

Poplar Grove



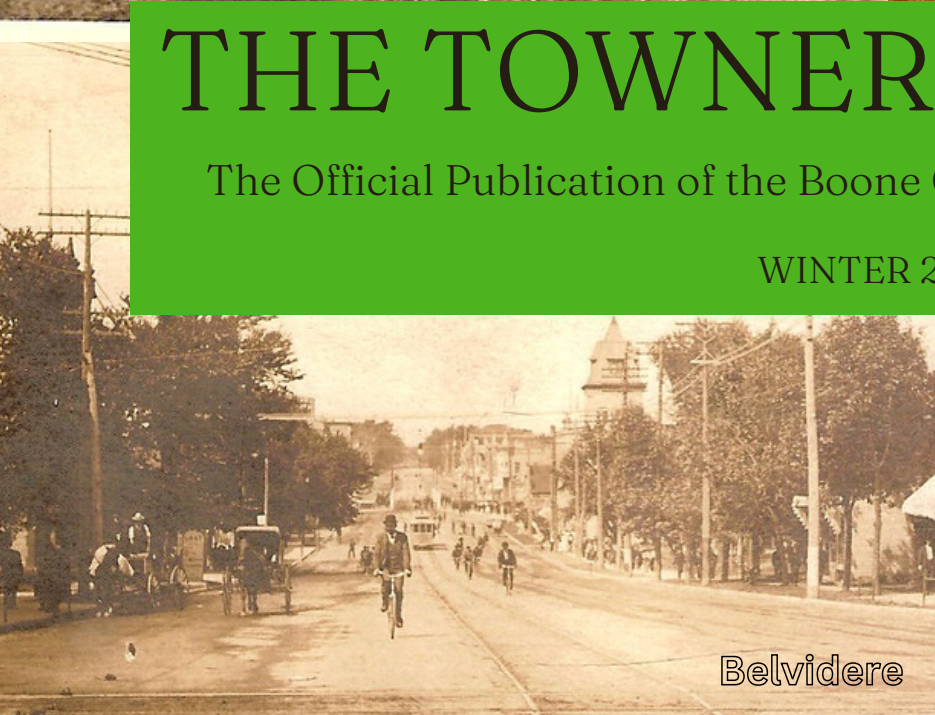
Argyle



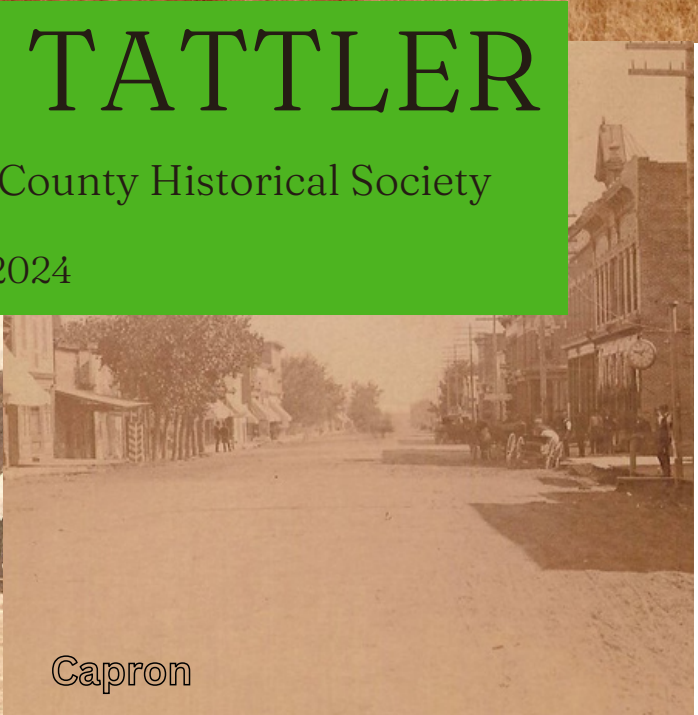
THE TOWNER TATTLER

The Official Publication of the Boone County Historical Society

WINTER 2024



Belvidere



Capron



Caledonia



Garden Prairie

Garden Prairie Views



Artifact Spotlight



This issue's artifact under the spotlight is a Swedish Bible from 1674. The Bible belonged to a Mr. Schneeberger. Another name associated with the bible is Andrew Anderson or Anders Andersson. This Bible is one of the oldest artifacts in our collection and is currently stored in our temperature controlled library.

Clue and Fondue

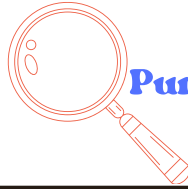
FEBRUARY 17, 6-9PM

Solve the Funderburg House Mystery while enjoying cheese and chocolate fondue, light hors

d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.

Purchase tickets online at eventbrite

or at the museum!

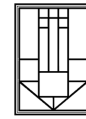


b Museum Updates

Many of our major exhibit spaces are being changed around for everyone to learn new things! The Wolf Art Gallery, the rotating exhibit room, and the space around the Duxstad Cabin are all getting new exhibits.

We want to give a huge thanks to the Boone County Community Foundation for the generous grant of \$7,500. This money will go towards installing an indigenous people and first settlers exhibit around the Duxstad Cabin!

Funderburg House Updates



The Funderburg House has had a lot of success the past few months! Our Christmas Gala was well attended and well received!

The Last Call at The Funderburg House was a big success and lots of fun for all who attended!

We have many fun events coming up including Clue and Fondue on February 17!

Follow us on Instagram @bcmuseumofhistory and @the_funderburghouse



Find us on Facebook at The Boone County Museum of History and The Funderburg House



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your president for the 2024 year, I want to welcome all of you to the New Year and happenings at the museum.

We can look forward to a busy year ahead! Executive Director, Natali Monaghan and the staff have been working diligently creating new exhibits and planning exciting events that are certain to appeal to members and the community.

In order to keep members informed, I am asking that you call the museum to update your contact information- call (815) 544-8391 with your phone number and email address. This will help us to communicate with all of you more frequently since mailing costs have increased considerably. There will be many opportunities for you to participate at the museum, if you wish.

Natali has scheduled an interesting and educational variety of programs in this year's Lecture Series... you won't want to miss attending these programs (list enclosed).

Let's work together in fulfilling the Mission Statement of the Society:

The Mission of the Boone County Historical Society is to stimulate interest in Boone County History through education, research, and preservation of artifacts and archival material.

Hope to see you at the museum,

Carol Rowe
Boone County Historical Society President

Follow us on instagram @bcmuseumofhistory and @the_funderburghouse



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2024 Boone County Museum of

History Lecture Series

All lectures will begin at 6pm in the Grand Gallery at the museum

January 11: "South State Street from the Kishwaukee River to Logan Avenue" with Historical Society Board Member and author, Sonya Dobberfuhl

February 8: "The Underground Railroad had Depots Here" with historian and Mchenry County Board Member, Gloria Van Hof

March 21: "Hedy Lamarr, Actress and Inventor" with historian and storyteller, Lynne Rymarz

April 11: "Obituaries of Boone County" with resident and historian, Cindy Poulter

May 16: "History, Mission, and Purpose of the Boone County Conservation District" with BCCD Executive Director, Joshua Sage

June 20: "Neighborhood Grocery Stores" with Historical Society Board President and historian, Carol Rowe

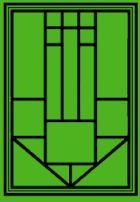
July 25: "Zelda Fitzgerald This Side of Paradise...Her Story" with historian and storyteller, Lynne Rymarz

August 8: "Historical Blacksmiths" with Christopher Hubbard

September 12: "Tilli's Story" with author Lorna Collier and daughter of Tilli, Barbara Schulze-Gorham

October 10: "Legends and Myths Along the Rock River" with author and historian, Kathi Kresol

November 7: "Boone County's Contributions to World War One" with local author and historian, Mike Doyle



2024 Funderburg House

Tour Dates

Tours are held at 10am and 2pm on the following Saturdays



- January 6th
- February 3rd
- March 2nd
- April 6th
- May 4th
- June 8th
- July 6th
- August 3rd
- September 7th
- October 5th
- November 2nd



Arrive 15 minutes before tour starts at Funderburg House,
605 N. State St

Call Museum at (815) 544-8391 to book your spot.

Dates subject to change—please call to confirm

All museum members are able to go on a free tour of the Funderburg House. Members are able to bring one guest on these tours.

Flashback to the Past

Do you know why this publication is called "The Towner Tattler"? A man by the name of John Towner was one of the first settlers in Boone County. He and his wife Hannah along with their eight children moved to what would become Belvidere in the summer of 1835. They followed Scotts Army Trail and eventually, John bought land from Archibald Metcalf and David Dunham. The towners set up their home on the North side of the river.

John
Towner



Hannah
Towner

Leave a Legacy.

The museum relies on the generosity of its members and supporters throughout the community. We are continually grateful to the individuals and families who have established Planned Gifts over the years, leaving a legacy that has benefitted the Museum both during and after their lifetime. Please think of the Boone County Historical Society when planning your will.

Important Dates to Remember

- **Saturday, February 17, 6-9pm:** Clue & Fondue at The Funderburg House
- **Sunday, March 24, 10am-2pm:** Easter Bunny Meet & Greet at the museum
- **Thursday, March 7, 1pm & 6pm:** Funderburg House Book Club
- **Friday, March 8, 5-7pm:** Artist Reception at The Funderburg House Gallery

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