo. Other demonstrations such as rug making and weaving will be on going. A bake sale will be held in the General Store. (The photo was taken in 2015.) Terry Fenoglio provided the following schedule.

7:00 - 10:30 LION'S CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST

8:00 - 10:00.....OPEN CAMP

10:00 - 10:30.....DRILL

11:00 - 1:30.....LUNCH – BEEFBURGERS/HOT DOGS

12:00 - 1:00.....OPEN CAMP

1:00 - 1:30.....MUSIC IN CHAPEL

by Jane De Moss and Shannon Yokum

1:30 – 2:00..CANNON DEMO

2:00 - 2:30 STYLE SHOW

2:30 – 3:30....DANCE



Claire Sattler with her Grandmother's Cedar Chest.

Nancy Kirkendall, from the Three Rivers Questors Club in Indianola, spoke at the May 16 meeting of the Marion County Historical Society. The club's mission is to restore, preserve, and collect articles of historical value. The winner of a 4-H project at the Iowa State Fair, who meets their goals, is also given a \$100 scholarship and a \$200 check for the recipient to give to a historical society.



She then introduced us to Claire Sattler, who was the Questor's Club winner in 2015 for restoring her great grandmother's cedar chest. Claire showed us the cedar chest and spoke about how this chest was refinished. She chose Marion County Historical Society as the recipient of the \$200 check. Thank you, Claire Sattler. You did beautiful work and are a talented young woman.



Curator's Report by Kathleen Smith

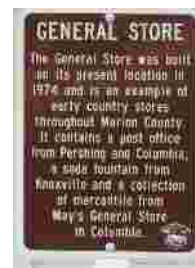
We have received several donated items/artifacts so far this year. One very nice item is a wicker baby buggy used by the Hardin family when Bill was an infant during the 20's, and donated by the Hardin family. We also have received a star Commercial popcorn popper from the Marion County Extension Office.

Several photos of Skelly gas stations in Marion county was donated by the appanoose county historical society. We received several books to be added to our local authors shelf. We are very interested in adding to this group, but please check with us if you have a book that might fit this category. The phone number is 641- 204-9143.

The book “Bauer Iowa: a Photographic History”, has been added to the shelf of books about Marion County towns. Family genealogies of the Daniel hun t family, the Jolly family, and the Swaim family have also been added to our library.

We have also received an original copy of the Illustrated historical Atlas of iowa, 1872 by Andreas and an 1875 Marion County atlas by Harrison and Warner. Both need some repair and will be on the shelves soon.

We opened the museum and buildings at the Marion County Park for the season on May 28 and will be open weekends thru September 4 from 1 TO 5pm. .The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students, and free for preschool children and members of the Marion County Historical Society. If you are scheduled to work, THANK YOU.



One of the buildings, in the Marion County Park, that you can visit, is the General Store. “This building was built on its present location in 1974 and is an example of early country stores throughout Marion County. It contains a post office from Pershing and Columbia, a soda fountain from Knoxville and a collection of mercantile from Mays General Store in Columbia.”

REMEMBER THAT ALL BUILDINGS WILL BE FREE TO THE PUBLIC ON OUR SALUTE TO FREEDOM DAY ON JULY 2 .

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL

The brown information signs located in the Marion County Park were placed there by the Marion County Historical Society. The brown information signs that you see in rural Marion County are placed there by the Rural History Buffs of Marion County, Iowa which is a different organization.

President Charlotte Shivers told me that they have placed over 110 signs in Marion County. Their mission is "Marking rural Marion County historic places, one sign at a time." Their mission statement is "The goal of Rural History Buffs of Marion County is to mark the hidden history of Marion county by making signs for sites that may no longer be visible: rural schools, churches, coal mines, flour mills, native settlements, old towns, steamboat landings, ferry crossings – and returning names to roads." For more information on the Rural History Buffs of Marion County, go to their web site at www.ruralhistorybuffs.org .

An example of their signs is the Fairview Schoolhouse located on T-17.



Here is what Helen Boertje wrote about Fairview School in her book , When One Room Fit All, about the country schools of Marion County, Iowa. (Used by permission).

"Fairview stands on its original site, three miles southwest of Harvey on the west side of Highway T17. It is being used for hay storage. . . . (Helen) talked with Maryellen Beaver, who taught there in the school years 1943 and 1944.. . . While teaching there she roomed with a family in the neighborhood even though her parents lived in the adjacent Union School District. It was war time and they did not have an extra car, which would have meant she had to ride four miles to school on a horse.. . . In 1948, Maryellen filled a vacancy at the Union School. There was a special challenge to prepare six students for their 8th grade exams. That year, she said, she did many of the things her grade school teacher Bessie Kenney had done. Good teachers were good mentors for many of us."

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Membership dues are \$15.00 a year. This includes free admission to the Village which normally costs \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students. Preschool age children are free.

Dues may be sent to:
Marion County Historical Society
P.O. Box 21, Knoxville, IA 50138

SEE YOU AT THE MARION COUNTY PARK ON JULY 2!

