

# New Bloomfield Area Historical Society

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPT. 13, 2010  
7:00 P.M. – NBAHS BUILDING

This will be first meeting with our new officers. Be sure to attend, meet and greet.

The society is your society. It needs you to attend the meetings, if at all possible. There are many things we need to consider in order to plan for the exhibits and future events, so your assistance is important! You are welcome and appreciated.

## Check the NBAHS Web Site often!

Our website is [www.newbloomfieldhistorical.org](http://www.newbloomfieldhistorical.org) and sponsored by Socket Internet Services.

Thanks to the continuing efforts of Wayne Johnson, the site is continually updated, reflecting all types of information about our Society. Recent additions include a movie of the "Celebrate America Day" **Tractor Tour**. The newsletter is posted, too.

## Dues Due

We value you as a member who can share ideas, memorabilia, pictures and history! Please send in your \$25 for a year's membership.

**Membership renewal notices will be sent out within the next several weeks. All renewals are due by October 1, but if you're late, we'll still accept them! Even if you live out of town, your membership is a very important part of this organization.**

**Please continue to help the Society. You've done so much and now we need continued support. Spent two hours every two months to join us and you will be surprised how much fun you will have, how much you will learn and how much more you will want to participate.**

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Celebrate America Day 2010, was a huge success in New Bloomfield. It was also a great event for the Museum. We were privileged to have many visitors drop by see what we have to offer. It was a great meeting so many folk and I am sure some were surprised and pleased by what they saw.

July 25, 2010, was an important time for the local community and the Historical Society. The Society was privileged to host a great event. Our thanks to the New Bloomfield High School for the use of the cafeteria providing us the space to host a local version of 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. Many people attended the show and brought over fifty items to be appraised. Everyone had the "What is this really worth?" question answered. It was a very enjoyable time.

In addition, the beautiful hand-made "community" quilt which Darlene Smith Grillos volunteered to make was auctioned by the Society. Sections of the quilt, you may recall, were purchased by community members for \$10. The names were then embroidered by Darlene's mom, Bernice Smith. Bernice completed all the pieces just before she passed away last September. The quilt is beyond our dreams. It is now hanging in the Historical Society for viewing. The quilt will be on permanent display at the Museum.

The quilt was purchased at auction by The Friends of New Bloomfield, and donated to the Historical Society as a tribute to Bernice Smith. A commemorative plaque recognizing the "Friends of New Bloomfield" will soon be on display at the museum.

An additional auction item, a hand made Dated Goblett, was purchased by Travis Burnett who then donated it to Society.

The Society served homemade cakes and pies, along with a variety of ice cream! Truly a good time was had by all.

Following the community meeting a regular meeting of the New Bloomfield Area Historical Society was conducted. An election and installation of officers was held. The 2010-2011 slate of NBAHS officers was presented by Dale Lawson, co-chairman of the Nominating Committee. President: Jon Warren; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Dale Lawson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Mike Backer; Secretary, Treva Vaneloecht; and, Treasurer, Nancy West. John T. Cave made the motion by acclamation to accept the slate of officers. Martin Bryan seconded the motion and the new slate of officers was accepted.

The New Bloomfield area is rich in history and everyone is encouraged to become a partner in its preservation.

A dream came true about four years ago when current and past community members contributed to the New Bloomfield Area Historical Society for the purpose of constructing a building to display our history. Through the dedication of our members and friends, we are developing this Society into a very real showcase for our community. My personal hope is this coming year will see continued growth and enjoyment of the museum.

There is a very vibrant black history in New Bloomfield, and I hope it can be more extensively addressed. We have a start but your help is needed. Let's start working on an exhibit that will satisfactorily present this area.

Local church history is, of course, an area of interest to me. Our local churches, I am sure, have in their "vaults" many valuable items that need to be shared. The museum has the capacity to save, protect and secure items and can digitize and store media coverage of items that cannot be physically placed on display. Dave West has begun work on identifying churches, now we need your input and help.

I must admit to being a railroad buff. The Chicago and Alton branch that came through our community is rich in history. We need to find some links to that to place in the museum. Again, your help is needed and invaluable in our efforts to find some railroad stuff.

This is just a start. I hope to introduce more ideas as we progress through the year; ideas to help us protect and preserve the rich history of New Bloomfield and the area. History may be made fresh daily, as they say, but it is lost daily, too, unless someone cares enough to preserve and protect it. Our day-to-day activities are important to us. So too were the daily activities of our ancestors, let's work together to save what they cherished.

I hope you will soon begin looking in the attic, the basement, garage and the old cupboard, to see if history is there ready to be found and displayed.

Note: committee chairs and members for each era we still need your help in providing items for display.

The Chairs for the four eras are as follows:

1800-1859	Gracia Backer, Dave West
1860-1899	Craig Abbott, Polly Dinning
1900-1944	Dale Lawson, Evelyn Thomas
1945- Present	Treva Vandeloecht, Nancy West

If you have any suggestions or ideas, we not only want them, we need them!

The museum is always interested in showing your items. Please bring anything you would like to have the museum consider so the accession committee can review them for acceptance.

We can't guarantee acceptance of every item, but, on behalf of the museum, Dave, Dale and Wayne are very interested in what you have. Please consider calling them and making an appointment to share your items.

REMEMBER, the ACCESSION COMMITTEE MUST accept all items. Forms will be available Monday evening for you to complete if you bring items for consideration.

**Jon Warren**

In order to the dream alive and well, we need everyone's continued participation. See you Monday.

*For those who have no trouble walking, please consider parking at the school administrator's building so that the drive may be used by those who have need to park closer to the building.*