

Mark your 2025 calendar !!! – Further Details to Come
Programs to be presented by the Big Creek Historical Society

February – Big Creek Historical Society **MEMBERS FIELD TRIP**, time & location TBD. Hopefully the Maxwell Museum.

March 4, 7pm – **THE MORMON CONNECTION**. 2 people important to the founding of Nauvoo, IL, were early Polk City residents: **George Beebe, town founder**, and **Dr John C Bennett, fascinating scoundrel**. 2025 is the 150th anniversary of Polk City's incorporation. Celebrate by learning about powerful men who impacted the small town's future. Speculate on the connection that brought them both here.

Spring, Date & Time TBD – Dedication of the **20 MILE HOUSE STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**. West of Polk City, at Hopkins Grove, stood a house used on the **Underground Railroad**. Join us in a celebration recognizing this piece of history and saving our past for the future.

April 12th, 1 pm – Join us for a **MYSTERY TEA PARTY**, “Who Killed the Darling Duke of Darjeeling?” a light-hearted chicanery, as more than one lady is a suspect in the death of the darling Duke. Watch the **Play** while seated at tables on the museum's 2nd floor and enjoying **Teatime**.

May 13th, 6:30 pm – Meet some of Polk City's early residents during a **CEMETERY TOUR**. Interpreters will tell selected graveyard occupant's **STORIES**. Enjoy the **PRAIRIE FLOWERS** in bloom. This has been a favorite history event. Transportation by bus leaving from the Square will be provided by Parks & Rec as the Polk City Cemetery has limited parking.

June 5th, 6:30 pm – **MUSIC HISTORY THROUGH THE YEARS**. Pianos and math, the Industrial Revolution and mass production, Polk City's Bandstand and the Boys band. Dennis Kain, a musician and collector of things musical, will connect the dots in a fast-paced rendition of how we got from **THERE** to **HERE**.

June thru August – **THE FARMERS MARKET**. The museum will be open each Thursday from 5-7 pm. **Visit our Facebook page for pop-up storytelling events** (search for Big Creek Historical Society) during the market to include:

Walking Tour: Places That Used to Be Here & Where Did they Go, a ½ mile 1 hr walk

History Bench Stories: Stories of early Polk City- 1 Photo & 5 Minutes of Story

Pocket Park Stories: Tellers Choice - Polk City History, Tall Tales, Spooky Tales

July 19th – **FOUR SEASONS FESTIVAL**, **Four Seasons Festival**, also the 150th Celebration of Polk City's Incorporation. The **Museum will be open** after the parade until 3pm.

August 7th – Our video of the **HISTORY OF THE SAYLORVILLE & BIG CREEK LAKES** will be shown at the Museum on the Square. The film, a documentary made by the Big Creek Historical Society, includes what was lost as water covered the farms and cemeteries now underneath the lakes. Approximately 45 minutes long, two showing starting at 5 and 6 pm.

September 16th, 7pm – **CORN AND KRUSHCHEV**. **Liz Garst** is the granddaughter of the famous Iowa farmers and citizen diplomats Roswell and Elizabeth Garst, and, like her forefathers, she likes to tell a good story. Liz tells how it came to pass that **Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev** and his family **visited the Garst family in 1959**, and recalls fun stories from her personal memories as an 8-year-old participant. Made possible through a Humanities Iowa grant. This program will be held on the first floor of the museum and will be accessible by wheelchair. Contact info@polkcityhistory if questions.

Big Creek Historical Society meetings 2nd Tues @ 1pm, Museum, 116 S 3rd, Polk City