



The Ames Intelligencer

Issue 1 of 4 ■ Ames Heritage Association Newsletter ■ Jan. 2002

■ The Ames Intelligencer was the first newspaper in the city of Ames ■

What's on the A.H.A. Agenda for 2002? Plan B!

After the move from the storefront at 417 Douglas to the new AHA administrative headquarters at 108 Fifth Street, news from Ames Heritage became a little quiet. *But no more!*



A.H.A. Administrative Headquarters at 108 Fifth

When the decision was made in 1999 to open a demonstration museum, the exhibit program presented at the Douglas location was "Plan A." When our resources ran a little short, we had to come up with "Plan B".

We'd like to report that Plan B is well underway! Here are the components of that plan:

- Place exhibits in public locations throughout the community, rather than in our own facility where it is difficult to maintain a sufficient number of open hours (see story on this page).
- Hire a 12 hour-a-week Community Programs Coordinator to present local history programs to all types of groups.
- Establish limited open hours at the administrative location, 108 Fifth.
- Install a permanent exhibit at 108 Fifth showcasing the small, but growing AHA artifact collection.
- Continue to acquire important Ames artifacts.
- Continue to increase monetary support through memberships and donations.
- Continue to seek a permanent home for an Ames museum.

Your Part in "Plan B"? Renew Your Membership!

This is your first notice to renew your annual membership. To conserve our financial resources, we are combining the annual dues notice with our newsletter.

We are most grateful to those who already renewed for 2002. Check the date on the mailing label to see when you last paid and at what level.

Clip & Return Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____

(We use e-mail ONLY to notify members about upcoming programs.)

Individual	\$25	Sustaining	\$100
Family	\$40	Benefactor	\$500
Friend	\$50	Patron	\$1,000

Send to:

Ames Heritage Assn., PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010 **Soon!**

Exhibit at A.P.L. thru March 16

Through March 16, an AHA exhibit is on view at the Ames Public Library: **Tiles Tales: Stories Behind Downtown's Brick Piers.**

Display panels and artifacts tell extended stories about the people and places pictured on the brick pier clay tiles, located along Fifth Street. There is also background about the other features of the downtown public art.

The display is located on second floor, above the auditorium and is co-sponsored by Friends of the A.P.L.

Now Seeking Applications: Community Programs Coord.

Ames Heritage will hire a part-time Community Programs Coordinator this year. The C.P.C. will work 12 hours/week on a contract basis, at \$10/hour. The position will be funded through memberships.

The CPC will present or coordinate the presentation of local history programs to groups and organizations that request talks, lectures and tours on local history subjects.

CPC will take local history programs out of the museum to places where people gather - slide talks, guided tours, activity tables at fairs, exhibits and other formats, depending on what is requested.

Emphasis will be on developing a relationship with Ames schools, but other community groups will also be served.

Qualifications: AHA seeks a self-starter who enjoys public interaction and would enjoy learning about and researching local history. Work schedule will be flexible and may require occasional evening and weekend hours. Experience with research, teaching and/or public speaking preferred.

For more information, call Kathy Svec, 232-4877. Letters of interest and resume may be sent to PO Box 821, Ames, Iowa 50010. Due February 28.

A.H.A. Enjoys F.A.C.E.S.

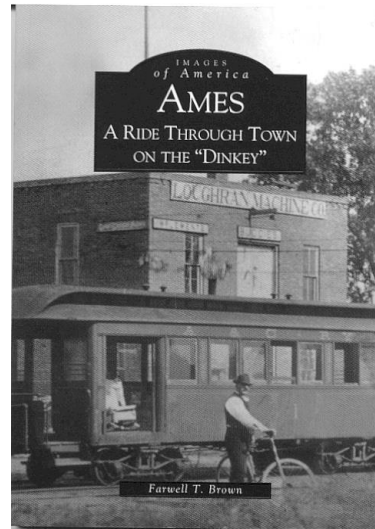


Ames Heritage hosted a booth at the October 13 FACES Festival (Families of Ames Celebrating Ethnicities). The Bauge Log Home and the Norwegian heritage of Story County was showcased. Willie and Rollie Struss, above, entertained guests by inviting them to guess what purpose some “odd” looking artifacts served.

Board Members Sought

Would you enjoy taking a more active role in guiding the future of local history programs and establishment of a permanent museum? Board members are sought for 3-year terms beginning in March. Board members serve on committees and assist activities and programs. Call Kathy Svec, 232-4877, or e-mail kathysvec@msn.com.

Farwell Brown Book About the Dinkey Reprinted



An Ames history picture book authored by Farwell Brown is back in print. *A Ride Through Town on the Dinkey* has been republished in a new format. It is \$19.95 and is available at all Ames bookstores, Explore and the Octagon Shop. A portion of the sales will benefit Ames Heritage Association.

An Intriguing Notion!

Would the Ames Depot make a suitable local history museum? Now there's an intriguing notion!

In December, a “plea” from AHA appeared in the Ames High School Alumni Association newsletter. The call to alums extended an introductory membership and put forth the idea of the Depot as a museum.

That “plea” prompted a call from the agent handling the sale of the Depot for the Des Moines developer that owns it – a person who is a sympathetic 1974 Ames High alumnus!

What do AHA members think about the depot as a museum? Would members support an effort to regain this important local landmark?

Write a note to us when you send your renewal!

Welcome AHSAA Members

AHA welcomes new members who responded to our invitation to join published in the Ames High School Alumni Association newsletter:

Marguerite Berry	Janice Burkhart
Jim Dresser	Jane Graff
Richard D.Green	Lynn Jenison
Tom Judge	Betty Gulliver Johnson
Barbara L. Mitchell	Laurel Hanway Kimball
Frances Roberg	David R. Smith
Mary Ann Valley	John E. Vander Linden
Mel & Jonnie Bell	Charlene Caldwell
Virginia Harris	Edward & Karen John
Marie Johnson	Kathy Kavanaugh Johnson
Barbara Leach	Mary Garner Metzger
Ian D. Smith	Amalia Sollars
John Tilden	James & Janet Yoder

(as of 1/22/02)

Excerpts from Current AHA Exhibit at APL: *Tile Tales*



Rails to Trails

Trains and bicycles have played important but changing roles in moving Ames residents through the years. Bicycles have changed in form since the 1900's, but remain a popular form of transportation, recreation and sport.

Trains were once the primary long-distance transporter of people and goods – and were so

important in the early settlement of Story County that towns lived or died based on their proximity to the rail route. Automobiles eventually displaced rail passenger service and the last passenger train rolled through the Ames Depot on March 12, 1960.

As rail lines were abandoned, the City converted the railbeds to trails for walking, jogging and cycling. In Story County, an extensive system of rails-to-trails exists and is growing each year as more sections are acquired & finished.

Intelligencer

The Ames Intelligencer, established in 1868, was Ames' first newspaper. It was a weekly publication and began printing daily in 1911.

- The Tribune name was adopted in May 1913.
- For a time, it was the Tri-Weekly Tribune.
- It merged with the Ames Evening Times in 1919 to be the Ames Daily Tribune & the Ames Evening Times.
- In December 1929, it became The Ames Tribune-Times. The Times was eventually dropped.
- Like in 1913, the paper is once again called The Tribune. Its offices have been at 315 Fifth since 1929.

The artists who assisted David Dahlquist with the project are listed on the Intelligencer tile. Can you find their names?

They are:

- Marcy Lloyd - Clayworks Studio manager
- Rick Stewart - modeling and mold work
- Brian Fredricksen - mold and kiln work
- Sue Cornelison - rough drawing
- Catherine McCabe - tile glazing
- John Swan - studio assistant

IDOT 1924 (Iowa Dept. of Transportation)

Established in 1904, the Iowa Highway Commission began as an arm of Iowa State's College of Engineering. Its mission was to be an advisory agency providing guidance on road building matters to counties and cities within the state.

In 1913, the state legislature enlarged the commission's responsibilities to include the standardization of bridge design. Iowa Highway Commission staff moved into their new headquarters at Grand & Lincoln Way in 1924. That original building can still be seen among its many additions.

The Commission became the Highway Division of the newly established state Department of Transportation operating from one administrative headquarters in Ames.

In most states, the D.O.T. is located in or near the state capitol complex. In Iowa, its location in Ames dates to its historic roots at Iowa State College.

Kellogg & Main Intersection



The circle of blue pavers in the intersection suggests a railroad roundhouse, a circular, carousel-like structure common in rail yards. A train locomotive would pull onto a section of track in the round house and the floor would rotate to turn the engine around to face in the opposite direction. This was the quickest, simplest way to turn a train around.

David Dahlquist, the designer, explains:

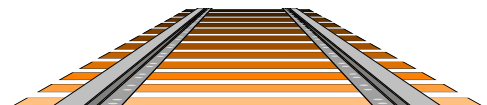
“How many people - when they drive across that intersection - will know what it's about? I don't think that is ultimately the main point.

I think instead it provides color and an image that asks something of a viewer. There is a range of different interpretations. On one level it is a target and a kind of center of activity.

On another level it focuses your attention based on something that actually was true to railroad history.”

Can you see the “roundhouse” in the intersection?

Can you also see the “train tracks” laid into the sidewalks?



Willie's Wish List for the Bauge Log Home

Pine Kitchen table – "harvest" table

Prefer: 60" L, 30" W, 30" H.

Wide plank construction with boards going full length. Legs are remembered as "heavy, curved" or tapered 4 x 4's but simple legs would be acceptable.

Pine Bench to go behind the table

Prefer 60"L, 17" H

Pine Pantry cupboard

Cupboard needs to fit the north wall of the pantry. Prefer 48" W, 72" H (or less), 12" deep so 11.5 inch platter can lie flat on shelf. Need split doors, with a support in the middle of the top and of the bottom. Doors can't have more than 12" swing. This cupboard may have to be custom made.



Kitchen stove

1900's vintage, black, with warming closets and water reservoir. Reservoir needs to be on the right hand side. (Need not be this fancy)

Dishes, Tea Leaf pattern

Need coffee cups or tea cups and more small sauce dish type dishes. Have only one battered cup. Have a good supply of plates and platters.

Glasses

Do not need to be a matched set, but should be old.

Inquire with Rollie & Willie Struss, (515) 232-0865 to be sure items are still needed.

AHA is a 501C3 non-profit organization and we accept donations, gratefully. Certain items can be purchased, depending on price.

Next issue: Carole's Wish List for Hoggatt School



Ray Callahan, Bernie Gerstein, Phil Johnson, Dave Smith and Jerry Symons, members of Town & Country Kiwanis, volunteered to assemble HRDP grant-funded museum shelving on Dec. 15.



Ames Heritage Association Board: President - Kathy Svec; Vice-President - Carole Jensen; Secretary - Willie Struss; Treasurer - Peggy Baer; Suann Evans, Letitia Hansen, Bill LaGrange, Leo Lawler, Nick Howell, Rollie Struss, Dennis Wendell. The Board meets monthly.

Ames Heritage Association is a legally incorporated, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest in state and local history through publications, programs and exhibitions and the operation of three historic sites. Headquarters: 108 5th, Ames; Phone: 515-232-2148.

The Intelligencer newsletter is named after an early Ames newspaper. It is published three to four times a year for Association members. Direct comments & questions to: Editor, PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010.


Hoggatt School is located on the grounds of Meeker School, near 18th and Burnett, Ames, IA. Open April through October.

The Bauge Log Home is east and north of the lake at McFarland Park, which is 1/2 mile east of Dayton Road at 56461 180th Street. Open Sundays during good weather months.

Ames Intelligencer
Ames Heritage Association
PO Box 821
Ames, Iowa 50010

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Time to Renew!

Your label tells when 

you last renewed,
and at what level.

Member year is
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.