



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

**Newsletter
Volume 23 #3
August 2007**

The 148th Fair

What beautiful weather we had for the county fair this year. It seemed more people registered, than ever, in the Museum building. They were from 22 states and Washington D C; 145 registered from Hampton, Mason City-53, Iowa Falls-45; Ackley-43, Sheffield-39, etc. There were also many who registered at the Nielsen-Harriman house. All were impressed by how things looked in both buildings.

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Did You Know?

Milo Greimann started building his train in 1985. (GBI R.R. That it holds 27 or more people at one time. The train rides benefit both the Franklin General Hospital Auxiliary and the Franklin County Historical Society. He made the whistle and it even has a firebox in the "engine" which can promote puffs of smoke.



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Death of Milo Greimann, My Husband

Heart problems, plus other things, resulted in the death of Milo on Aug. 1st in the Sheffield Care Center. Previously, he had spent nearly 2 weeks in the Franklin General Hospital. He entered the hospital the Monday before the fair opened. Thank you to all who in any way contributed to the operation of the train at he fair. We could not have done it with out you.

Thank You To Volunteers

A big "Thank-You", to all the volunteers who cleaned Pleasant Hill Village and Machinery Hall on July 14th in preparation for the Franklin County Fair. Thank you to those who staffed Pleasant Hill, Machinery Hall and the Historical Museum during the Fair and those who staff the Historical Museum on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

An extra Thank You to Jane and Herb Muhlenbruch, Glen Evans, Joyce Peters, Dorothy Jingst, Sharon and Gay Thielen, Ardith and Rod Hill, Lorna and Darwin Meyer and Wilda Gilchrist. They hosted the RAGBRAI visitors by staffing Pleasant Hill, Machinery Hall, and the Historical Museum on July 24th.

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Old Stone House and Maysville School Visitors

Descendents of Lloyd and Henrietta Whitmore, former Old Stone House Residents during the late 1920's and early 1930's, visited the Old Stone House and Maysville School during their Family Reunion in June. Three of the Whitmore children were born in the house and some of the children recalled what it was like to live in the House.

At the Maysville School, they were able to view the unique and colorful stage curtain that was used during the 1930's in the upstairs Community Meeting Room.

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Rea Power Plant Museum

Gary Brinkley of Corn Belt Power delivered a Circuit Breaker Panel to the REA Power Plant Museum. It is 6 feet by 6 feet and 2 inches thick and is from the Dinsdale Power Plant, which is no longer being used. We thank him for adding to the equipment displayed at the REA Museum.

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

Non-Profit Organization
Bulk Rate -- U.S. Postage
Paid Permit #13
Hampton, Iowa 50441

Return Service
Requested

The Annual FCHS Meeting

When: Tuesday September 11 at 7:00

Where: Farm Bureau Meeting Room
South Olive Ave, Hampton

Agenda:

A. Business Meeting

1. Welcome
2. 2006 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 Bill Jepsen. He is publishing a book entitled "The History of the Automobile Industry in Iowa". One of the featured stories in it is Hobbie's Accessible Auto, manufactured by Leslie Hobbie, here in Hampton.

C. Hand outs

D. Refreshments

About The Author

With the exception of a couple of years in the service of Uncle Sam and another two-year stint in grad school in Oklahoma, Bill Jepsen has been a life-long Iowan. Born in Davenport on the ides of March in 1944, he grew up in Davenport and rural areas of Scott and Muscatine Counties. Bill graduated from Davenport Central High School in 1962. After attending St. Ambrose College in his freshman year he transferred to The University of Iowa and graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree in 1967. Uncle Sam came knocking almost immediately after graduation. Training took Bill to Texas and Virginia before being selected to receive an all expenses paid trip to a Southeast Asian country called Vietnam. After his release from active duty, he sought to further his education, and enrolled at Oklahoma City University where he received a Masters Of Arts In Teaching (MAT) degree. Seeking to further his education even more, Bill came back to Iowa and enrolled in a history graduate program at Iowa State University. That is how he got to the Central Iowa area. That was over 35 years ago. He is still here.

Bill lives on a very picturesque acreage in Boone County overlooking the Des Moines River Valley. He and his wife Linda have lived there since 1988. An avid collector of many (too many) things, he and Linda have accumulated a virtual museum of "stuff". As you might guess, much of it is antique automobile related. The gas station pictured is in their front yard. You are invited to come see it and hear the story behind it. What collection would be complete without a couple of old cars? A pair of convertibles, a 1956 Ford Sunliner and a 1966 Mustang, help make life fun.

Always an avid historian, especially Iowa and local history, Bill has managed, in this book, "The History of the Automobile Industry in Iowa", to combine his intense interest in antique automobiles with Iowa history. He has written several articles for various "old car" publications but this is his first book. The Forward will give you a deeper insight into how it came about.