



## June 2007 Newsletter

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### Grand Opening Set For Sunday, July 15, 1—4 pm!

#### Finally!

One hundred and thirty-one years in the making . . . and now the Ankeny Area Historical Society is ready to show off the treasures, documents, photos, tools and stories that have made Ankeny the city that it is today!

On Sunday, July 15 from 1—4 p.m. the general public is invited to come and explore and experience good old Ankeny as never before. The free openhouse has exhibit space dedicated to agriculture, schools, country life, Civil War, WWI and WWII, the Ordnance Plant, life at the turn

of the century, Ankeny business/ government and growth. And it is all in the comfort of the original 102-year old house and new barn replica museum. Air conditioned and accessible by stairs or elevator there is something for everyone to enjoy.

#### Inside of This Issue

Those pre-teen Ankeny seventh graders. . . all 530 of them . . . stopped by in May and soaked up facts and knowledge from our volunteers. . . Polk County made another donation. . . and we are looking for some fun-loving volunteers.



Picture to the left: View of our house and barn from the corner of SW Third Street and SW School Street.



Picture to the right: View of our house and barn from the parking lot, west side of house and barn. —————>



## ***ANKENY 7TH GRADERS LOOK & LEARN AGAIN!***

Over 500 Ankeny seventh graders came by the museums with teachers, parents and grandparents and were the first official visitors to the newly cleaned, re-set and displayed exhibits at the new barn and house. Fifty eager students came three times a day for four days. The groups rotated between four areas of the barn and house listening and learning from the many volunteers who told facts, figures and stories of interest. This is the fifth year for the tours.



## ***Polk County Supports Efforts***

E.J. Giovannetti, Polk County Supervisor, presents a Community Betterment Grant check for \$2,500 to Ankeny Area Historical Society president, Ron Sampson at the April 24, 2007 meeting.

The grant money will be used for kiosk, display boards and telephone system.

Pictured on the right is Historical Society's president Ron Sampson and Polk County Supervisor E.J. Giovannetti.



## ***HELP WANTED: No Heavy Lifting Lots of Friends & Inspiration!***

### ***Open Houses & Tours***

We are changing the title given to volunteers for our Sunday Open Houses from tour guides to hosts and hostesses. The new layout and information sheets make it much more enjoyable to “wander and enjoy” at your own pace and the exhibits say much more for themselves than a guide ever could. So, if you were apprehensive about volunteering to be a guide. . .how about being a host? Please call. . .we need you and three others each Sunday that we are open. Call 965-5795.

### ***SummerFest Barbecue***

JoAnn Adamson is rounding up her help and food for the Saturday, July 14 SummerFest BBQ Luncheon at Parkview School. If you can help during one of the shifts by serving, cleaning, seating, doing drinks. . .please call 965-5795.

### ***SummerFest Tour Day***

Help is also wanted for the grand opening of the new facilities on Sunday, July 15. Handing out general information, pointing visitors in the right direction and just being there is about all that is required. Call 965-5795.

### ***Fall Ice Cream Social***

The Fall Ice Cream Social. . . Tentatively set for September is always a town favorite and help is always appreciated. To volunteer your pies, cookies, bars, husbands or wives to the cause please call 965-5795.

### ***Sprucing Up***

The Society is always planning for the next clean-up, fix-up day and a mid-summer weed-pulling, bush-trimming general fix-up time is being planned. Call 965-5795 to volunteer yourself, your kids, your spouse, uncle, aunt or grandparent.

### ***Want A Group Tour?***

If your group would like to learn more about Ankeny and take a tour like the one provided to the 530 Ankeny seventh graders, please call us. This would be a guided tour by society volunteers who specialize in certain areas of the museum. . .such as the Ordnance Plant, agriculture, Ankeny schools, growth and early life in the area. An ideal group is about 50 or so that would split into four groups for about 90-minutes or so. Clubs, businesses, churches are urged to learn more about Ankeny's past and call for tour information. The tour is a free but a goodwill contribution is always appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER 2007

**June 3**—Open House—2-4 p.m.  
**June 26**—Monthly Meeting—7 p.m.  
**July 1**—Open House—2-4 p.m.  
**July 14**—Annual Barbecue Dinner  
at Parkview—11:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
**July 15**—Grand Opening of the Ankeny  
Area Historical Center & Museums  
1—4:00 p.m.  
**July 24**—Board meeting—5:30 p.m.  
**July 24**—Monthly Meeting—7 p.m.  
**August 5**—Open House—2-4 p.m.  
**August 28**—Monthly Meeting—7:00p.m.

The Ankeny Area Historical Society is established to collect and secure artifacts and historical records representing Ankeny, Alleman, Bondurant, Carney, Elkhart, Enterprise, Polk City, and Sheldahl for the purpose of preserving American

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