

Boone County Historical Society



March-April, 2016

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS

Saturday, March 19: Northern Kentucky Regional History Day at NKU (*see article inside*).

May 19, 7pm: Mary Unterreiner, Executive Director of the Boone Conservancy, will present "Preserving the Past and Present for the Future."

July 9: Boone County Heritage Day and Chalkfest at the Museum

July 21: Annual "Out-and-About" ... Petersburg Baptist Church is celebrating 100 years!

September 15: Terry W. Lehmann, author of *The Green Line*, will tell us about the buses we rode from the Smith Street (Florence) turn-around to downtown when we were young.

November 17: Dr. Paul Tenkotte will present "More than Beer, Brats and Polka: Germans in Northern Kentucky"

December 2-4: Historic Burlington Christmas at the Museum.

Thomas Schiffer, Author, Gunsmith, Steam Boat Captain, Historian, Boone Countian, 7pm Thursday, March 17

The Boone County Historical Society is pleased to welcome author **Thomas D. Schiffer** as our presenter on March 17. Tom will bring us an illustrated program on the **1937 flood and its effect on the towns and people in Boone County.**

Tom was born in Cincinnati in 1935, and lives in Boone County. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Management from U.K. and has worked as a surveyor, draftsman, research & development engineer, design engineer and plant manager. His life-long interest in firearms has kept him busy with shooting, collecting and gun-smithing, and he's won numerous competitions to boot.

After retiring in 2000, he wrote a book, *Peters and King*, documenting the history of those cartridges and powder manufacturing businesses. He's also written and illustrated many technical articles for gun-



smithing magazines, as well as historical publications.

He has a love for piloting steam boats, and a fascination with photography. His wife, Carol, often accompanies him on his adventures.

The event is open to the public and cosponsored by the Boone County Public Library.

Invite your friends — **7pm Thursday, March 17th, in the Boone County Public Library, 1786 Burlington Pike, Burlington.**

REGIONAL HISTORY DAY AT NKU
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2016



Northern Kentucky Regional History Day at Northern Kentucky University will be held 9am to 2pm, Saturday, March 19, 2016. As always, Boone County Historical Society will have a display.

This is the 23rd annual event which includes a variety of related displays, seminars and the possibility of discovering more about your particular interests than you ever thought possible! The opening address will be presented by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann, whose topic will be “John A. Roebling and His Suspension Bridge on the Ohio River.” Previously Dr. Tolzmann served as curator of the German-American Collection and Director of the German-American Studies Program at the University of Cincinnati.

This year’s workshop speakers will include **Steve Oldfield, Don Rightmeyer, Eric Jackson, Bob Webster, Elaine Kuhn**, and others. Tickets are \$8 in advance, or \$10 at the door. Carpooling is recommended.

BEHRINGER-CRAWFORD MUSEUM NEWS

BCM’s current exhibit, “Silent Storytellers: Sharing Family Histories through Artifacts,” features a selection of Northern Kentucky family heirlooms from the museum’s permanent collection, showing how photos, clothing, art and other artifacts can be clues to the past. The exhibit runs through Sunday, May 15.

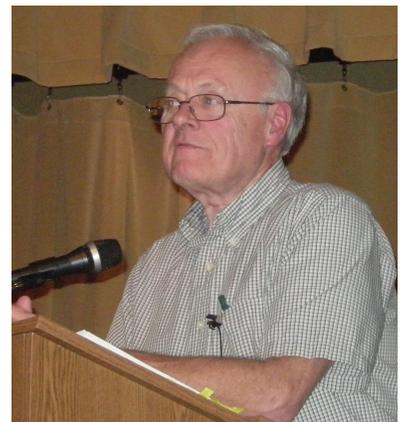
The March 17th Brown Bag Lunch Series features “Ireland’s Most Intriguing Cities and Sites.” Dr. Raymond G. Hebert, history professor at Thomas More College, shares his favorite spots in Ireland. Bring your own brown bag lunch. Green drinks and desserts provided. \$5 for museum members; \$13 for future members. RSVP 859/491-4003.

Benefits for all membership levels include unlimited admission for one year, 10% discount in museum store, 10% discount for rental of museum for private events, a subscription to BCM eNewsletter, invitations and discounts to most programs and special events, and invitations to members-only exhibit openings.

For info, call 859/491-4003 or email info@bcmuseum.org. BCM is located in Covington’s Devou Park, 1600 Montague Rd.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

At the January 21, 2016 meeting, the Boone County Historical Society elected **Ron Buckley** for a three-year term on the Board of Directors. Ron and his wife Patty reside in the Plantation Pointe area of Florence. Ron has presented two programs to the Boone County Historical Society about the Piatts, and the archaeological searches he and his family have conducted.



Email from KY Historical Society: Tax season is well underway! Please encourage your friends and family to donate part of their tax refund to the **Kentucky Local History Trust Fund**. Voluntary donations to this program will create a grant pool that will benefit Kentucky’s museums and local history organizations. For information, see <http://history.ky.gov/local-history-fund/>. The Kentucky Historical Society administers the Kentucky Local History Trust Fund.

RABBIT HASH GENERAL STORE UPDATE

Bridget Striker, BCPL Local History Coordinator, and member of the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board, wrote to us: “...the *Rabbit Hash General Store* was lost Feb. 13 in a devastating fire... **Matt Becher**, with the Boone County Planning Commission, and I have implemented a disaster recovery plan as a result of the fire. We are coordinating efforts on county, regional and state levels to work with the Rabbit Hash Historical Society.”

Asa Rouse, member and friend of the Boone County Historical Society, emailed some photos he and his wife Libby took on Saturday, February 20, a week after the fire at the General Store. One of those photos is copied herein.

Jim Henning, an executive with **Duke Energy** (owners of the 600 megawatt coal plant near Rabbit Hash), announced the company would donate \$25,000 for the effort to rebuild the 185-year-old structure.

Terrie Markesbery's “GoFund-Me.com” account has raised \$56,885 of the requested \$250,000 — those contributions have been given by 1,046 generous donors



during the past 19 days. Terrie operates the general store, leasing the property from Rabbit Hash Historical Society.

Contributions can be mailed to the **Donations account, Rabbit Hash Historical Society, c/o Forcht Bank, 6100 First Financial Drive, Burlington, KY 41005.**

NOTE: At the March 17th meeting, at the suggestion of the Board, the Boone County Historical Society will open the floor for discussion regarding the possibility of making a donation to the Rabbit Hash Historical Society for this rebuilding effort.

THE BCHS MUSEUM

Boone County Historical Society expresses appreciation to the Boone County Judge/ Executive and Fiscal Court Commissioners for permission to use the Old County Clerk's Office as a repository for items of historical significance to Boone County's heritage.

Directions: I-71/75 Exit 181

(KY 18 Burlington Pk). Proceed westbound 4.6 miles, turn right at the first traffic signal (Bullittsville -Burlington Road aka Garrard St.); turn left into the Boone County Administration Building parking lot. The Museum is the small white brick building marked “County Court Clerk's Office...1853” The street address is

2965 Gallatin Street, Burlington, KY 41005.



Artwork by Pattie Purnell

BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



P.O. BOX 23
FLORENCE, KY 41022-0023

Website: boonecountkyhistory.org

Newsletter Editor: Betsy R. Conrad
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ABOUT THE BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The **mission** of the Boone County Historical Society is to develop awareness and promote appreciation of the history of Boone County, Kentucky.

The Boone County Historical Society provides program meetings at 7pm on the third Thursday evenings of January, March, May, July, September and November.

Meetings (except for July) are held at the Boone County Public Library, Main Library, 1786 Burlington Pike, Burlington, Kentucky. July “out-and-about” meetings are held at various locations around the County.

The Society hosts a number of exhibits at the BCHS Museum (*see page 3*) each year. Most items for these exhibits are borrowed on a temporary basis from our members and friends, and do not belong to the Society. We greatly appreciate being entrusted with these loaned items that relate to our exhibits.

Items in our permanent collection have been donated by individuals and families who desire to share with others items of historical significance to Boone County. Their generosity is gratefully appreciated.

Annual membership fee is \$15 per household, due every January. This covers the cost of printing and mailing our newsletters. Checks, payable to the Boone County Historical Society, can be mailed to the Boone County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23, Florence, KY 41022-0023.

The Boone County Historical Society has received a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status — all gifts to the Society are tax deductible.

All programs and exhibits are free and open to the public.

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Officers and Boardmembers:

President: Betsy R. Conrad
Vice President: Virginia Lainhart
Secretary: Pat Yannarella
Treasurer: Steve Conrad
Board Members: Betty Poole
Ron Buckley
Brent Johansen