

**NEW BLOOMFIELD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE
SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010
ANNUAL MEETING
4:30 P.M.
NEW BLOOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

This meeting notice is being sent very early for two important reasons.

**REASON #1
WHAT IS IT REALLY WORTH AND WHAT IS IT REALLY?**

What's the value of that whatchamacalit that's been sitting in the corner of your basement for the past 20 years?

Exactly what is that thing your Grandpa bought at an auction 40 years ago?

Is that old coin you found really worth anything?

Well, come to the NB High School cafeteria from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. before the annual meeting and you'll find out if you really do own something valuable!!!

During this time, the Society is hosting an Antique Road Show featuring Tom and Joan Benke. Tom and Joan live in Jefferson City where they have owned an antique business for over 40 years. Both are qualified appraisers and buyers of antiques, memorabilia and collectibles.

For only \$5 for two pieces, Tom and Joan will view your precious articles and provide an estimated appraisal or a description of what you really own! No more questions about "what is this" or "what is this worth."

And during this time, the Society will be serving homemade cakes and pies, along with your favorite ice cream!

Now where could you spend a better Sunday afternoon?

REASON #2
THE COMMUNITY QUILT IS COMPLETED!

As you will recall, Darlene Smith Grillos volunteered to make a community quilt that could be auctioned by the Society. Sections were purchased by community members for \$10. The names were then embroidered by Darlene's mom, Berniece Smith, whom we all know as our beauty operator for over 50 years. Berniece completed all the pieces just before she passed away last September.

The quilt is beyond words. It is now hanging in the Historical Society for viewing.

Here's Darlene's story in her own words:

This quilt represents history – both old and new – of Callaway County and New Bloomfield. Names on this quilt reflect families that have lived in this area for decades. Although some may be “newcomers”, they are all Callawegians.

Early settlers knew how to live with what little they had. Often, their quilts were made from old clothing or scraps left from a previous sewing project. They were all hand quilted. This scrap quilt is part of that early pioneer spirit.

The red, white and blue colors were chosen to represent the colors of our American Flag. Since the founding of New Bloomfield in 1836, hundreds of Callawegians have served their country, from the Civil War through the present wars today in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to support their fellow men and women.

The pattern is split rail fence and represents early boundary lines. Long before barbed wire, the split rail fence set the standard for ownership. Robert Frost once said, “Fences a good neighbor makes.”

The eight churches in the New Bloomfield area have held and are still holding our community together, just as they are now holding this quilt together.

The five stars represent the five counties that surround Callaway County – Boone, Audrain, Montgomery, Cole and Osage.

This quilt encompasses the hand work and quilt scrapping of the 1800's, the match piecing of the 1900's and the electronic machine quilting of the 21st century.

SEE BACK PAGE

This was the last quilt finished by Berniece Smith on July 28, 2009. She spent countless hours lovingly embroidering each name. We are honored to have this very special artwork for the New Bloomfield Area Historical Society.

The quilt has countless hours in its making. The materials alone have cost over \$500.

Our annual meeting will begin at 4:30. The first order of business will be the auction of the quilt. Darlene's only stipulation for this donation is that it hangs in the New Bloomfield Historical Society building for the next 10 years before removal by the owner.

This is indeed a very special gift to the Society. As noted in her personal message, all area churches are included in the quilt.

After the auction of the quilt, the annual meeting will begin. At that time, the first order of business will be the election of officers.

I know everyone is very busy this summer. But if you can spare the time, please join us for this very important meeting and auction.

The Society we have developed in the past four short years will match any in the state. Through the efforts of so many volunteers, it has become an historical refuge. We hope you will become part of it, participate in it and feel comfortable sharing your history with it.

I will be sending out another reminder prior to the meeting in July. I just wanted everyone to make certain this special event is put on your calendar early so you can plan to be with us!

Thanks for your continued support!

Gracia Yancey Backer, President

MEMORIALS

As always, please remember the society when giving memorials for friends or loved ones.

Mary Jane Mitchell by Nancy and Dave West
Richard Murphy by Nancy and Dave West
W. W. Leatherwood by Nancy and Dave West
David Williams by Donald Burke and Barbara McKim
Wanda Walker by Nancy and Dave West