



**P.O. Box 114  
Hwy 3 West  
Hampton, Iowa 50441**

**Newsletter  
Volume 22 #3  
August 2006**

### **Historical Museum Hours**

“When is the museum open?” We are frequently asked. Here are the hours.

Monday - 2:00 to 4:00  
Tuesday – 9:00 to 12:00 & 1:00 to 4:00  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 1:00 to 4:00  
Memorial Day through Labor Day -: Saturday & Sunday, 1:00 to 4:00  
Visitors are always welcome.

### **New Web Site Name**

The Franklin County Historical Society now has their own location on the Internet. It can be found at ([www.FCHSMuseum.org](http://www.FCHSMuseum.org)).

Hopefully before too long we will be making a few revisions and give our site a “face lift”. You will find a lot of information, (including past Newsletters) and interesting reading on the web site.

You can also send us comments at [mail@FCHSMuseum.org](mailto:mail@FCHSMuseum.org).

### **The Doll House**

Gar Van Kleek constructed a beautiful dollhouse, complete with furnishings.



The dollhouse was sold during the Sunday night Franklin County Fair chainsaw artist’s auction. Eric Barkema purchased the dollhouse for \$250. This sum was a gift to the Historical Society.



Thank you Gar, for this fabulous creation and gift.

### **Harriman – Nielsen Farm Place**

During the fair, 250 persons registered at the house. They were delighted at the beautifully kept grounds. Also added for their benefit, was a ramp and railing on the house. A big “Thank You” to Ron Murphy for the donated \$300 for work he has done at the house. Also a big “Thank You” for all the volunteer help on the farm place.

On September 1st and 2nd the Questors are having a yard and bake sale in the barn. Proceeds for this go toward dining room restorations. Items are needed for the sale. Please consider this.

Plans are now being made for the Fall Festival, which will be held on Oct. 8th. Mark your calendar for this.

### **Dudley Museum Donations**

Thank you to the Dudley family for the sets of display stands, in memory of Irene. Enclosing the displays to protect them, with matching stands, looks so much better than the assortment we have used in the past.

### **Old Stone House Donation**

Tuck-pointing repairs are needed on the Old Stone House. The Franklin County Farm Bureau so graciously donated \$2000 for this project. We thank them for their generosity.

## The Fair Train

For 18 years the GBI train has been running during the fair. Few realize that the train rides are for the benefit of the Franklin General Hospital Auxiliary and the Franklin County Historical Society. It was constructed by Milo Greimann, of Chapin and has been a permanent fixture at the fair since 1988.



Yet without those who ride it, those selling tickets, the “Conductors” and “Engineers”, funds raised would be impossible. Helpers include Girls & Boy Scouts and parents, of Sheffield; Girls Scouts of Hampton, years ago; Auxiliary members, and engineers.

This year, the engineers were Ken Borcharding, Myron Card, Paul Happel, Darwin Meyer, Fred Retz, Murrel Symens, our nephew Gordon Greimann, our son Don Greimann and Milo. Let us put you on the list for next year. We need your help and appreciate it.

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## Santa Claus Has Come to Town

A number of years ago, when A.J. Lutter, the chainsaw artist sculpture was at our fair, Carl and Marian Hageman purchased St. Nick, his creation. They are friends of his and have purchased other figures, as well. This year, Mr. and Mrs. Hageman decided St. Nick should be permanently situated at our fair.

He now stands in the Village General Store, on the fairgrounds. Mr. Lutter is a fine craftsman and enjoys being at our fair every year. Thanks to him and the Hageman’s for their contributions.

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## Did You Know?

- The first of 3 courthouses in Hampton was built in 1857.
- The Sheffield Brick & Tile Company was organized & started in 1907.
- The Chapin Savings Bank was started in 1905.

## Our County Conservation Parks Handorf Roadside Conservation Park



In 1960, Harold Handorf sold 4 acres of land to the Franklin County Conservation Park board for \$826.00. A shelter house was constructed there in 1965. What a nice welcome to travelers as they enter Franklin County along Highway 3, located a half mile west of the Franklin – Butler County line.

## Ingebretson Memorial Park



This park is located 2 miles west of Sheffield and over a half mile north. The land had been in the Ingebretson family for many years. Miriam Mares, a daughter of Alfred and Laura Ingebretson, bought the land from her father’s estate. She sold 114.5 acres to the Franklin County Conservation Park system for \$1.00, with the stipulation that it be called the Ingebretson Memorial Park, after her grandmother, Mary Ingebretson. There was to be no development other than trails. The transaction was recorded on April 20, 1977.

The park has a small parking area and a trail 1.25 miles long. The trail goes in a circular direction inside the park, along Bailey Creek. It is a lovely, scenic and comfortable walk through the woods.

Along the trail is the monument of Edwin Shobe, a year and a half old son of John and Emelene Shobe, the family being the first white settlers in the grove in 1855. Edwin died on Nov. 29, 1863. His monument is the only one left, which was in the Shobes Grove cemetery. The conservation committee had it reset in concrete and then put a wooden fence around it.

## A Reader's Memories

The Franklin County Historical Society received this letter written by Rhoda Mallory Anderson, dated July 1, 2002. She wrote:

*Dear Friends: I enjoy the newsletter so much. The recent issue mentioned the German prisoners of war working in Franklin County. I remember that my father Arthur Mallory, had them work on our farm, southeast of Hampton. During World War II, farmers grew hemp for rope to replace foreign imported hemp. I believe this is the crop the prisoners worked on.*

*I remember that they fixed sandwiches, coffee and milk for the prisoners, who ate in our basement, as it was cold outside where they were working.*

*Two years ago we were there during Fair week for our Mallory family reunion. We enjoyed our visit to the Museum, little town, the animals and my great granddaughter had a train ride, hayride and got to help Jim Showalter's daughter lead her bucket calf. But best of all, she liked the carnival and every evening begged to go to the Fair. She called it "Stage 3".*

*We also had a big family picnic at the Mallory Park so full of family history. I remember as a child having big family reunion picnics there.*

*Sincerely, Rhoda Mallory Anderson*

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### Newspapers Of Franklin County

Are you looking for county information, of long ago? Consult the Hampton Public Library, as it has Hampton newspapers on microfilm, purchased by the Franklin County Genealogical Society, with the aid of the Hampton Publishing Company.

The first paper printed in Hampton was the The Franklin Record, dated March 28, 1859. It had 4 pages, with 6 columns on each page, and it was printed at home. (According to the Franklin County Recorder, Feb. 4, 1880.) The Record ceased during the Civil War.

The Franklin Reporter started printing Jan. 2, 1866. The Hampton Leader bought it out and it became The Franklin County Recorder and was printed through 1928.

The Hampton Free Press was published from 1870 to 1872. It was purchased by the Hampton Chronicle, which started August of 1876.

The Hampton Globe was started in 1890 and was known as a "Democratic Paper". What did that mean? Was it for only those who were democrats, and subscribed to it, or did it mean "For the public?"

In any case, from 1890 to 1915, there were 3 Hampton newspapers printed. The Franklin County Recorder, the Hampton Globe, and the Hampton Chronicle. In some cases, one needed to read all 3 to get a complete story, for usually they were each a little different. Eventually the Hampton Chronicle bought out all of the others.

In 1940, the Hampton Times was started, and owned by the Hampton Chronicle. Both were weekly papers, the Times came out on Tuesdays and the Chronicle on Thursdays. I think the Times ran until 2001. Now the only newspaper in Hampton is the Hampton Chronicle.

There are other newspapers in the county. The Sheffield Press published from 1880 to the present. Some years, however are missing, in its early years.

Latimer had two papers: the Latimer Star and the Latimer Advertiser. I do not know when they started or ceased.

Other newspapers serving Franklin county are the Dows Advocate, Iowa Falls Times, The Ackley World Journal, as well as, Mason City's Globe Gazette, the Southern County News, in Thornton, and the Belmond Independent.

Some of the Latimer papers are also on microfilm at the Hampton Public Library. We are very fortunate to be able to look up information of long ago, on microfilm.

Newspapers are a very important means of information and they contain all kinds of it. Some of these newspapers are printed in Hampton.

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### Did You Know?

- In 1953, Chapin's school was let out so students could pick up corn, to earn money for band uniforms.
- August 16th, 1934 Chronicle - The fair board offered free trips to the Worlds Fair in Chicago, or the Iowa State Fair. The winners were Bob Barney who went to Chicago and a Mrs. Mason of Hansell, who chose the State Fair.

Franklin County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 114  
Hampton, Iowa 50441

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### The Annual FCHS Meeting

When: Tuesday September 12th at 7:30  
Where: Farm Bureau Meeting Room  
South Olive Ave, Hampton

Agenda:

A. Business Meeting

1. Welcome
2. 2005 Minutes
3. Treasurers report
2. Committee reports
3. Old Business
4. New Business
5. Election of officers

B. Program

Guest speaker for the evening is Robert W. Raleigh III who is in charge of doing the Clock Tower renovation. He is from Belvidere, IL

C. Hand outs

D. Refreshments

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### The 147th Fair

Again, our fair was top notch in the state. Others, from away tell how "We told friends, if you want to see a good fair, go to the Franklin County Fair." It was evident, from the registration in the museum. Over 1000 persons registered, from Iowa and 22 other states and Japan. There is not an accurate count as some wrote "and family".

From Hampton, 258 signed in; from Latimer & Ackley, in the 50's; Sheffield, 46; Mason City, 40; Des Moines, 23; Alden, Allison, Cedar Falls & Greene, 17 each; Ames & Hubbard, 15 each, etc.

There was so much to see and hear: 4-H judging, free shows, grandstand performances, commercial exhibits, the midway, Grandpa's Farm, the Village, the museum and the Greimann Bros. Inc. electric ground train.

Our Historical Society gives special praise and thanks for help at cleaning the Pleasant Hill village buildings, the Museum and Machinery Hall This includes "Thrivent For Lutherans" and our own historical society members.

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### The Bradford Centennial

Saturday, Aug. 19, I was in Bradford for their Centennial, but was unable to be there for all of it. In the Bradford Community center, they had different newspaper articles on display, along with other items- a Centennial plate, a Centennial cup, etc.

On the east wall, hung the original curtain, which had been on the stage in the Bradford school. It was completely covered with advertisements, of that day and before. These were not only from Bradford, but other communities, as well, such as Hampton and Iowa Falls. The curtain is quite delicate and has been stored in the Franklin County Historical museum, but was borrowed for the day.

At noon, Wendy Meyer Zohrer, of Des Moines, a former Bradford area resident, presented a program of pictures and her talk on Bradford days of long ago and also on the Great Depression of the early 1930's. It was an excellent presentation.

The event was covered by KLMJ radio of Hampton. By the number of persons going in and out of the community center, it was evident that many were here to attend the Centennial. A parade was held at 5:00 PM, which I was unable to attend. But the day was a gala event for the town.

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