



Big Creek Historical Society

The Pony Express

Volume 1 Issue 9 Fall 2007

City Hall Restoration Update



'Stairway to Yesteryear'

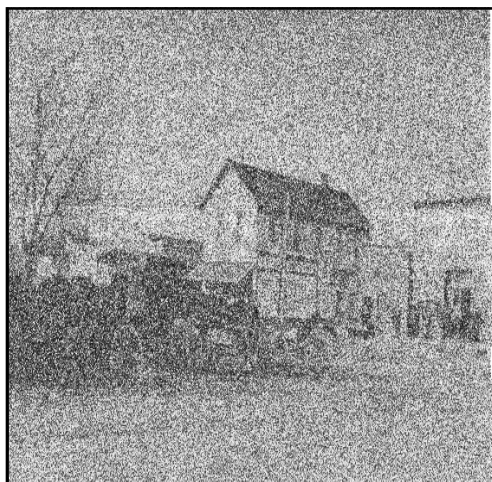
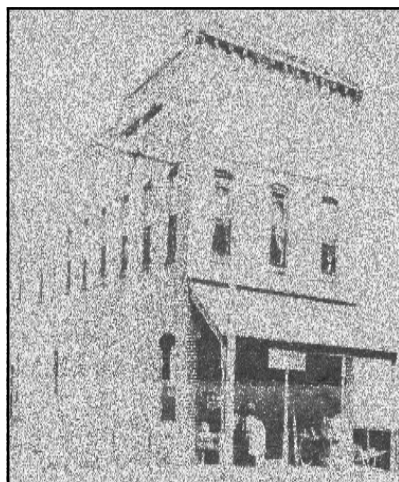
By Tom Cox

We continue to make good progress in our efforts to secure the \$166,500 needed to complete our 'Stairway to Yesteryear' project. September 1st our Historic Site Preservation Grant (HSPG) requesting \$83,000 was submitted. Gary Mahannah (City Administrator) was very helpful in preparing the

HSPG application. The City Council voted to provide up to \$42,000 for our project. From our mailing of about sixty fund raising pieces we received eleven responses. We certainly appreciate those very generous responses. We had ten contributors prior to the mailing. We also have verbal commitments of support that have not yet made a contribution or pledge. Our fund raising efforts continue. We will not know whether we were successful with the grant application until December. So, we need everyone to keep their fingers crossed through December for good fortune with our grant request and additional contributions. If we are fortunate enough to be awarded our grant requested funds we could have our project completed in 2008.

Can you name these Buildings in Polk City

Let us know if you can correctly identify these buildings.



Inside this issue:

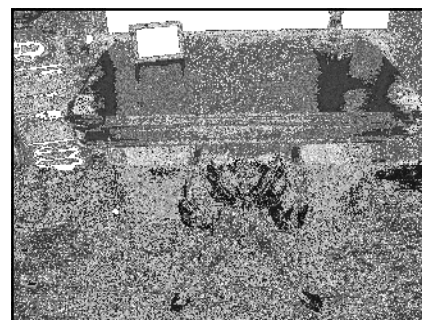
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They call it a family tree because, if you look hard enough, you'll always find some sap in it.

Anonymous

Museum Donation



19th Century walnut Victorian Parlor table donated to Museum by the Conkel Family



Wagner sketch of historic city hall of Polk City.

If you like what we are doing, ask a friend to join us. Adding members who believe in what we are doing will make doing it much easier.



Wagner sketch of the bandstand in the Polk City town square

From The President.....

The summer has come and gone. Fund raising remains our primary focus. To date I am somewhat disappointed with the low number of responses to our mailing for funds. I am sure that I look at the project to be much more important than most people because of the closeness I have

to the project. We continue to work on the fund raising in hopes that we will be successful. We have not done well, at all, this year in increasing our membership. Mostly because it has not been our focus. We will do much better in this area during 2008. We have a strategy defined to

help with the membership drive next year. In anticipation of completing the restoration next year, I have begun work on a Vaudeville Show to be featured at our Grand Opening. Meanwhile I will keep my fingers and toes crossed.

Big Creek Historical Society Items

Polk City Historical

Structures Throws



Available for \$50

Plus \$7.00 Shipping Fee

A Great Gift!

Books

Early Days of Polk City

Brave Men Shouldered Their Muskets

By R. Currie—\$8 each

American Patriotism

By Leonard Brown.
Reprinted by R. Currie

\$37.95

Murder!

By R. Currie - \$14

\$3 shipping for all books

Big Creek Historical

Cardigans

\$25

Calendar of Events

October 2007

Care Center Bingo—8th

Meeting— 15th 6:30 PM

Museum - 28th 2-4 PM

November 2007

Care Center Bingo - 12th

Meeting— 19th 1:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

December 2007

Care Center Bingo—10th

Christmas Lunch - TBA

Museum By Appointment

January 2008

Care Center Bingo—14th

Meeting—21th 1:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

February 2008

Care Center Bingo— 11th

Meeting—18th 1:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

March 2008

Care Center Bingo - 10th

Meeting— 17th 1:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

Library and Historical Society Team Up

Volume 1 Issue 9



By Tom Cox

The Polk City Library asked us to help with a program about the historic Polk City

cemeteries. Pam Witt coordinated the program. Lela Austin and Tom Cox provided a historical overview of the cemeteries at the library which was followed with tours of the Beebe and Polk City Cemetery's. About thirty people attended. It was a very good program.

Word Skills

Rearrange the letters of the following to see what phrase you can create.

A Decimal Point

Answer on Page 4



This Newsletter is produced by the Big Creek Historical Society, PO Box 201, Polk City, IA 50226. Contact: Tom Cox

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BCHS Officers:

Pres. Tom Cox

Vice Pres. Lela Austin

Treas. Paul Grodt

Sec. Phyllis Martens

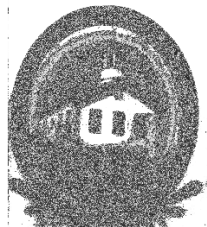
Photography— Paul Grodt

Big Creek Historical

Society T-Shirts

\$10

\$4 Shipping Fee

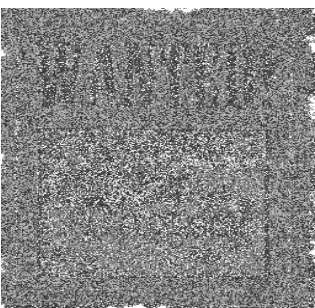


‘Preserving the Past for the Future’

Goals for 2008

1. Increase our membership base and participation.
2. Complete restoration of City Hall.
3. Develop displays and programs for the museum

Share Your Photos With Us!



The Historical Society is looking for photos to help us tell Polk

City's History. Check your photo albums for family photos and photos of community, school, organizational activities and events that help tell our history. You may send your photos by:

- Email—phtocox@aol.com
- Mail to— PO Box 201, Polk City, IA 50026
- Drop them off at museum, 112 3rd St.

Polk City (call for appointment)

If you send or drop off photos that you would like returned be sure to note that on the photo. We will scan it and return the original to you. Thank You

Big Creek Historical Society
PO Box 201
Polk City, IA 50226

Address Service Requested



Kiwanis Day 2007

By Tom Cox

It was a beautiful day in the town square. Lake Country Catering donated the necessary supplies for us to provide free ice cream cones for kids. This was very popular. Tables were covered with 'White Elephant' items for sale. Paul Grodt was host at the museum. Sue Burt, Lela Austin, Barb McAfee, Phyllis Martens, Velma and Don Reese and Tom Cox (pictured at the left) took care of business in the square.

Word Skill Answer

I'm a dot in place

Museum Update

By Tom Cox

A wonderful Victorian Parlor table was donated by the Conkel family. Our video/audio library now contains five interviews and our play 'Polk City Survives the Great Depression'. Interviews are: Wilbur Miller, Betty Berggren, Lois Burt, Lance Leonard and Paul Grodt. If you know someone we should interview please let us know. We would be glad to receive tapes or DVD's that contain an interview previously recorded by any of our members. If there is an interest in receiving any of the interviews or our plays on DVD we could make them available. Let us know of any interest.

