

Madison County Historical Society Newsletter

2014 Staff:

Jared McDonald
Manager/Curator

Debbie Zacharias
Admin. Assistant

Kristin Knutson
Housekeeping

Mina Jean Slater
Receptionist

Naomi Bradbury
Receptionist

2013- 2014 Board of Directors

Bob Young
President

Sally Oldham
Vice President

Tim Waddingham,
Treasurer

JoAnne Walker
Secretary

Don Stanley
Carol Liechty
Jim Koch
Beverly Cline
Peggy Eichner
Mary Hart
Rich Kading
Bill Paull
Linda Smith
Jim Rhoads
John Stowell

Spring , 2014

2014 Season Opens with new exhibits

This past winter was long and cold for most of us. Here at the museum we have been busy making changes to improve your local county history museum.

Volunteer Gary Walker built our new uniform display which houses most of our uniforms. Don't fret if you don't see a particular uniform on display

we now have much needed storage under the display to house duplicate uniforms.

Another new feature with the military uniform display is that each uniform has been assigned a number which correlates to a book for the public to use. In the book is complete information about the uniform and a photo

of the person in uniform, if available.

Madison county residents are proud of our military members and it shows with the number of uniforms we have on display. They now have a proper display and the place of honor they deserve.



Madison County Historical Society Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 5, 2013 1:00pm

815 South 2nd Avenue

Open to the public

“Madison County and the Military”

Speaker

Captain Brandon Cochran, Iowa National Guard Historian

Volunteer Orientation

If you are a volunteer at the museum...

Thank You!

If you know someone who might be interested in volunteering please encourage them to attend our Annual Volunteer Orientation on Sunday, April 27th at 1:00pm.

We encourage ALL our volunteers to attend to be aware of

updates in our displays and activities coming up at the museum.

Please fill out the enclosed volunteer/membership form and return it to our office.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
VOLUNTEER



Madison County on Facebook

If you have the capability to use Facebook be sure to check out the group "You're probably from Winterset if..." Recently there has been a rash of old photographs on the site. While you are on facebook, check us out at "Madison County Historical Complex". We'll keep you updated on what's going on at the museum.

If you have old photo's you would like to share please email them in .jpg format to mchistory@historyonthehill.com and we will share them on facebook.



John Wayne Birthday Celebration to be held at MCHS

**JOHN WAYNE
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
MAY 23-24, 2014
WINTERSET, IOWA**

Take Me Back...

The following article is from the Madison County Historical Complex Resource

Room:

SKULLYVILLE ISN'T MACY'S, BUT...

By Herb Owens (Tribune Staff Writer)

SKULLYVILLE, IA -

Little Beverly Cummins, a talkative 5-year-old, is coloring pictures with crayons spread out on the soft drink cooler.

Mrs. Vera Cummins, 34, is weighing up some cookies for big Elmer McKee, bachelor farmer who lives down the road a mile. Several highway surveyors are parked in chairs around the now cold oil-burning heater in the center of the store. Guy Cummins, 35, former sailor who's "boss man" at the store has driven into a nearby town to have a spring fixed on his car.

This, my friends, is the opposite end of the business world from Macy's in New York City, world's largest store, where I roamed for hours a few days ago.

Skullyville isn't on the map, so don't waste time looking for it. It's a crossroads store six miles north of Winterset in Madison county, on Highway 169.

Beside the store, there's a one-room cottage with sleeping porch, in which the Cummins family—five of them including Kenneth, 12, and Ted, 9—live in happiness, ease and comfort.

"Skully" may offer little competition to Macy's, but it's an important business center for hundreds of farmers within a five-mile radius.

Here they can trade their eggs or groceries, cold meats, gasoline or auto accessories. Here they can get salt for livestock, light bulbs, razor blades or bread.

NO ELEVATORS!

There's ice cold pop in the cooler, and packaged ice cream in the refrigerator. Here you can buy hardware necessities or candy for the kids.

There are no moving stairways, no elevators, no bargain basement, no information desk. Guy and Vera, with little Beverly around to keep things lively, can handle all the trade without any annoying rush.

Strangely enough, the Skullyville store—here in the midst of some fine dairy herds—carries a supply of milk products from a Des Moines dairy. And they have customers for them.

The Cummins have had Skullyville store only since last March. Guy, after 18 months in the Navy during the war, had tried stock feeding for awhile after his discharge, but was discouraged by the cost of feed.

KNEW GROCERY BUSINESS

"Guy had been in the grocery business before the war," Vera said. "He'd helped his folks at Pitzer, then worked in Indianola, and finally had his own store at Corydon. He didn't care much for farming after that."

(Part missing from page)

...north) for the boys each morning," Vera went on, "and Beverly will start in the fall. Business is fair—and we hope to make it better. We're our own bosses—which gives us a feeling of independence."

REPAINTING

The Cummins are planning on repainting the store—which consists of a general store little larger than the average living room, and a smaller room of auto accessories and oil. The paint will be supplied by the company whose gasoline they handle.

They're planning, too, to add a room or so onto their home, although their present need for it is not great.

So, happily, the Cummins operate "Skully", which got its name from a cartoon in 1932 when Russ and Helen Day started the store. They Days also opened one five miles east, out "in the sticks". Still in operation, that one is called "Toonerville."

NOT EVEN WINTERSET

At "Skully" you can order baby chicks—they act as agents for a hatchery— or you can buy hybrid seed corn, or onion sets, or lamp wicks, or crushed oyster shells or frozen catfish.

I'm sure the Cummins are happier in business here than they would be in New York. Why, Vera said she wouldn't even be interested in a grocery business in Winterset.



With Guy Cummins, ex-sailor proprietor, gone to town, Mrs. Vera Cummins—with the help of 5-year-old Beverly—operates the Skullyville store, a crossroads business six miles north of Winterset.

MADISON
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

815 South 2nd Avenue
Winterset, Iowa 50273
515-462-2134

Email:
mchistory@historyonthehill.com
jared@historyonthehill.com
deb@historyonthehill.com

Madison County Historical Society Newsletter

Coming Events....

- April 27 Volunteer Orientation Museum Lounge
- May 1 Garage sale donations accepted
- May 4 Annual meeting
- May 24 John Wayne Birthday celebration
- June 14-15 JUNKFEST ON THE HILL
- June 27-28 Passport to the Past Garage Sale (719 W Jefferson)

June 14th—June 15th **Junkfest and Car Show**
+ Looking for vendors of art, vintage , repurposed, antique and collectible items

June 27—June 28 **Garage Sale**
+ Drop your items off starting May 1st at 719 West Jefferson
+ If you would like a receipt for tax purposes please leave your name, address and phone number on your donation.
+ June 27th 8am-5pm
+ June 28th 8am-??



**Junkfest
ON THE HILL**

JUNE 14TH & 15TH

MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMPLEX

**ART * UPCYCLE MARKET WITH VINTAGE,
REPURPOSED, ANTIQUE, AND COLLECTIBLE ITEMS**

815 SOUTH SECOND AVE. * (515) 462-2134 * WWW.HISTORYONTHEHILL.COM

Software update in progress

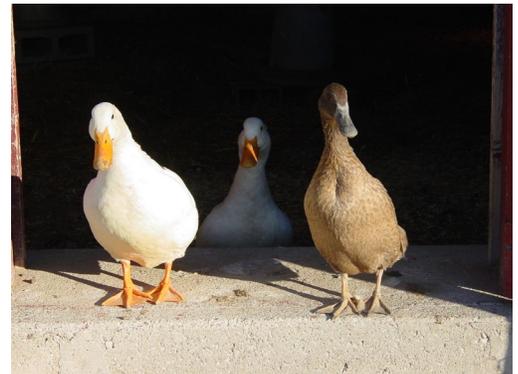
Our collections inventory software has been updated so we are busy making changes to our accessioning process. Volunteers have spent the winter months photographing each individual item and cataloging the contents of our library research files. Thank you to Jeanine Murray and Ron Howell for your help.

The new software allows us to update our volunteer and membership information also. You can help us update your information by filling out the enclosed form and return it to our office. We are also asking for an email address to keep our membership up to date on upcoming events. **We will not give out your personal infor-**

Meet our on site residents!



Sunshine



Gladys, Abner &
Henrietta



Volunteer and Member Information 2014
Please complete the form below to help us update our records.
Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Information For Volunteers

Local Emergency Contact: _____
Name/Relationship/Phone

In case of an emergency requiring transport to a medical facility, do you have a preference on the facility? If yes, please state: _____

(If no, medical first responders will select the closest available facility)

* Please return this page to MCHS, PO Box 15, Winterset, IA, 50273 *

Thank you for your help in updating our records



Mail to: MCHS, PO Box 15, Winterset, IA, 50273

Volunteer and Member Information 2014

Please complete the form below to help us update our records.
Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

I would like to become a member today: _____ Annual \$10.00/person
_____ Lifetime \$150.00/person

Emergency Information For Volunteers

Local Emergency Contact: _____
Name/Relationship/Phone

In case of an emergency requiring transport to a medical facility, do you have a preference on the facility? If yes, please state: _____

(If no, medical first responders will select the closest available facility)

* Please return this page to MCHS, PO Box 15, Winterset, IA, 50273 *

Thank you for your help in updating our records



Mail to: MCHS, PO Box 15, Winterset, IA, 50273