President’s Column

November 2008

Once again, the Johnston Historical Society has been very busy.

In October, we had a craft sale in the barn. Vendors rented tables and the events committee, Dick Hyde, Judi Bogaard and Virginia McGinn prepared chili for visitors to buy.

The last of the second story storm windows were finished by Dick Tarlton and painted by Garland Seibert. The Johnston Public Works guys installed them.

We have received word that our newspaper microfilming/digitizing project should be completed by the end of the month. When everything is done, everyone will be able to search a website to review thirty-seven years of Johnston’s history from 1970 to 2007. We have been very anxiously awaiting this news. This is all made possible from a grant from BRAVO and the Johnston Library.

Dick Hyde, Dick Tarlton and Shirley Adams worked together and installed a large sign by the road identifying the Johnston Historical Society Museum. Johnston Public Works will be putting up two signs on Merle Hay Road indicating where to turn to get to the Johnston Library, the museum and the Simpson Barn.

Just a few days ago, the Society had a sale of artwork created by member, Ethel Conn. At 100 years young, she has donated a large collection of her work for the Society to sell. She bundled up and came to the barn to visit with people who came to the sale. It was a real pleasure to meet her. She is a remarkable woman.

Shirley Adams created a new display of historic houses that have been in Johnston. The display is now in City Hall along with a display about Camp Dodge. The history of the stage coach era in Johnston is currently on display at the Johnston High School Library. A display of international dolls was also put up at the high school. The sign says “Johnstonians travel the world”.

Two more bricks have been ordered for the barn patio. We continue to receive orders to honor, commemorate or identify families, individuals, events or classes. If you are interested in this, let us know.

As you can see, we have been busy. We need help if you are interested in being a volunteer. We need financial help if you are interested in making a year–end contribution. We need your continued support.

‘THE PRESENT MOMENT IS WHERE YOU ARE – ALWAYS.’
FOND MEMORIES

The drive-in theatres were a godsend in the 50’s when we were growing up. Tuesday nights at the West View Drive-In, located at 86th and Hickman Road, was always ‘Buck Night”. It didn’t matter how many people were in the car, you got in to watch the movie for $1.00. So on Tuesday, when we got the paper, we were checking to see what was playing at the drive-in and, only if it was something that we thought Dad would like to see, we would ask about going. The answer early in the day was “We’ll have to see’ - Especially if Dad was working in the field - of course he had to milk the cows, feed them as well as the pigs before we could go. If there was any chance that we might go, Mom would make us take an afternoon nap. We were usually so excited about going that I don’t think anyone slept.

We would begin again late afternoon and run, or if we had our bicycles, ride down to the field to ask Dad if we could go to the Drive-In. His answer was usually, “Whatever Mom says”. Dad would be at the barn doing chores when we would start again to ask about going. Mom would respond with “ask you Dad”. So off to the barn we went, then back to the house to ask Mom. This would go back and forth several times until we got the o.k. We finally got smart and one of us would be down at the barn with one at the house and we’d holler back and forth or ride our bicycles. We usually went every Tuesday.

To help Dad with his chores we kids would go to the barn and put the feed out for the cows and make the slop for the pigs so he wouldn’t have to do that - (and we wouldn’t be late for the movie!). Years later when were reminiscing about this, Mom said the reason she made us ask Dad was because he was working in the field all day besides doing the chores and she didn’t know if he would be too tired to go. We would usually take our own candy or treats to eat. Dad always liked the Western movies so it usually was a given that we would go.

Bless Mom and Dad for our fond memories.

---Contributed by Virginia McGinn & The Robert Betz Family

Congratulations! - to the Johnston High School Volley Ball team for their outstanding year. The team placed three members on the All—CIML (Central Iowa Metro League) First Team with three Elite picks: setter Kari Queck, outside Hitter Abby Sonner, and middle hitter Taylor Knuth. Johnston is top-ranked, the defending state champion and won the Central Conference Title this year. Kate Nielsen and Tory Knuth were named to the second team with Taylor Chestnut and Ashley Sweet as honorable mention. Johnston Coach, Rick Brooks, was named Coach of the Year! In the State Volley Ball tournament the girls placed second in their class this past weekend. Abby Sonner was named to the 4—A All—Tournament team. WOW! We are very proud of our Johnston youth.

THANK YOU to all who have renewed their memberships. Members: Margaret and Jim Winters of Johnston – re joined the Historical Society
Our sympathy to the family of:

William Edmund Byers, 83, who died from complications of Alzheimer's in San Diego, California, on June 26, 2008. Bill is survived by his wife, Patricia Lee Byers; two daughters, one son, and his sister, Pat (Ken) Wallerstedt from Des Moines, IA, as well as nine grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Bill attended Johnston High School, joining the U.S. Navy as an aviation cadet in 1944. After six months he received his appointment to West Point, graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point June 1948 and commissioned into the U.S. Army. He received his Master of Science Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois in June 1954. Bill spent 20 years serving the U.S Army in Panama, Korea, Japan, France, Germany, and Vietnam. After serving in Vietnam from 1967-68, he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

THE JOHN BAUMAN FAMILY

By Karen Garlock Long (oldest granddaughter of Laura & Ephriam Garlock; daughter of William E. Garlock)

John Bauman was born 19 Dec 1821 in Wurttemberg, Germany. He emigrated to America in April of 1847 and while on board ship he met Miss Anna Barbara Claus (b. 1826), also of Wurttemberg. They married in 1848, settling in Ohio, where their first five children were born. In 1854 the family moved to Jefferson Township, Polk County, Iowa, where they purchased farm land and their family increased by four children – as follows:

A) Jacob Bauman (January 1850 – March 1901) married Louise Betz (1853–1928)– daughter of John and Louise (Breitenmiller) Betz. Their children were:
1) John Bauman (1881–1966) – his wife, Marie Aulich (1883) They were the parents of Earnest Bauman, Harry Bauman, Esther Bauman Alberson and Marjorie Bauman Gleason.
2) Kathryn Bauman (1883) married to the Reverend John Vollmer – one adopted daughter, Charlene Vollmer.
3) Harry Christian Bauman (1886–1948) married to Mary Rothfus (1918). Their two children were Marian Bauman Smith Frederickson and Howard Bauman.
4) Emma Bauman (1889–1949) married to Emmett Kempton. Their three children were Maxine Kempton, Cheryl Kempton and Willard Kempton.

Their five children:
1) Anna Rosena Zenniger (1827 Des Moines, IA – 1954 Pueblo, Co) married to Frank Dyer (1859–1919) 2–
3) Twins: Daisy Dorothea Zenniger (1882–1929) and Lily Mathilda Zenniger (1882–1923)
4) Karl Frederick Zenniger (1882–1958)
5) Esther Louise Zenniger (1893) married Fred Korsmeir. Two children: one died in infancy, son Robert Korsmeir died in WWII

C) Margaret Bauman “Maggie” (1853–1939) married Gottlieb Frank Spieth (b. 1843 in Wurttenberg, arrived in America in 1866) Five children:
1) John Spieth 1876 – 1958
2) Florence Anna Spieth (1881–1971)
3) Harry Spieth (March 1883 – August 1883)
4) Walter Spieth (1892) married to Lucille Tidrick (1892–1967) their two sons were Lanning Frank Spieth (1918) and Walter Spieth, Jr. (1925).
5) Marian May Spieth (1895) married to Charles Lacey. Son Charles Lacey, Jr. born 1925.

Five children:
   Three daughters: Mildred Bauman; Doris Bauman Hawbaker; Edna Bauman Bartelt.
2) Edith Mae Bauman (1885) married Peter Bohrofen:
3) Carrie Bauman (1889) married Charles Harding (1885).
   Their six children were: Francis Harding Thiesfield, Mary Harding Sullivan, John Harding, Dorothy Harding (died at age 4 yrs) Betty Harding Opperman and Charles Harding, Jr.

E) Mary Bauman (1857–1902) married John Trostel (1843–1935). Their eight children:
1) Albert Trostel (1879–1881)
4) Fred Bruno Trostel (1886) married to Helen Cogswell.
5) Edwin Trostel (1888–1915)
6) Ruth Ellen Trostel (1891) married Harry Holman.
7) Edith Marie Trostel (1891–1918)
8) Helen Anna Trostel (1898–1952) married to Von H. Brobeck; then married to Kenneth A. Connelly.

F) Katie Alice Bauman (1859–1930) married to Charles Young (1858–1922) whose parents were Henry and Elizabeth (Betz) Young. Their two children were:
1) Anna Pauline (1898) married to Carl Smith (1898) – son to Charles R. and Sarah Frances McManus Smith. Their children were: Ronald Charles Smith; Roma June Smith Blake; Catherine Frances Smith Barker; Verle Victor Smith; and Lyle Carl Smith.
2) Marie Smith Young (1901) – two children (Alice and Charles Young) died in infancy.


**John Bauman died 20 Jan 1890 at Grimes, IA.
His wife, Anna Barbara Bauman died 28 Sept 1912 at Waukee, IA.

**Please mark your calendars, and attend the meetings when possible-

JOHNSTON (STATION) HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS FOR 2009

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OPEN HOUSE remains the second Sunday of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 PM

REMINDER:
Next meeting: Sunday, November 23, 2008. No meeting in December.

Bricks may be ordered: $85 each; two lines with 14 spaces for lettering
“Behavioral scientists and our instincts tell us that compliments affect behavior far more powerfully than criticism. We all need to bask in the warmth and approval of someone we respect, otherwise our personal dignity becomes seriously endangered. We have become so unaccustomed to compliments that they seem to embarrass both the giver and the receiver. We are quick to criticize, yet so guarded with praise. If the new outfit looks great, what harm can come from saying so? If the hairdo suits, why not comment? If someone is doing a good job, it can only reinforce the person to tell them so. Praise, like love, is only meaningful when freely shared.” Also:

“Forgetfulness begins where blame ends. Forgiveness comes only when we can identify with others and admit to our own imperfection and an equal capacity for wrongdoing.”

Leo Buscaglia – from his book: BORN TO LOVE.

“One forgives to the degree that one loves.” LaRochefaucould

Just as we appreciate visitors, those near-by Historical Societies would also appreciate visitors and there are many choices in our ‘neighborhood’. The JSHS sends complimentary newsletters to the Urbandale Historical Society( 4010 – 70th Avenue); Slater Area Historical Society; Ankeny Area Historical Society; Big Creek Historical Society. News relating to these groups is frequently published in the newspaper – i.e.: On November 12, 2008: The Des Moines Register editorial staff printed: “A rose to the Big Creek Historical Society and Polk City for restoring the town’s 1863 City Hall. We earlier gave West Des Moines a rose for preserving its original City Hall from the 1890’s, noting that city’s history stretching back to the steam-powered railroad era. Big Creek’s seat of government, dating to the Civil War, has that beat.”

“Where the northern ocean darkens.
    Where the rolling rivers run.
    Past the cold and empty headlands.
    Toward the slow and westering sun.
    There our fathers, long before us,
    Armed with freedom, faced the deep:
    What they won with love and labor.
    Let our children watch and keep.”
“A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present seven wonders of the world. Though there was some disagreement, the following got the most votes: Egypt’s Great Pyramids, Taj Mahal, Grand Canyon, Panama Canal, Empire State Building; St. Peter’s Basilica and China’s Great Wall. While gathering the votes the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn’t turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied “yes, a little. I couldn’t quite make up my mind because there were so many”. The teacher said “Well, tell us what you have and maybe we can help.” The girl hesitated, then read: “I think the Seven Wonders of the World are: to see, to taste, to touch, to hear, to feel, to laugh, or smile and most of all – to love. The room was so full of silence you could have heard a pin drop.

Those things we overlook as simple and ordinary are truly wondrous. A gentle reminder that the most precious things in life cannot be bought or built”