



# APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING NEWSLETTER

## The Underground Railroad & Beyond to be presented at Annual Meeting



Enfys McMurry spent many years as an instructor at Indian Hills Community College and has authored the book, "Hearst's Other Castle". The book that Enfys is currently working on is exciting to all of us Appanoose County History buffs. Enfys is documenting history, as seen through the eyes of the Centerville, Iowa town square. Events that shaped our town, our country, and our world over the past 160 years have been discussed daily in the heart of our county seat – The Centerville Square. Enfys' mission - to view history via the lens of the Centerville Square - will provide readers with a fascinating microcosm of society in America throughout all of the growth and prosperity, depression and wartime in America's history.

As Enfys' research for this book has progressed, she has uncovered the very interesting journey that has been taken by African-Americans in Appanoose County. The Underground Railroad through Appanoose County was an example of our county's humanity and judgment in the mid-1800's, but there have also been eras of intolerance and hatred. The racial tone of the county has evolved into different directions over the course of time, and that extends to other ethnic groups as well.

The journey of Appanoose County residents who were of African-American descent will be uncovered in this presentation by renowned author and historian Enfys McMurry during the Appanoose County Historical Society's Annual Meeting on Monday, April 27, at 7:00 pm at the Centerville City Hall.

Come and learn about this fascinating slice of Appanoose County history at the Annual Meeting of the Appanoose County Historical Society.

# The Underground Railroad and beyond



1954 CHS Track Team

A look at the journey to "liberty and justice for all" in Appanoose County  
by

*Enfys McMurry*

Admission is free, but donations are always welcome!

For more information, contact the Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum at 641-856-8040

**APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 27 AT 7:00 PM  
CENTERVILLE CITY HALL**

**Curators Corner by Lisa Eddy**

Aaaah! It's finally warming up outside and inside at the museum! We invite you to come in and see some of the newly donated items and displays that are in place.

We would like to thank everyone who has donated items to the museum. We have received several items in the past few months, including the large Great Seal of Iowa that had most recently hung in the Appanoose County Courthouse, and was donated by Kris Koestner of the J&K Market. We also have received a large photocopy of the 1906 City of Centerville map from Lyle Kesterson, which will allow us to store the original for safe keeping. A lovely friendship quilt was donated by the

family of Clifford & Letha Whicker, and a nice collection of items and photos that tell the story of Slick Kauzlarich's shoe repair business. The recently disbanded BPW organization also donated some of their items and scrapbooks. My own family donated some items as well - The Helen Johnson book, "Rural Schools of Appanoose County", was donated by my parents, Gary & Dorothy Barrickman, and a journal that documents the depression era business dealings of Appanoose County resident Fred Herr was donated by my in-laws, George & Mary Eddy.

There are two new small displays you might enjoy. We have created a small exhibit recognizing Carl Weeks, founder of Armand Cosmetics, original owner / builder of the

Salisbury House in Des Moines, and former Centerville resident and business owner. He was a druggist on the south side of the square before he became rich and famous!

Another small display recognizes James Stevens, author of many books that mostly deal with life in the Pacific Northwest and logging, most notably the book, "Paul Bunyan". James Stevens was born in Albia, but spent much of his childhood years living with his grandmother in Iconium. Another of his books, called "Brawnyman", includes a character called "Appanoose Jim".

We are continuing to collect pieces that cumulatively tell the story of Appanoose County, so if you would like to donate an artifact, please bring it by the museum!

**2009 Showing of "The Wonderful Thing"**

On April 3, the Appanoose County Historical Society presented the movie, "The Wonderful Thing" at Simon Estes Auditorium. As you might recall, this 1921 silent movie had several outdoor scenes filmed right here in Appanoose County.

The first time we showed the film, we were able to bring the movie full circle and show it at the Majestic Theater, where the movie originally was shown in October of 1921. However, this year, we were unable to show it at the Majestic, so we opted to show it at the Simon Estes Auditorium. The auditorium does not have a screen, so Historical Society board member, Gary

Cridlebaugh, used his ingenuity to come up with a screen to show the movie on. We'd like to thank the Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to borrow it, and thanks to Gary for getting it painted and set up to be used as our screen - it worked great! We'd also like to thank the Centerville High School for allowing us to use the auditorium and also thanks to Mike Halupnick for his audio/visual expertise. Thanks, also, to Kathy Cridlebaugh, Kris Koestner, Patty Timmens, Gary Craver, Connie Stater, Deb Robinson, Dana Moritz, Barb Halupnick, Joanne Cridlebaugh, Bette Howell, Marlin O'Connor and the staff



*Kathy Cridlebaugh & Patty Timmens modeling their roaring 20's outfits!*

at CHS who all helped out preparing and staging the show. And most of all, thanks to the guests who came out to see the movie!

**Its time to pay your annual membership dues!**

Your dues and contributions are important to the continued operation and new exhibit activity at the Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum.

**Instead of a customary membership, why not try our new "Patrons of our Heritage" Program !** *(see next page)*

**Membership Form**

We would like to invite you to join the Appanoose County Historical Society! Annual dues for regular members are \$10.00 each or \$18.00 per couple. Join now and your membership will allow you admission to the museum through the 2009 season!

Membership Renewals .....	\$10.00 each or \$18.00 couple....	\$ _____
Donations to Historical Society .....		\$ _____
Purchase "Towns of Appanoose County" book .....	\$25.00.....	\$ _____
Purchase "Cemeteries of Appanoose County" book .....	\$25.00 .....	\$ _____
Purchase "Courthouse Centennial" book .....	\$10.00 .....	\$ _____
<b>Total</b> .....		\$ _____

Please make checks payable to **Appanoose County Historical Society.**  
 Detach this form and mail to: **Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum**  
**100 West Maple**  
**Centerville, IA 52544**

Dues are also payable electronically via our website using PayPal. Please make any changes to your address on the reverse side of this form and we will change our records as noted. Please include postage in the amount of \$3.00 and indicate if you need any of the books mailed to you.



The Appanoose County Historical Society would like to invite you to participate in

## “Patrons of Our Heritage”

This program is an effort to raise much needed funds to continue our mission, which is: *To educate by collecting, preserving, exploring, displaying and developing programs to engage the Appanoose County communities to celebrate and protect our heritage.*

The Appanoose County Historical Society has been busy creating many local history awareness projects like the annual Haunted History Tour, and the Heritage Hall of Fame in the Weber Realty window. We’ve been creating new exhibits and displays and providing educational programs to the community. Repairs and renovation are underway at the Old Jail & Sheriff’s Residence. And to top it all off, the expanded hours of operation at the museum have proven to be a real boost to local tourism offerings!

This level of activity incurs many expenses, and we believe that the community appreciates the effort! To show your support, please take part in our new sponsorship program!

The levels of participation are as follows:

- **Governor Drake’s Council** - \$1,000 or more
- **Appanoose Chieftain’s Circle** - \$500-\$999
- **Chaldea League** - \$100-\$500
- **Coal Miner’s Club** - \$50-\$99

With your sponsorship, you will receive a special ‘Patrons of Our Heritage’ pass, which is a special membership card that will allow full season admission to the museum, as well as admission to any of our special events, like the Haunted History Tour, plus recognition will be placed in our newsletters and in programs during our special events for the following year. Please fill out the form below and do your part to help us in our efforts to preserve Appanoose County’s rich heritage!

Please accept my sponsorship of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to enroll me in the “**Patron’s of Our Heritage**” program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to help staff the museum sometime – call me!

Mail your check and this form to: Appanoose County Historical Society  
100 West Maple  
Centerville, IA 52544



*Heritage Hall of Fame in Weber Real Estate Window*

Appanoose County Historical Society  
100 West Maple  
Centerville, IA 52544

Visit us on the web at  
www.appanoosehistory.org

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CENTERVILLE, IOWA  
PERMIT NO. 78

### MUSEUM HOURS

April 1– Oct 31  
Monday - Friday: 1:00 - 5:00

Plus  
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00  
Memorial Day through  
Homecoming

Winter Hours  
Nov 1 - March 31  
Wednesday - Friday: 1:00 - 4:00

## Patrons of Our Heritage

### Governor Drake's Council (\$1,000 and above)

Christine & Kenton Coons

### Appanoose Chieftain's Circle (\$500 - \$999)

### Chaldea League (\$100 - \$499)

Gary Craver  
Loren Eddy  
Greg & Tina Fenton  
Bill & Marjorie Heusinkveld  
Lyle Kesterson  
Brad & Dewey McConville  
Jody & Susan McDanel  
Virginia Padovan  
Craig & Connie Stater

### Coal Miners Club (\$50 - \$99)

Carolyn Bauman  
Lavelle Clarke  
George & Lisa Eddy  
Kim & Dennis Exline  
Enfys McMurry  
David & Terri Walljasper

*We'd like to thank these  
people for their generosity  
and invite you to become a  
"Patron of Our Heritage"!*

## Election of 2009 Officers



Members,

Please be in attendance at the Annual Meeting so you may participate in the 2009 Election of Officers.

Running for office this term are:

**President** - Dave Walljasper  
**Vice-President** - Mike Halupnick  
**Secretary** - Judy Lamb  
**Treasurer** - Dave Stuart

**Current Board Members** up for re-election:

Gary Craver  
Gary Cridlebaugh  
Mike Halupnick  
Bill Heusinkveld  
O.R. Parks  
Dave Walljasper

**New Candidates** to fill **one** open position on the board:

Chuck Banks  
Jake Book

*Please remember the Appanoose County Historical Society in your will so we may continue to preserve our County's rich heritage for years to come.*