

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

State Historical Society of Iowa

The American Association for State and Local History has given the Society an Award of Merit: "For continuing its remarkable membership growth for the fourth consecutive year; for pictorializing its publications while maintaining their traditional scholarship; for increasing ten-fold the institutional membership of Iowa schools; for increasing the use of its published materials by school children; and for sponsoring overland historical tours and steamboat excursions with ever larger membership participation." The Award was made at the October, 1952, annual meeting at Houston, Texas. An Award was also given to the Iowa City *Press-Citizen* for "outstanding service in encouraging the publicizing and preserving of local, regional, and state history; and for developing unusual historical features in its columns."

The Society has purchased the valuable microfilm of the famous Draper Collection from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. This collection of pioneer materials, collected by Lyman C. Draper in the nineteenth century, includes the Boone Papers, George Rogers Clark Papers, Simon Kenton Papers, and the John Cleves Symmes Papers. The collection is an invaluable source of Middle Western history.

Guy E. Mack of Storm Lake has presented to the Society some 135 letters written to his father, Edgar E. Mack, during the early 1890's. Edgar E. Mack was chairman of the State Republican Committee during the campaign of 1890, and the letters, written by prominent Republicans of Iowa and the nation, deal with the political campaign of that year. Such contributions are a welcome and valuable addition to the manuscript files of the Society.

Superintendent William J. Petersen has written the introduction to a book on North Tama by Mrs. F. G. Murray of Cedar Rapids, to be called *They Came to North Tama*. The book, which will be published soon, can be ordered through the Traer *Star-Clipper* office at a price of \$3.50 plus 7 cents tax for Iowa residents.

A reunion of members of the Society's steamboat cruises was held in Des Moines at the Hotel Kirkwood on March 29.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CALENDAR

February 14	Addressed Pilgrim Chapter, D.A.R., Iowa City
February 18	Addressed Mount Pleasant Citizenship Assembly
February 19	Addressed Mens Club, First Presbyterian Church, Newton
February 26	Addressed Iowa City Womens Club
February 28	Addressed College Club of Cedar Rapids
March 9	Addressed See Iowa First Club, Des Moines
March 24	Conducted Amana Tour for Iowa Ladies Legislative League

The following members were elected to membership in the State Historical Society during the months of December, 1952, and January and February, 1953:

Albia

C. Henry Clark

Algona

Richard D. Palmer

Allison

Willard A. Dennis

Alta

A. R. Browne

Ames

Napier Consolidated School

Harry H. Nichols

Miss Gladys T. Olson

Carl Ringgenberg

Guyon C. Whitley

Bettendorf

Donald V. Lowe

Bonaparte

Mrs. Margaret E. Roberts

Brooklyn

Mrs. Melissa Roberts

Burlington

Mrs. Harding Polk

Mrs. L. M. Wilson

Carlisle

E. A. Owens

Cedar Rapids

Roy Bey

Dick Cheverton

C. L. Decker

Marvin Fatka

Miss Blanche P. Hunter

Loyal Meek

Mrs. Frank Pospishil

L. Owen Tisdale

Mrs. Paul V. Wilson

Centerville

Hugh I. Johnson

Charles City

Mrs. W. A. Youngerman

Clear Lake

Frank R. Ballantyne

Clinton

Mrs. L. M. Coy
Bruce D. Crozier
Mrs. Waldo Mommsen
Miss Ingeborg J. Raun

Council Bluffs

Eugene Rice
Mrs. Minnie G. Scheef

Cresco

Herbert J. Salisbury, Sr.

Creston

E. G. Carlson

Davenport

Louis H. Bender
Ralph Clayton
James G. Noth
T. L. Vinyard

Des Moines

Miss Violet I. Ayers
W. G. Bartholomew
John Bickert
Earl Brill
Mrs. Hattie Brodrick
Merrill Cook
LeRoy Crowley
J. A. Danielson
Don E. Fisher
Mrs. Harry B. Graefe
T. C. Green
George A. Hanrahan
Miss Ruth Hollabaugh
Miss Edith C. Howard
Walter T. Hubler
M. K. Johnson
Dr. Faye Kimberly
Mrs. Margery H. Klier
L. Nevin Lee

Howard Leopold

Miss Vivien McClintock
S. . MacAllister
Paul Mast
Miss Lake E. Mayer
I. W. Meyers
Walter Moeller
Mrs. Fred Moore
O. G. Powell
Russell Reynolds
R. J. Shank
Harry I. Story
Ben A. Webster
Dan A. Williams
George Willoughby

Dubuque

Alvin H. Boettcher
Andrew Frommelt
M. L. Kapp
Edward Lorenz

Elkader

Arthur Johnson

Estherville

Estherville Junior High School

Fort Dodge

Mrs. S. H. Cox
William Darrah
Miss Kathleen Nugent
Miss Louise Sinning

George

Rev. Irwin Hayenga

Gilmore City

Miss Esther McBride

Gladbrook

Kenneth Gethmann
A. C. West

Gowrie

Miss Hilda E. Sandberg

Grimes

Mrs. Wilma Collins

Grinnell

Jack Crosson

Elmer S. Iverson

Dr. F. E. Munger

R. E. Sorensen

Hampton

Dr. Richard T. Day

Independence

William M. Walker

Iowa City

John Cronk

Mrs. Jessie B. Gunnette

Mrs. J. R. Heffern

Robert J. Libby

E. R. Means

Jefferson

Earl L. Henderson

Keosauqua

Craig Ruby

Keystone

Rev. A. W. Brauer

Mrs. Earl M. Leimberer

Kiron

C. B. Larson

Knoxville

Marion County School System

Mrs. Watson Rankin

Laurel

H. M. Cavell

Letts

Richard A. McDaniel

Logan

Mrs. James R. Buckley

Mrs. Harriett Dunlap

G. Burton Kelly

Manchester

Donald Potter

John E. Tyrrell, M. D.

Elmer R. Widner

Jas. R. Wilson

Manilla

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R. A. Culver

Manly Junior High School

Manning

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Melbourne

L. J. Wallace

Melvin

George Wachtel

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Arthur A. Sauegling

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Montezuma

Mrs. Frank M. Riggle

Moorland

Moorland Consolidated School

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Mrs. J. Earl Horne
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Miss Eva F. Stahl

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Mrs. Donna Hoaglin

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Mrs. Eloise Notbohm
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Newton

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Miss Mabel Morris
M. B. Nelson
Mrs. Henry Schmidt
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Gerald D. Kruse

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Larry R. Peterson

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Persia

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O. P. Malcolm

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Pomeroy High School

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Rockford

Rockford Public Library

Rockwell

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Sacred Heart Academy
Mrs. Evan Smith

Roland

Henry Birkeland

Salem

H. T. Pittman

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Ross K. Vernon

Sioux City

A. Bert Erickson
Lum Nelson

Spencer

V. R. Ewing

Stanwood

Mrs. Harry Klahn
Richard Klahn

Storm Lake

Wendel Pendleton

Tabor

A. S. Bloedel

Tiffin

Mrs. Ella Neitderhisar

Van Horne

Rev. Norman Rothe

Vinton

Rev. Raymond W. Fechner

Mrs. W. E. Holland

Mrs. Douglas T. Smith

Viola

Victor P. Collins

Washington

Mrs. Winnie Beiter

Miss Esther White

Waterloo

Dr. Charles A. Boatman

Walter Obele

Leo Rooff

Martin E. Smith

Waterloo Schools

West Bend

Frank Koch

West Des Moines

Mrs. Ella Richards

Westside

H. P. Jessen

What Cheer

M. N. Brown

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Henry O. Hill

Williamsburg

Ralph H. Matheson

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Woodbine High School

Arkansas

Ira Stetzel, Paris

*California*Mrs. Mamie T. Blumenstock,
Garberville

Richard F. Davison, Los Angeles

Dr. Ralph L. Irwin, Los Angeles

E. R. Moen, Cupertino

R. B. Newcom, Santa Ana

Mrs. Emma F. Peebles,

Los Angeles

Mrs. L. R. Ross, Long Beach

Illinois

Norval Hodges, Urbana

David R. Kendell, La Grange

John B. Rigler, Chicago

Mrs. F. E. Schmidt, Chicago

Kansas

Ellsworth Sherman, Garden City

Missouri

A. P. Greenfelder, St. Louis

New Jersey

Dr. W. Otis Teeters, River Edge

New York

Mrs. Walter Deems, New York

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James R. Hare, Whitestone

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East Sound

Wisconsin

R. M. Dyer, Wisconsin Dells

Wyoming

Paul Schroeder, Douglas

*Germany*Westdeutsche Bibliothek,
Marburg Lahn

The following persons were elected as life members:

Dubuque

Thomas B. Roshek

Sioux City

A. D. Clem

District of Columbia

Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower

New York

Herbert Hoover, New York

Iowa Historical Activities

The centennials of Iowa towns began twenty years ago when the Mississippi River cities commemorated 100 years of existence. Today centennials are being observed in the northern and western parts of the state, indicating the progress of settlement a century ago. Marshalltown will observe its centennial July 2-5; Waukon, July 3-5; Eldora, June 25-27; Nevada and Story County, special events from February through June; Mason City, June 7-14; Clarinda, week of May 31; Lamont, June 21-23; St. Ansgar, in June; Montgomery County, August 23-29. Sioux City and Algona are already working on plans for their 1954 centennials.

The Guthrie County Historical Society re-elected the following officers at its annual meeting on January 10, 1953: Bert Culver, president; Mrs. Jessie Batschelet, vice-president; Mrs. Gladys Kasner, secretary-treasurer. Miss Elizabeth Whitman and Ray Cook were elected board members.

At a meeting of the Linn County Historical Society on February 18, 1953, Miss Martha Griffith talked on "The History of the Czechs in Cedar Rapids."

Three directors were chosen by the Wright County Historical Society at its meeting February 27, 1953: Mrs. J. H. Munnis, B. A. Samson, and Cornelius Thompson. A feature of the meeting was the showing of films of early 4-H club work. These films have been contributed to the Society by O. H. Benson, the founder of the 4-H movement.

Jefferson, Iowa, has been chosen by the French magazine, *Realites*, for a feature on life in a typical Middle Western town which will be part of a special edition of the magazine devoted to the United States. A photogra-

pher and writers visited Jefferson during April to obtain pictures and information for the article.

Other Historical Activities

Agricultural History, the quarterly journal of the Agricultural History Society, will be published in the future at the University of Wisconsin, under the editorship of Vernon Carstensen of the history faculty. The quarterly has heretofore been published at Washington, D. C., and edited by the late Everett E. Edwards of the United States Department of Agriculture.

At the annual Founders Day on January 31, 1953, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin announced that the D. C. Everest Award for an outstanding work in Wisconsin economic history went to Robert S. Hunt for his book, *Law and Early Wisconsin Railroads*.

The 104th annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society, held April 1, 1953, saluted the 50th anniversary of the historic flight of the Wright brothers. Speakers on this occasion, dedicated to aviation history, were L. L. Schroeder, commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Aeronautics; General Harold R. Harris, president of the Northwest Airlines; and Ralph H. Upson, professor of aeronautical engineering at the University of Minnesota. The latest project of the Minnesota Historical Society is the collection of reminiscences and records of aviation in Minnesota.

Awards of Merit were voted by the American Association for State and Local History at its 1952 meeting in Houston for the following books "making the greatest contribution to state and local history": *Mirror to America: A History of New London, N. H., 1900-1950*, by J. Duane Squires; *Railroading in New Jersey*, by John T. Cunningham; *History of La Crosse [Wisconsin]*, by Albert H. Sanford, Harry J. Hirschheimer, and Robert Fries; *Spindletop*, by James A. Clark and Mitchel T. Halbouty; *Grand Portage*, by Walter O'Meara; *The Black Hills*, by Roderick Peattie; *Edmund Pendleton*, by David J. Mays; *Lewis Cass, the Last Jeffersonian*, by Frank B. Woodford; and *Mesabi Pioneer: Reminiscences of Edmund J. Longyear*, edited by Grace Lee Nute.

The Minnesota Historical Society has received a valuable addition to their manuscript collection in the discovery of papers dealing with the famous

Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-1805. Some of the papers, found in an old desk belonging to Mrs. Burnside Foster, are those of Captain William Clark himself, and have notations by his colleague, Meriwether Lewis. There are 67 pieces of manuscript in the collection, dating from December, 1803, to April, 1805. Dr. Harold D. Cater, director of the Minnesota society, says the papers represent the long-sought missing portion of the Lewis and Clark journals. The papers were given to the Society by Mrs. Foster's daughter, Mrs. Vaclav Vytlacil of Sparkill, New York. The papers originally belonged to her grandfather, General John H. Hammond.

CONTRIBUTORS

Mildred Throne is associate editor of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

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THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

ESTABLISHED BY LAW IN THE YEAR 1857

INCORPORATED: 1867, 1892, AND 1942

LOCATED AT IOWA CITY IOWA

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the State Historical Society may be secured through election by the Board of Curators. The annual dues are \$3.00. Members may be enrolled as Life Members upon the payment of \$100.00. Persons who were members of the Society prior to March 1, 1948, may be enrolled as Life Members upon payment of \$50.00.

Address all Communications to

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN, Superintendent

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IOWA CITY IOWA

100 YEARS AGO AND NOW

1853—Federal and State Officers—1953

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