

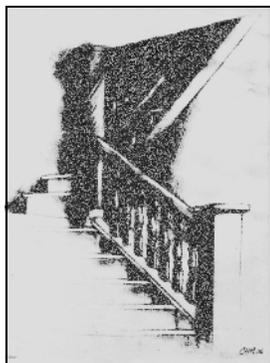


Big Creek Historical Society

The Pony Express

Volume 1 Issue 10 Winter 2007-2008

We Did It!



'Stairway to Yesteryear'

By Tom Cox

We received a letter from the State Historical Society of Iowa this day, December 6, 2007, notifying us that our grant request for restoring historic city hall has been fully funded. Wow! I want to thank all of you for keeping your fingers

crossed. Thanks to the grant award, and some very generous donations, our fund raising campaign has been quite successful. We will now start the process of kicking off the project in the Spring of 2008. Our contract with the State Historical Society will be finalized in January 2008. We will begin to work with the contractor on the project's activities timeline to aid in ordering the tin ceiling, stage accessories, light fixtures and many other required materials. **Now the work begins!**

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Perks of the Elderly

**Your secrets are safe
with your friends
because they can't
remember them either.**

Memories of Polk City Past

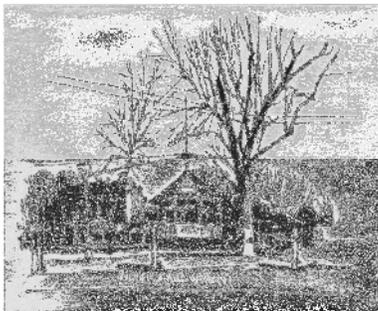
By Ed Grodt

Reading about the original settlers in Polk City having been near a former Indian village reminds me of my Polk City past when, as a young lad, I spent many hot summer days swimming, fishing and hunting in and around Big Creek. One day I was looking at some rocks that had been rolled and washed by the rapids when I found a perfectly shaped Indian arrow head made of flint about 1" by 3" in size. I took it to my Dad's store as I knew he would be there. I guess the word got around since about two weeks later a man from Des Moines came to the store asking about the arrow head. Dad located me and with no negotiation the man gave me two dollars for it. That was a lot of money in the 1930's and the most I had ever had. I think the fortune went to my huge account at Polk City Savings Bank.



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.....

I probably should have waited a couple of weeks before I wrote this. I really can not think of anything other than ‘We Did It’. It is fantastic to be able to complete our restoration work in 2008. A dream many were not sure would be realized. It is so very gratifying to have

received the support from our membership, organizations, some businesses and individuals in Polk City. As stated in our fund raising material “community of Polk City, present and future will greatly appreciate your generous gift”. What a privilege to be able to work on such a

wonderful project. A list of donors will be published. Now that you have uncrossed your fingers, have a very Merry Christmas and a Great 2008.

New Member

Genevieve E. Lillskow

Welcome

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

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

April 2008

Care Center Bingo—14th

Meeting— 21st 6:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

May 2008

Care Center Bingo - 12th

Meeting - 19th 6:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

June 2008

Care Center Bingo— 9th

Meeting—16th 6:30 PM

Museum By Appointment

Time to Renew Annual Dues

By Tom Cox

It is that time again. Our annual dues for 2008 are now due. We recently elected to change our charges for membership starting with the calendar year of 2008. The change will effect those that have joined since 2005 and have been paying \$20 per year. The members who

have been a member before 2005 your dues remain \$12.

Our new charges:

Individual.....	\$15
Non-Profit.....	\$20
Family.....	\$25
Business.....	\$50
Lifetime.....	\$125

Thank you for your support.

Word Skills

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

Astronomer

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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www.polkcithistory.org

BCHS Officers:

Pres. Tom Cox

Vice Pres. Lela Austin

Treas. Paul Grodt

Sec. Phyllis Martens

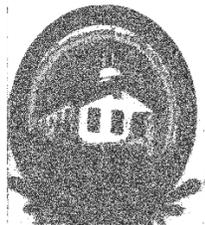
Photography— Paul Grodt

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

Santa Comes to the Museum

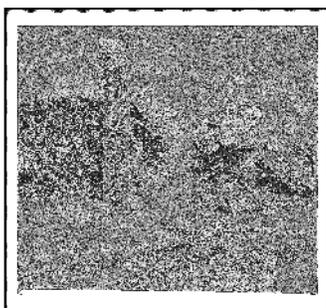
December 2nd Lela Austin and Paul Grodt hosted nearly one hundred children who made their Christmas wishes know to Santa in our museum. It was a very festive evening with the town square being gaily decorated with Christmas lights. A fun time.



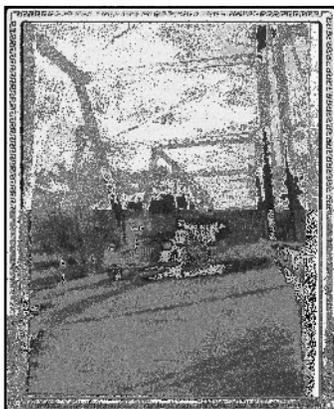
Big Creek Historical Society
PO Box 201
Polk City, IA 50226

Address Service Requested

Top Mile Long Bridge - 1972



Bottom Corydon Bridge—1947



Museum Update

By Tom Cox

The number of visitors to our museum in 2008 was down considerably from the prior year. The primary reason was because we did not have any special events or displays. Time was spent fund raising. Work is currently taking place on the development of a computer projected presentation on the creation of lakes Saylorville and Big Creek. The presentation will consist of a sound track and photos that will be 20 minutes in duration and include: history of the Des Moines River, early proposals for impounding of the river, Polk City's fight for its life through the completion of the project. When

completed the presentation will be shown on demand in the museum . Another presentation on 'The First 100 Years of Polk City' will follow. The museum will be closed throughout 2008 due to the restoration project. We will store all of our belongings in the first floor museum during the restoration of the second floor. We will take advantage of that time to sort every item, catalog and properly store. This will be big job that is much over due.

**** Word Skill Answer****

Moon Starrer