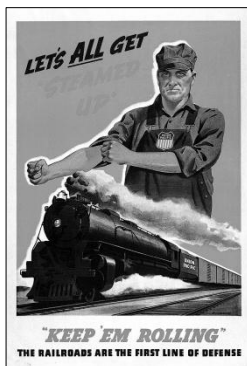


Ames Historical Society

AMES • IOWA

Newsletter to Members 2012 SUMMER...ISSUE #3/4

The mission of the Ames Historical Society is to preserve local history and illuminate its stories.



Learn about the role of the railroads during WW2 at the exhibition:
Rail Reality: How the Trains Made Ames.

Ames Historical Society Board:

Co-President Mary Atherly
Co-President Kathy Svec
Secretary Laura Sullivan
Treasurer Ken Cameron

Board Members:

Mary Ann Barnes, Don Beitz, Bob Bourne, Jan Breitman, Keith Bystrom, Matthew Donovan, Craig Hastings, Phyllis Heffron, Carol Phillips, Mike Quinn, Lynette Spicer, Ardy Ulrichson, Sharon Wirth

The Board meets the 2nd Thursday of each month 6:45pm at 416 Douglas. Members welcome!

Administrator Alan Spohnheimer
Staff Casie Brockert, Dennis Wendell, Margaret Vance
Facility Manager Vacant; seeking volunteer

Ames Historical Society is an incorporated, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest in local and state history through publications, programs, exhibitions and operation of an archive and historic site.

Headqtrs: 416 Douglas, Ames, IA 50010
Open Wed-Fri, 1-5pm
Mail: PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010
Phone: 515-232- 2148
E-mail: mail@ameshistoricalsociety.org
Website: www.AmesHistoricalSociety.org

The **newsletter** is published four times a year for A. H. S. members. Direct comments and questions to: Editor, PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010 or e-mail above.

Hoggatt School is located on the grounds of Meeker School, near 18th and Burnett, Ames, Iowa. Open April 1 through October 31.

RAIL Reality | how the Trains made AMES

THE EXHIBIT CONTINUES!

The Society's exhibition that commemorates the many ways that railroads have influenced the development of our community continues through October 28 at the Octagon Center for the Arts, 427 Douglas, Ames. The railroad founded our town and 2012 marks Union Pacific's Sesquicentennial.

Closing August 11th is the exhibit of pastel drawings: **Tracks: The Railroad Artwork of Stewart Buck** in the street-level Community Gallery.

Continuing through October 28:

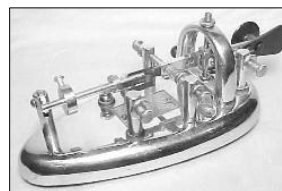
Modeling Ames Trains - model layouts of the downtown Ames rail yards as they looked in the 1930s and of the 1891 Ames & College Railroad aka "The Dinkey" (through Oct. 28). Also see railroad travel posters from 1869-1955.

Located in the Sweeney Gallery – third floor

Rail Reality: How the Trains Made Ames - a historical overview of the impact of railroads on Ames at six key time periods (through Oct. 28)

- 1850s to 1870s - *The National Scene and Race Across Iowa*
- 1890 to 1910 - *Railroads are Part of Daily Life*
- 1914 to 1918 - *Ames Grows into a City*
- 1930s to 1940s - *Heyday of the Railroads*
- 1960s to 1970s - *Challenging Times for Railroads*
- 1985 to 1995 - *Safety, Growth and Mergers*
- Also, displays on loan from the Union Pacific Museum in Council Bluffs: *UP Fast Facts and Passenger Service*

Located in the Main Gallery – third floor



See page two for gallery viewing hours at the Octagon Center for the Arts, 427 Douglas.

Octagon Center for the Arts Gallery Hours:

Main Gallery & Sweeney Gallery:

Tuesday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm, Saturday-Sunday 1 - 5 pm

Community Gallery: Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Summer & Fall Gallery Talks

During the run of the train exhibition, Gallery Talks will be presented each month at the Octagon Center for the Arts, 427 Douglas, Ames.

Tue. Aug. 21, 7pm**Mail on Rails: History of the Railway Post Office***presented by Rudy Daniels*

Reliable mail service was a high priority in our country's early years and as rail networks expanded, they were seen as the best way to move mail and small freight parcels. Special cars were outfitted for mail service. Rudy Daniels presented *Trains Across Iowa* in this year's lecture series.

*Sorting mail in the mail car**Union Pacific passing trains***Tue. Sept. 18, 7pm****The Railroad Today** *presented by Brenda Mainwaring, Union Pacific Dir. of Public Affairs/ Iowa-Nebraska*

As the most fuel efficient and environmentally friendly freight transportation mode available, railroads are enjoying surging business. Their privately funded networks help reduce heavy freight on publicly funded roadways. Most logistics professionals consider the 150-year-old railroad industry as essential to meeting future freight transportation demands.

Sat. Oct. 6, 2pm – afternoon program**Today's Freight Train** *presented by ISU Railroad Club*

Do you watch freight trains and wonder what's in them? Patrick Johnson and Club members will "decode" what is carried in different types of Union Pacific cars, where they start their trip and where the freight is delivered. They will also present information on UP's locomotives.

.....

Exhibition Sponsors

Octagon Center for the Arts, Union Pacific Foundation; Friends of the Union Pacific Museum; Union Pacific Railroad; Alliant Energy Foundation; Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau Community Grant Program; Kate Shelley Division of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA); Bryan Anderson

**Very special event:
Steam Engine Whistle Stop****Sunday, September 9, 10am to 1pm**

Union Pacific's last steam engine #844, will make a dramatic appearance on the north-south track near Ames High School, 20th & Ridgewood.

Visitors can get a close-up look at this mighty 1944 locomotive and browse the museum car and souvenir car. This event is part of Union Pacific's 150th anniversary celebration. Free; public welcome.

*Visitors browse exhibition displays at the Octagon.***Exhibition Contributors**

Joe Pierson & Chicago & North Western Historical Society; State Historical Society of Iowa; Ames Town & Country Kiwanis; Ian MacGillivray & Iowa Transportation Museum; Ames Tribune, Karin Sevde & Sevde Storage, Trains Magazine, Ames Parks & Recreation Dept., Ames Laboratory of the US Dept. of Energy, Dick Steffan, Bob Drenth, Heather Johnson, Beth Lindquist, Brenda Mainwaring, Hank Zalatel & Iowa Dept. of Transportation; Ames Public Library's Farwell T. Brown Photo Archive, Jim Graham, Chuck Mischke, NMRA members Bob Folkmann, Al Warren and Dave Yetter, Carol Lauber of Caboose Stop Hobbies, Deb Spohnheimer, Tom Randall Realty Community Truck

We Get Mail!



Image Donation

From: Donald E. Vaughn, President, Iowa Chapter, National Railway Historical Society

Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012

Subject: Dinkey program at the Octagon

"I attended the Ames Historical Society's presentation on the "Dinkey" last Tuesday and was much impressed with the history of this little known line. As the speaker mentioned, the FDDM&S Railway took over operations and did so until the 1950s. The attached photo from a postal card, I wish to offer for copy to the Historical Society. I have no information as to the date or photographer, but believe I may be able to come up with a date. This appears to be an excursion trip, as there are two cars, it's possibly about the time FDDM&S quit the line. Again, the presentation on the Dinkey was most enjoyable and instructional."

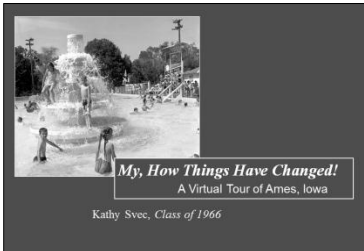
City Tour

From: Al Hausrath, Ames High Class of '42

Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012

Subject: Historical Tour of Ames

"We want to thank the Ames Historical Society and Kathy Svec for the outstanding and comprehensive tour of Ames that she conducted on May 28.



I was amazed how in a short time period we covered the Iowa State campus and Ames, the latter from north Ames to Carr's pool to South

Duff. You are all to be congratulated on organizing such a fine tour. Thank you!"

Note: The Society often works with Ames High class reunion groups, putting together slide shows of the Ames they knew in their high school days/

Hoggatt School



Hoggatt School: 1860s One-Room Country School Museum

Hoggatt School was the first country school in the area that was to become Ames and then was the first public educational building after the town was founded in 1864.

Restored to the 1862 time period, the school is open by appointment for group tours and programs from April 1 to October 31, 2012. Call 515-232-2148.

**Regular 2012 public open hours are
Sundays through August 26, from 2 to 4 p.m.**

Hoggatt School is located at 18th & Burnett on Meeker School's playground in Ames.

2012 Special Events at Hoggatt

Sunday, Aug. 12, open 2 - 4 p.m.

At 3pm - **Finding and Restoring Hoggatt School**

Follow this amazing detective story about Farwell Brown and his search for Hoggatt School.

Sunday, Aug. 19, Open House, 2 - 4 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 26, open 2 - 4 p.m.

At 3pm - **What's in Your 1860s Lunch Box?**

Long before school cafeterias, families sent their children to school with simple home-prepared foods. Find out what may have been for lunch in the 1860s.

Events are free and open to the public.

Headquarters Happenings: Around 416 Douglas

Meet Our Summer Intern



Jacinda Ruggles is an anthropology student from University of Northern Iowa who currently lives in Ames and is interning with the Society two days per week. Besides doing

whatever is asked, she has been working on our building plan database, the Tribune microfilm printout database, scanning Tribune negatives, and digitally cleaning scanned photos. Jacinda grew up in Jefferson, plays cello in the Carroll symphony and is a dancer.

Bert Adams Family Reunion

The extended family of former Ames artist and doctor, Bertrand Adams, held a family reunion in Ames in July with some members coming from as far away as



Washington D.C. Society curator and Bertrand's former neighbor, Dennis Wendell gave them "the works" when he hosted them at his home, providing them with information about Bert and taking them on a tour of "Prairie Ark", the home Bert designed.

"Water Event" at HQ

On Memorial Day weekend, a faulty water line burst in a refrigerator ice-maker in the suite of our first-floor tenant. The ensuing "flood" swamped the north half of first floor and then seeped under the separating wall, soaking carpet in half of the Society's space. Although no artifacts or equipment were damaged or lost, the spill caused a major disruption and stress to staff while the space dried out and carpeting was replaced. Luckily, Society treasurer Ken Cameron found the water when he stopped in Saturday morning, so the water did not run the entire holiday weekend. Repairs were covered by insurance. We thank many helpful volunteers.

4Hers Help Out

4-H members who attended the state conference in Ames in June volunteered several hours on June 27th



adding recently acquired building plans to our computerized database of plans in our collection. From left: Madison Briggs (Chariton), Haley Birks (South Central Calhoun), Janelle Gibney (Elkader), Bre Branderhorst, (Prairie City), and Worth County extension staff member Mindy Tenold.

Kiwanis Comes to Our Aid Again

Not only did a hardy group from the Ames Kiwanis Town & Country Club (K) help us unload borrowed train displays when they were delivered from Council



Bluffs in March, but they did it again in May when the exhibits had to be moved to the Octagon Center for the Arts for the train exhibit. This time - with the assistance of several Society (S) volunteers - the weighty panels had to be carried up three flights of stairs! We thought they should earn double points for that feat! They'll help again when the exhibition is finished.

Pictured are Jack Winkler (K), Craig Hastings (S), Dan Franklin (K), Paul Brackelsberg (K), Logan McOllough (S), Neal Tarman (S), Bill Schrum, Kellen Vance (S).

Society Wins Schoolhouse Grant



In July, the Society received notice that it had won a State Historical Society of Iowa grant from their Country School Grant Program.

The grant will provide funding assistance for badly needed repairs to Hoggatt School's roof and was approved at the full requested amount of \$4,280. Some matching and in-kind dollars and labor are still needed, but the roof/ceiling structural project can proceed, likely in September or October. We thank Board member Sharon Wirth for her hard work preparing the grant application. The work will be done by local contractor, Tom Richards.

Members wishing to donate to the project may use the donation form on the last page of the newsletter.

Vintage Cash Register



This elegant brass cash register once belonged to Mr. E.E. Godard, who came to Ames in 1916. For four years starting in 1924, he had a Gift Shop at 210 Main.

The beautifully restored and operational register was recently acquired by the Society and is on display at 416 Douglas, Suite 101.

Curator Dennis Wendell shows it off.

DVDs Available for Check-Out

DVDs of our lecture series programs are available from Society headquarters on a short-term, check-out basis.

Programs include *The Jack Trice Legend*, *Joe Gerbacht and Movie Theaters in Ames*, *Cold Cases* (unsolved Ames murders), *McFarland Clinic Story*, *WW II Home Fronts in Iowa*, *African-Americans in Iowa*, *Iowa in the Civil War*, *Trains Across Iowa* and *Machinery of Change: The Tribune Press*. Soon to come is *From Small Town to the Big Top*. For more information, call 515-232-2148.

Thanks go to Teresa Larson, Rollie Struss and Alex Fejfar for videotaping.

Central Iowa Symphony Archives

by Janet Klaas

Central Iowa Symphony is a community orchestra made up of amateur and professional musicians from Ames and surrounding towns and cities. It formed originally as an ensemble called the Octagon Orchestra, guided by



Ames musician Bob Achenbach and directed by Richard Snyder. In 1987, the group hired Paul Kirby,

music director for Iowa State University orchestras, as the first music director and conductor of the new "Central Iowa Symphony".

For twenty-five years, season brochures, programs, recordings of concerts, photographs, VHS and DVD recordings of concerts, photographs, minutes, newsletters, records of fundraising and Young Artists competitions were saved and passed on from one board member to another, but with no organization or preservation guidelines.

The Ames Historical Society agreed to be the repository for these archives and secretary/historian Janet Klaas developed a plan of organization for the materials.

She first arranged the concert print materials by season and created a "digest" or summary of each season's information.

Also created were reference documents:

- *Highlights from our History - 1987-2012*
- an alphabetical listing of all board members through 2011-12
- a list of board officers
- a list by season showing the number of concerts
- music conductors/music directors (seven total)
- interim seasons (three)

Additionally, there are newsletters and information on Family Concerts, Gala Fundraisers, the Young Artists Competition and the CIS Repertoire 1987-2012.

At the end of each future season, these materials will be updated by the CIS historian.

Further organization to be completed on the archive by the end of the 2012-2013 season are photographs and audio and visual materials that will be identified and filed in chronological order, and board records.

Anyone wishing to access these materials may call the Society at 515-232-2148.

Local Stories: Celebrating the 1912 Post Office

1912 P.O. Built 100 Years Ago

The first Post Office in the Ames area started operating from Iowa Agricultural College's farm house in 1862. Farm Superintendent W.H. Fitchpatrick served as postmaster from 1862-64.

Sometime after Ames was established by the railroad in 1864 and the depot was built in 1865, a downtown Post Office existed at what is now Main Street and Duff. H.S. Kingsbury, the first station agent, had a small store and operated postal services on the site that was later occupied by the Ames Hotel.

Postmaster L.Q. Hoggatt served next, an early area pioneer, then Sam Lucas who died in office; his term was finished by his wife. During this time, the Post Office was in several locations on the north and south side of Onondaga (now Main Street).

After the Lucases, postmasters were John Watts, Parley Sheldon and J.E. Duncan. In about 1890, the Post Office was located at Douglas and Main in the north half of Parley Sheldon's Story County Bank.

The next postmasters were Parley Sheldon (again), Lon G. Hardin, founder of the Ames Evening Times, C.E. Haverly and L.M. Bosworth, who was postmaster in 1911-12 when the grand new Post Office building at Kellogg and 5th Street was constructed.

Work toward this magnificent structure had started four years earlier in 1908. The Post Office Site Committee of the Commercial Club (forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce) met to develop and endorse a proposition to sell W. J. Miller's four-and-a-half lots at the SW corner of Kellogg and Fifth Street to the government for \$10,000. The site measured 110 x 112.5 feet and did not meet the required size, but the group knew that the proposal would likely be accepted if price was reasonable. In December that year, the government accepted the offer.

With the Post Office site settled, banker Parley Sheldon promised to follow through with his plan to build his new bank at Kellogg and Main, right next door.

Progress on the post office project was slow, but in 1910, Postmaster C.E. Haverly and his assistant, F.M. Williams received a request from the supervising architect in Washington D.C. for information on space needed to handle work in a new Ames building. Haverly and Williams traveled to Boone and Webster City to view their buildings. Planners were still awaiting Congressional appropriations, which came in May 1910. The bill allocated \$60,000.

On June 1, 1911, groundbreaking for new "federal building" took place with Mayor Sheldon turning the shovel, assisted by his two grandsons, Sheldon and Bernice Hammer.

In May 1912, the paper reported the project was nearing completion, commenting, "Suffice it to say that the government built this building as it does everything else and there is nothing lacking. All the modern conveniences are to be placed there."



1912 Post Office - Kellogg Avenue entrance

Postmaster Bosworth announced that on Tuesday, June 18, 1912, all parts of the new post office were to be open from 8am to 6pm for public inspection. He stated, "I want the citizens here to see the interior because it is a building we are all proud of."

The paper noted, "The post office outgrew its quarters years ago. Packed into a small building like sardines in a tin box, the force has worked to disadvantage in performing the work necessary. In the new quarters there will be ample room for several years."

The day before the public open house, Postmaster and Mrs. Bosworth hosted a reception for post office employees, former postmasters, the construction superintendent and federal inspectors. A program of music was presented directed by Iowa State's Prof. & Mrs. A. S. Thompson, and Fredricka Shattuck gave "enjoyable" readings. Refreshments were red, white & blue ice cream, cake and red frappe.

After the public open house closed, the move occurred overnight, with services ready Wednesday morning.

The paper reported, "What a popular place it is! There was a stream of people in the building all day yesterday to see the magnificent building and today it is visited just to see how it seems. One carriage of ladies stood outside for half an hour watching the handsome mahogany [revolving] doors go round." It was deemed, "A fitting monument to the city of Ames."

The mahogany-toned interior featured lock boxes, windows for carriers, general delivery and stamps, windows for money orders, registry and Postal Savings and a private office for the postmaster. Revolving doors were at the east and north entrances. On second floor was the carriers' rest room and on the lower level the civil service examination room.

Supervising Architect: H.C. Scofield
Construction Supervisor: H.E. Benish,
Contractor: George W. Stiles Co., Chicago
Property: \$10,000; **Building** \$49,652

Staff in 1912:

Postmaster: L.M. Bosworth
Asst. Postmaster: F.M. Williams
Money Order Dept: Lizzie Corbin
Registry Dept: W.H. Doggett
Stamp & General Delivery: Ed Ellis, C.A. Kintzley
Carrier #1: R.D. Goble
Carrier #2: E. Greenlee
Carrier #3: Vernon Glidden
Sub. Carriers: Glenn Anderson, Roy Cotterell
Rural Route Carriers: Charles Hamilton, E.E. Stillman, W.S. Hoon, J. Latherow
Station A (college) clerks: Ben Stull, Carroll Hoppes
Station A carriers: Will Bower, Ben Keltner
Maintenance: Tony Cody, Os Freed

Other Postal Milestones in Ames

June 1, 1903: House-to-house mail delivery started in Ames. Population was 3,000 and the minimum requirement of \$10,000 annual postal revenue was met.

1916: Ames Post Office business increased so rapidly that it was placed in the first class.

Jan. 3, 1913: Parcel Post service initiated. Under a new law, 4th class matter was defined as everything not included in 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes and not exceeding 11 pounds or 72 inches in length and girth combined.

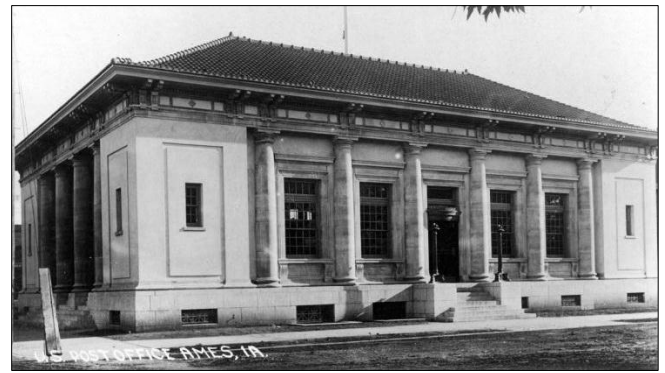
1935: New, larger Post Office built at 6th and Kellogg

1937: Old Post Office sold to Ames Trust & Savings Bank for \$8,005; site to become new bank location.

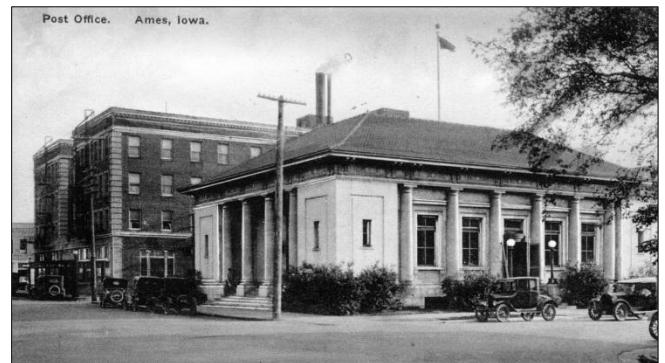
1938: 1912 Post Office razed; on the south portion of the lot (409-411 Kellogg) Ben Cole & Sons began work on the new Fareway Grocery Store (now a bike store).

1952: Required at age 70, Ames native Clyde Kintzley retired from the Post Office after 46 years. Kintzley served in three buildings under seven postmasters and missed only one accumulated week in all that time for illness. Prior to his career at the PO, he worked for the Newton & Northwestern RR and the C&NW.

Note: the Society has the safe from 1912 Post Office!



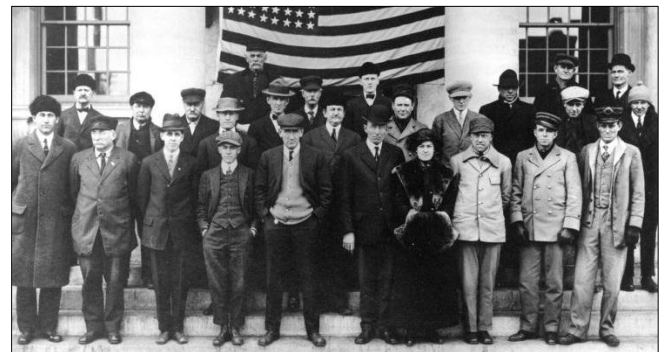
1912 Post Office, Fifth Street entrance



1912 Post Office and Sheldon-Munn Hotel (after 1916)



How the same corner looks in 2012



Post Office employees in 1912



1938 demolition of 1912 Post Office

Hoggatt School Repairs Contribution

Yes! I'd like to help out with the Hoggatt School roof and ceiling repair project with the donation indicated below.

Amount _____

Name _____

Address _____

**Mail to: Ames Historical Society,
PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010**

Is it time to renew your membership?

Renewals are due on the one-year anniversary of last year's payment. Check this newsletter's label for information about your membership. Memberships fund the day-to-day operations of the Society, allowing us to continue to be a valued community resource. We thank you!

Introductory - 1st year	\$10	Sustaining	\$100
Individual	\$25	Sustaining Plus	\$101-500
Family	\$40	Benefactor	\$500
Friend	\$50	Patron	\$1,000

Name _____

Address _____

Ames Historical Society, PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010

The Civil War reminiscences of Kendrick Brown were read on May 12 by (L to R) Steven Woolery, Zack



Hackbarth, Alex Fejfar, Jennie Lee, Emily Linch and (seated) Glenn Kappelman. ISU Theatre loaned the detailed costumes.



Peggy Baer, train exhibit co-curator, and one of our rail yard model makers, Bob Folkman (in costume), enjoy the June 12, 2012 "Business After Hours" event in the Main Gallery of the Octagon Center for the Arts. The exhibits may be viewed through October 28.

Return Service Requested

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Ames, Iowa 50010**

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