

# BOONE'S LICK

## HERITAGE QUARTERLY



The Missouri Bicentennial Quilt is made up of blocks representing each of the state's 114 counties and the independent City of St. Louis. The Quilt is traveling across the state and is on display in 2021 along with other quilts made for the bicentennial by organizations such as Missouri 4-H and Missouri State Parks. Quilt image courtesy of State Historical Society of Missouri.

- **REMEMBERING MISSOURI'S PAST**
- **THE MISSOURI & SANTA FE TRAIL BICENTENNIALS**
- **BOONLICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING**

VOL. 20 No. 2 — SUMMER 2021  
BOONSLICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY PERIODICAL

# A Celebration of the Show-Me State and Reflections on the Past Century

BY ANY MEASURE THIS HAS BEEN A BIZARRE YEAR, not just in the Show-Me State but also in the United States and around the world. Yet, while pandemics, political chaos, and the effects of climate change occur here and abroad, we pause to celebrate things more predictable—anniversaries of historically significant events: the official beginning of statehood for Missouri and, in the same birth year, 1821, the establishment of a major trade route to the Southwest—the Santa Fe Trail—that also became the link to westward expansion of an emerging United States.

As we reminisce, we visit more recent times, the year 1937, in journalist and historian Jim Steele's article on page 4. Eighty-four years ago, events at home and abroad also were a potpourri of the predictable and the unpredictable, often chaotic and bizarre. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was overseeing a slow emergence from the depths of the Great Depression; German Chancellor Adolph Hitler (*Der Führer*) and Italian Prime Minister (*Il Duce*) were, respectively, leading their nations into totalitarianism and fascism; and Japan was invading China—setting the stage for World War II. A sense of the impending world war was beginning to come into the American political conscience but U.S. citizens in general were opposed to sending American boys to Europe again to fight in faraway wars; life in a “more normal” sense continued in Missouri and the other “lower 48” states as citizens dealt with day-to-day occurrences, needs and routine events.

We pay our respects to those more normal events with an article about the Missouri Bicentennial Quilt, including our own Howard County addition to the quilt on page 9. The numerous events associated with Missouri's Bicentennial and the corresponding celebration of the Santa Fe Trail's 200th anniversary are also noted in this issue on pages 10 and 13.

Most important, we are pleased to note a return to more normal social circumstances for Boonslick Historical Society members with the announcement of the year's first in-person event—the fall 2021 banquet of the Society. As the Covid-19 pandemic recedes and many of us have become fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, the BHS Board of Directors feels it is relatively safe for members to again gather for meetings, events that have long been a social and educational staple of our organization. We have set the date of Sunday, November 7, for the banquet, which will be held at the historic Hotel Frederick in Boonville. Well-know Missouri historian Mary Ellen McVicker and Videographer/local historian Wayne Lammers will present the main program. Further details are on page 8.

### Radio Program Wins State Historical Endorsement

A Howard County radio history project being hosted by the Boonslick Historical Society (BHS) has received an official endorsement from the State Historical Society of Missouri and the State Bicentennial Committee as part of the state's bicentennial projects.

The series, titled “Howard County Remembers,” was conceived by BHS member Jane Crigler and complements an earlier series of local history programs aired on Fayette's low-power FM educational community radio station, KPIP 94.7, titled “Local Voices, a Glance Back.” The future KPIP programs on area history are being coordinated by Crigler, a retired health planner and policy analyst who grew up in Fayette and recently returned here to live part time.

The initial series of historical programs focused on Howard County history and was initiated by KPIP news director Rachel Steele who in turn had enlisted her father, Jim Steele, to write and air the program. Jim Steele, currently serving as BHS president, has a long professional history as a broadcast and print journalist. A recent three-part series already aired told the story of rural electrification (REA) coming to Howard County.

The 12-episode podcast “Howard County Remembers” will air biweekly on KPIP. The programs will capture local voices reflecting on notable aspects for Howard County's history. The Bicentennial Committed noted that “Howard County Remembers” is “an opportunity for this community to capture its 205-year history by providing insight into our unique contributions to State history. Among these: It is called ‘The Mother of Counties’ as its original 23,000 square mile landmass encompassed 26 current Missouri counties and 10 current Iowa counties. It is the location of the Santa Fe Trailhead (in Old Franklin), also celebrating its bicentennial this year.

“Without neglecting the tragic reality of slavery in Little Dixie, the program will profile Freedmen's Hamlets in the County and other joyful features such as the resilience and strong social fabric of African Americans in our community. The program will also recount the fascinating history of the Morrison Observatory, financed by a woman and boasting the largest telescope lens west of the Mississippi when it was built. The program provides an opportunity for the general public to tell their stories. In addition, the audio recordings will be available online for listeners. The Boonslick Historical Society is sponsoring and publicizing the series.”

Contributing radio scripts to the series are BHS members Don Cullimore and Jim Steele. Appropriate music and historical voices are included. The series airs every second and fourth Saturday from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and will run through the end of November.

KPIP station manager Patricia Fisher and Crigler note that the station will keep the “Howard County Remembers” broadcasts in its archives and make them available online. The full set of audio programs will also be available online through the State History Society of Missouri. For more information, contact Jane Crigler by email at: [mjcrigler@gmail.com](mailto:mjcrigler@gmail.com) or phone at: (816) 516-7643.

—Don B. Cullimore

*Boone's Lick Heritage Quarterly* is published four times a year by the Boonslick Historical Society, P.O. Box 426, Boonville, MO 65233.

We encourage our members and others interested in history to contribute articles or other information of historical interest, including family histories, pertaining to the region. Please address all contributions and correspondence related to the periodical to the editor, Don B. Cullimore, 1 Lawrence Dr., Fayette, MO 65248, or email to: [don.cullimore40@gmail.com](mailto:don.cullimore40@gmail.com), phone: 660-888-3429. Editorial guidelines may be obtained from the editor. Publication deadlines are February 1 for the March (Spring) issue; May 1 for the June (Summer) issue; August 1 for the September (Fall) issue; and November 1 for the (Winter) December issue.

The Boonslick Historical Society was founded in 1937 and meets several times a year to enjoy programs about historical topics pertinent to the Boonslick area. Members of the Society have worked together over the years to publish historical books and brochures and to mark historic sites. They supported the founding of Boone's Lick State Historic Site, marked the sites of Cooper's Fort and Hanna Cole's Fort and have restored a George Caleb Bingham painting on loan to The Ashby-Hodge Gallery of American Art at Central Methodist University, Fayette.

**Membership dues** are \$15-Individual, \$25-Family, \$50-Sponsor, \$250-Patron, \$500-Life. The dues year is January through December. Receive our publication, *Boone's Lick Heritage Quarterly*, and attend annual Society events highlighting the region's history. To become a member, send a check made out to the Boonslick Historical Society, P.O. Box 426, Boonville, MO 65233.

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**Cover of a handbook for celebrating Missouri's forthcoming Centennial celebration in 1920**

"How to Celebrate Missouri's Centennial: a Handbook of Suggestions," Vol. 20 of "Fair Facts." Published monthly by the State Fair Board of the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Entered as second class matter May 31, 1910, at post office at Sedalia, Mo., under act of June 6, 1900. Sent of request to those interested in Mis-

# Reflections on the Year 1937: Locally, Nationally and Worldwide

By Jim Steele – First of a two-part series. Images courtesy of the author

*NOTE: Our own Boonslick Historical Society was founded in 1937 (although under a different name), as was the Fayette Rotary Club and the Missouri Conservation Commission. History of the beginnings of these groups will be covered in Part 2. However, for this initial presentation, let's take a glance back at what was going on here and around the nation during that time of the Great Depression 84 years ago. —JHS*

IT WAS NOT A PARTICULARLY AUSPICIOUS YEAR, ALTHOUGH THE awful drought and heat-wave of 1936 had somewhat abated. The Great Depression, which seemed on the mend a year or two earlier, had taken another turn for the worse. The year before also had been an election year and the summer of the historic Olympics in Berlin. This of course had made history as Jesse Owens, a U.S. African-American track and field athlete, became a four-time gold medalist in the games, much to Hitler's chagrin.

In 1937, Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) was inaugurated for a second term shortly after a new year dawned, the first time a U.S. President had taken office in January instead of March. Several persons from Fayette attended the event in Washington, including Lewis M. Means who was Missouri's new adjutant general. But 1937 was not going to turn out as Roosevelt's best year in office. Over-confident because of his huge re-election majority where Republican candidate Alf Landon carried only Maine and Vermont), FDR attempted to "pack" the Supreme Court, a measure which died a flaming death in Congress.

War-clouds also were beginning to gather overseas. The Japanese bombed Shanghai in China and late in the year sank the U.S. Gunboat *Panay* in Chinese waters. Congress expanded the Neutrality Act making it illegal to sell arms to nations at war. In May, Germany's pride, the passenger airship *Hindenburg*, exploded in flames over Lakehurst, New Jersey, and Amelia Earhart was lost in the remote Pacific in an attempted round-the-world flight. On a happier note, 200,000 pedestrians crossed San Francisco's Golden-Gate bridge on its opening day.

## Disasters Dominate News

Two of the saddest notes of 1937 include terrible flooding on the Ohio River, especially around Louisville, Kentucky, and Evansville, Indiana. Several Howard County and Cooper County families received refugees. Also, a tragedy at New London School in Texas occurred on March 18, 1937, when a natural gas leak caused

an explosion that killed more than 295 students and teachers, making it the worst catastrophe to take place ever in a U.S. school building. Approximately 600 students and 40 teachers were in the building at the time; only about 130 escaped without serious injury. The disaster prompted federal legislation which mandated that natural gas be supplemented with the odor of rotting eggs to alert persons in a building of its presence.

In other developments, the DuPont Co. patented nylon; also the binary calculator was invented, and the Lincoln Tunnel opened in New York City. The U.S. voted to bar Americans from serving in the Spanish Civil War and Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for her book *Gone With the Wind*. One of the year's best-known movies was Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, the first feature-length animated film made in America. The year '37 also marked the debut of Bugs Bunny cartoons. Also at the movies, Spencer Tracy won the Best Actor Academy Award for his work in *Captains Courageous*, with the Best Actress citation going to Lusia Ranier for *The Good Earth*. The Best Picture award went to *Life of Emile Zola*.

## Sports, Entertainment and New Products

Popular music from 1937 included "Donkey Serenade," "Johnny One Note," "In the Still of the Night," "Gypsy in My Soul," and "Muskrat Ramble." Large radio consoles were all the rage and many were seen advertised in the pages of the *Democrat-Leader* and *Fayette Advertiser*. Ditto for new, modern appliances such as stoves, washers and refrigerators.

In sports, the New York Yankees won the World Series; Joe Louis was the world heavyweight boxing champion; the NFL champions were the Washington Redskins; Wilbur Shaw was the Indianapolis 500 winner; War Admiral was the winner of the Kentucky Derby; taking hockey's Stanley Cup were the Detroit Red Wings;

the U.S. Open golf champion was Ralph Duldahl; and the Heisman Trophy winner was Clinton Frank of Yale.

In transportation, the DC-3 — which more than any other airplane had made commercial aviation a reality — was now in its second year of use. Those who can afford to travel are able to fly coast-to-coast, but in reality few average Americans [at that time] ever have flown.

## Points and Names of Interest

Some other facts from 1937: the average income was about \$1,800



**The *Hindenburg*, a zeppelin-class German airship, exploded while landing at Lakehurst, N.J., May 6, 1937. Of the 97 people aboard, 35 died, plus a ground crew member positioned underneath the *Hindenburg*.**



**PROMINENT PEOPLE: L to R, Sen. Harry S. Truman, Central President Robert Ruff, Adj. Gen. Lewis Means, Central Dean E. P. Puckett, Capt. B. I. Lawrence, and Dr. William Bloom.**

(a little over \$33,649.38 in today's dollars); a new car (Chevy, Ford, etc) would be \$760; new house \$4,100; loaf of bread 9 cents; gallon of gas 10 cents; and a gallon of milk 50 cents.

Also in 1937: Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* was published; the Hormel Co. introduces SPAM; Route 66 finally was fully paved from Chicago to Los Angeles; and the Hoover Dam was completed.

As noted, FDR was president and John Nance Garner (known by some as the Democratic Party's Calvin Coolidge) was vice president. Bette Cooper of New Jersey was 1937's Miss America and life-expectancy in the U.S. was 59.7 years. In the Senate, Missouri was represented by Harry Truman and Champ Clark and our new governor was Lloyd Stark (of Stark Apple fame), who had a number of Fayette ties.

### Looking at Local Developments

Speaking of Fayette, let's look at what was going on here from the pages of the *Democrat-Leader* and *Fayette Advertiser* — which incidentally included five comic stripes each week in the *Advertiser*:

As the year opened, editor Wirt Mitchell noted that fully 50 persons in Howard County alone were killed in car accidents in 1936, and he opined that "we can do better in '37." Indeed, the front page of nearly every issue included news of persons who had died, many in grizzly car, industrial and farm accidents. We may pine for the good old days, but in reality life was much harder in 1937.

At Central College (now CMU), many familiar names already are [still] well-known faculty members and administrators, including President Robert Ruff, Dean E. P. Puckett, coach Clarence Clingenpeel and faculty members Edwin Jenner, Elmer Gift, Fulton Moore (the first Rotary secretary), William Denny Baskett, N. Louise Wright, Opel Hayes, Luther T. Spayde, Fred Banyard (who led singing at Rotary's opening banquet), and Frederick Culmer. Incidentally, W. D. Baskett was the acting dean for 1937's spring semester while Puckett was on sabbatical to study ways to make Central a better college.

A number of newspaper articles told of preparations for the running of REA lines into the countryside following establishment of Howard Electric in 1936; area farmers were encouraged to sign-up. By early 1937, fully 204 households had done so. Not long afterward, a \$130,000 federal loan was approved.

Newspaper ads early in '37 included Charles Lee Clothier with a 25 percent off sale, plus reduced long-distance rates for Southwestern Bell, and a question from Scott's Laundry asking, "Do you really save in doing your own?" Not everyone loved Ma Bell; local residents and city leaders called on the company to provide a

second toll-free line to connect Glasgow, Fayette and Armstrong.

News-wise, a bad winter storm early in the year disrupted utilities around the Howard and elsewhere and there was a 2½-inch rain Jan. 12. Nonetheless, Ricketts Shoe Store on the north side of the square, not long afterward advertised, 25 percent off on new spring shoes.

### FDR Birthday Ball Popular

As January gave way to February, more than 500 folks turned out for FDR's annual birthday ball at the Fayette Armory (southeast corner of Main & Morrison) which raised funds for polio research.



**President Franklin D. Roosevelt**

Meanwhile, Central College kids were cramming for final exams. Also, the White American Legion Post was honored for its membership drive and Howard County residents "go over the top" in responding to a Red Cross drive to relieve suffering from Ohio River flooding. Fayette native W. F. McMurry (son of the late Methodist bishop and Central presi-

dent) was among three key leaders directing Louisville flood relief.

Skillman's Grocery on South Main in Fayette (adjacent to city hall) suffered fire which destroyed part of building. Also, Central College's Symphony Orchestra, under direction of a Professor Mealy, played to an estimated 8,000 persons during its tour of Southwest Missouri. Not to be outdone, Central's band under K. K. Anderson, played in the rotunda of the Missouri Capitol in Jefferson City for Gov. Lloyd Stark's inauguration.

Also at Central, Eagle debaters won the top trophy in state competition. Later, Martha Jane Deatherage of Fayette was named college popularity queen, and Central's Madrigal singers performed over KSD Radio in St. Louis. Not long afterward, articles note that Central's choir, under direction of Luther Spayde, had achieved statewide recognition.

News accounts told of efforts to construct a lighted softball field in the city park and ultimately this was successful. In the rural area, residents attended a "Clover and Prosperity Dinner" and the "Handy Helpers Health and Sanitation Club" was established at Guthrie School. Also, about 75 persons attended the annual meeting of the Fayette co-op where Commercial Trust President L. W. Jacobs Jr. was elected treasurer. At Fayette's Dickinson Theater

on the east side of the square (later The Grand), Clark Gable was starring in *San Francisco*. And as spring was approaching, scenic drives in the city park opened and the swimming pool was improved with a huge water slide adjacent to the high-dive (neither of which today would be OSHA approved!). At city hall, the city jail was moved from the second floor to the basement, making prisoner transfer easier.

On a less happy note, the Greyhound Bus Line had petitioned to end service to Fayette and Glasgow, and a smallpox epidemic raged in Higbee. Moberly businessman T. J. Cross, who had donated funds for Central's Cross Memorial Tower, died at age 81.

### Springtime Follies

Two significant developments during April included a huge April Fools walkout of Howard-Payne Hall freshman girls, who proceeded to "invade" the Dickinson Theater (and are evicted) and then called McMurry Hall boys for dates. They have "privileges" revoked by college authorities. Also that month, Fayette Mayor E. Z. Liggett threw a switch to place in operation a new \$48,000 diesel generator at the Fayette Power & light Plant. Probably none too



**Fayette High School building, 1937, now the site of the Keller Building at the intersection of Cleveland and Davis streets.**

soon, as the J. Leon Ross Drug Store announced plans for air conditioning. This was after Alsop & Turner's, located in the current Emmet's restaurant site, had become the first Fayette store to have air conditioning in 1936. Nonetheless, the city's electrical distribution system was criticized for noisy transformers which interfere with radio reception.

In other springtime developments, Central's President Ruff spoke at Fayette High School graduation, with 37 diplomas conferred; six local boys departed for service in the local CCC camp; Dr. William Bloom purchased a new Packard (after wrecking his older car); the Fayette Savings & Loan observed its 50th anniversary; Myer School District was discontinued; and Fayette aggies took honors at state contest. As warmer weather approached, Clatworthy's Ready-to-Wear (north side of square) advertised new Nelly Dons. Fayette Rotary's charter banquet on March 23rd received only moderate play in the local newspapers, but the editor noted that the new club "will fill a need in Fayette."

### Accidents and Highway Concerns

In less happy news, a horrible accident happened on "Viaduct Hill" where a bridge crossed the M-K-T tracks at the point where Highway 40 emerges from bottomland — it killed two local motorists, and concern for the dangerous situation there prompted the Highway Department to make improvements. It was also reported that the highway to Glasgow was in bad shape, and that the relatively new blacktop in Highway 240 en route to Columbia was already showing signs of "wash-boarding" and "is dangerous."

Capt. B. I. Lawrence, commander of Howard County's National Guard Co. M in Fayette (and a well-known citizen and Central College education professor) was promoted to major and took over command of the guard's 3rd battalion which included much of north Missouri. He succeeded Lewis Means who became the state's new adjutant general.

A visitor in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Walker was young Billy Holman of Calio.

As Central prepared for graduation, Abe Silverman of Sedalia (brother of Sam Stedman) was elected student body president and the college newspaper, *The Collegian*, was honored in the state contest. And a full-page newspaper ad for Central College noted that "Tomorrow's Salvation is the Church College." Locally, Dr. William Bloom was elected vice president of the Missouri Medical Association. Also, citizens locally expressed hope for the erection of new state penitentiary in Fayette (it didn't happen); extra sodding was put in at the city park, and the mayor called for a citywide clean-up drive. Also, "Sunburn Balm" was in demand as the swimming pool opened, and the two local Fayette newspapers featured full pages of FHS senior memories.

Ending the school year at Central Methodist, Bishop John Moore spoke at Central's commencement and alumni gather for Alumni Weekend. Florence Puckett was named "most interesting girl" and Tom Baskett "most interesting boy."

### Heading into Summer

Summer in Fayette: Three new 4-H clubs were organized in the



**Fayette Swimming Pool, built by the CCC in the 1930s, is still being used.**

county and local Baptist youth attended camp at Bell's Lake. Also, one Martha Rogers had returned from Girl Scout camp near Kaiser, Missouri. Fayette golfers later retained the cup in intercity play, with Boonville second. More than 100 attended a soil conservation event, and the Fayette summer theater group presented *That's My Wife*. Also, a newspaper article noted that, with recent rain, "corn prospects look good."

The aforementioned Clatworthy's was advertising a big sale, including bras for 15 cents. The Glasgow Milling Co. nearly was destroyed in a big windstorm, and with no political correctness in those days, the newspaper reported that five persons were arrested after (quote) "Wild Weekend in Local Harlem."

As summer progressed, the C.C. Dimmitt Mercantile Co. (north side of square) observed its 50th anniversary; a barrel stave factory opened at the fairgrounds, employing 60 men; and a full page ad welcomed freshmen arriving at Central; the college offered a new course in geology. Many culverts were washed-out in eight-inch rain, and the water carnival in park was a popular event.

Martha Minor was named "Miss Fayette" in a contest at Dickinson Theater. Also, Central's President Robert Ruff was reported to see "growing demand" for college education. On a less happy note, the popular Paul's Sandwich Shop (South Main near city hall) was remodeled, and later it lost \$192 during a 3 a.m. robbery. It's also reported that a young man in a brown suit had rifled the desk of President Ruff in Brannock Hall. Happier news: Charles H. Lee Clothier (south side of square) observed 15 years in business; a WPA report noted that \$394,000 has been spent in Howard County (mostly on roads); and the city had purchased 19 acres for a park in the so-called New Addition, now called Page-Liberty Park.

In October, Fayette city leaders sought funds from the WPA (Works Progress Administration) for a new water main, and the Fayette High School was commended by the Missouri State Department of Education for achieving "first class" rating.

### Year Comes to a Close

Crime incidents were fairly common. For example, the home of

Sam Ayres was ransacked by escapees from the Boonville training school. Also, "open warfare" took place between Central students and Missouri Valley students in Marshall after the Eagles defeated the home team during Valley's Homecoming — Central Coach Clarence Clingenpeel defused the incident. Earlier that day at Marshall, the Central Band was heard on a nationwide CBS radio hookup, The newspaper and the Dickinson Theater sponsored an all-day cooking school. And men's topcoats at Tully Chenoweth's (south side of square) were on sale for \$10.75. Plans were reported to be proceeding for Central College's big Homecoming parade at Thanksgiving, but unfortunately the William Jewell's Cardinals that day routed the Eagles 20 to 2. In Higbee, a polio epidemic brought notice prohibiting public gatherings.

As Christmas neared, residents gathered for the popular Winter Carnival on the square and, just as today, they were encouraged to "Shop Fayette." Also, the Schnell Floral Company won the award for Best Christmas Window and the Poole & Creber Grocery advertised tomatoes at four cans for 25 cents. Later, an overflow crowd enjoyed the citywide Christmas Cantata at the First Christian Church.

And finally as 1937 drew to an end, the Fayette newspaper editor called for a law against spitting tobacco on the floor of the courthouse, city hall, or post office.

Jim Steele is president of the Boonslick Historical Society and is the retired editor/publisher of the *Fayette Advertiser* and *Democrat-Leader* (2000-2011). In 2016 he served as editor of Howard County's bicentennial book, *From Prairie Land to Promised Land: A Remembrance Across Two Centuries*.

## Wayne Lammers Creates Pictorial Book on Booneville

Boonslick Historical Society member Wayne Lammers has created a large-format glossy color pictorial book on Booneville that features many of his high-quality photos of community landmarks alongside historic images he has obtained of the same locations, some dating to the 19th century. Titled *Boonville Then and Now: a Pictorial*, the book is being printed by an area firm.

Copies will be available for purchase from Lammers. Interested parties can contact him by email ([boonvillebook@gmail.com](mailto:boonvillebook@gmail.com)), and he will place them on a list and contact them when the publication has been printed. The cost of the 160-plus page book is \$54.50, including Missouri sales tax. If you want to have it shipped to you, add \$6.50 for a total of \$61. Send a check or money order to: Lammers Productions, P.O. Box 1391, Liberty, MO 64069-1391.

Among the buildings and sites being featured in the book is an early photo of the Booneville Central National Bank where Snapp's Auto is today. "You can see that they are placing the old Central Bell on top of the bank. This is before the two dogs were placed there by Jay Gould," Lammers notes.

Other contrasting images in the book are Harley Park (now and 110 years ago). "You can still see the same entrance to Harley Park that we had over 110 years ago just off Santa Fe Trail in the center. The beautiful stone walls built in the 1930's around the Harley Park are still standing," Lammers says.

Also in the book are images of the George Hirsch building that preceded the Fredrick Hotel, High Street.; Kemper Parade to Cem-

etry, Locust Street; Cobblestone/Wharf Hill, Water Street; North-bound Katy Train, First Street; Roslyn Heights, 821 Main Street; MoPAC Conductor & Agent at Depot, Second St.; and First Black School, Spruce Street.

BOOK COVER PHOTO: "This is a photo that depicts what I wanted my book to say. The old B&W image on the left was taken in 1908, while my color photo of the Booneville Katy Railroad bridge is on the right. My son Josh, who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., did the Photoshop work to blend the two together."

—Wayne Lammers



# Historian Mary Ellen McVicker and Videographer Wayne Lammers to be Guest Speakers at Boonslick Historical Society Fall Meeting

*November 7 at Historic Hotel Frederick in Boonville*

WELL-KNOWN MISSOURI HISTORIAN MARY ELLEN H. MCVICKER and videographer Wayne Lammers will be the featured presenters at the Boonslick Historical Society (BHS) fall meeting, November 7, at the historic Hotel Frederick in Boonville.

The BHS fall meeting normally begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and then the program.

Dinner reservations (due by October 27) are required. Attendees are requested to return the reservation form (with a check) included in the magazine to: Boonslick Historical Society, P.O. Box 426, Boonville, MO 65233. For more information, contact BHS President Jim Steele at 660-537-0484 or by email at [jsteele@woodcreekmedia.com](mailto:jsteele@woodcreekmedia.com).

Information on per-person costs of the dinner will be noted in the fall issue of *Boone's Lick Heritage Quarterly* (September/October). Beer, wine and other alcoholic beverages will be available from the hotel bar. Seating is limited to 65 persons.

The topic of the presentation by Dr. McVicker and Lammers will be the general history of Booneville and surrounding area. It will include a number restored vintage photos from both Cooper and Howard Counties (projected on a screen), provided from the extensive photo collections of Lammers and Jim Steele. Additional information on the program will be published in the next issue of the *Quarterly*.

McVicker moved to the Boonslick in 1977. "I immediately became fascinated by the historic buildings and the amazing people who populated the area," she says. In 1989, she completed her doctoral dissertation (University of Missouri-Columbia) on cemeteries of Howard, Cooper and Boone Counties. While conducting research for this project, McVicker says she "learned a great deal more about the lives of the people who lived here that are not necessarily mentioned in area publications."

She was the executive director of the Friends of Historic Booneville after the family moved to Boonville and was also the executive director for the Stephens Museum at Central Methodist College (now CMU). McVicker also served as a member of the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation (charter), as treasure (1977-1979) of the American Association of University Women, as a member of the American Association Museums, and as project director (1978) with the Centralia History Society.

Now semi-retired, she teaches at the Columbia Campus of Moberly Area Community College.

Lammers, an enthusiast of local Boonslick history, is a native of Boonville and a past president of the Boonslick Historical Society. He attended Central Missouri State University (now UCM) in Warrensburg,

After college, he worked at Stevens TV in Boonville for 11 years, operated Lammers Elevator feed store for eight years, then became involved in videography and photography and worked at Miller's Professional Imaging for 11 years.

"I loved the history of the Boonslick Area and found many historical finds digging [using metal detectors] in the community," Lammers says. "Some of the finds were a lost fort that was aban-

doned in June 1814 when Indians attacked Fort McMahan, two miles north of the Lamine River along the banks of the Missouri River. This fort was lost for some 200 years."

Lammers also videotaped the excavation of the steamboat Missouri Packet that sank in the Missouri River on May 5, 1820. "This boat will be the oldest steamboat ever to be excavated on the Missouri River," he notes. He is also the author of a book to be published this summer, *Boonville - Then & Now - A Pictorial* (see article on page 7).

The Boonslick Historical Society was founded at the Hotel Frederick in November 1937. The hotel is a significant local and state historical landmark, and is a classic example of Romanesque Revival architecture in the region. It was built in 1905 by Charles A. Sombart, a local miller and banker. It was constructed by W. J. Cochran and Sons Construction Company for a cost of \$40,000. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## DAR Presents Preservation Award to Lammers



The Daughters of the American Revolution Hannah Cole Chapter Historic preservation award for 2021 was presented to Wayne Lammers of Boonville on April 21 at the Boonville Museum of History.

The award was given in recognition of his "many years of dedicated documenting, through photography and videography and print, the history of this place."

"You have been there with your camera at the ready when many of us were not even aware of the significant happenings going on around us," stated the DAR awards committee representatives, Regent Mary Ellen McVicker (left in photo) and Historic Preservation Chair M. Pat Holmes (right). Among the historically significant events or items preserved through photographs and videography by Lammers (center) are:

The last train crossing the MKT Railroad lift-span bridge; the raging Missouri River flood waters of 1993 swirling around Rivercene Mansion in the Howard County bottoms across from Boonville; the triple football stadium-sized excavation of an early steamboat wreck in the river bottoms—with barrels of packed pork—still intact; and archaeological evidence of the early 1800s settlement in the Boonville area.



# Missouri Bicentennial Quilt Contains Howard County Quilt Block

AS PART OF THE MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL EVENTS IN THE BOONSLICK region, the Peacemakers Quilting Group of Fayette sponsored its annual quilt show on July 31 at Linn Memorial United Methodist Church on Central Methodist University Campus. Highlight of the exhibition was the Missouri Bicentennial Quilt, which has been on display in various other communities around the state.

The Missouri Bicentennial Quilt is made up of blocks representing each of the state's 114 counties and the independent City of St. Louis. Josephine Ann "Jo" Rohr, a member of the Fayette Peacemaker Quilting Group, pieced the block selected to represent Howard County in the Missouri Bicentennial Quilt. "Mother's Choice" was the theme used for Rohr's block because Howard County is known as the "Mother of Counties."

Howard County was organized on January 13, 1816, by an act of the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri. Named for Missouri's first territorial governor, Benjamin Howard, it was the ninth organized county in the Missouri Territory and was created from the counties (originally districts) of St. Louis and St. Charles. Initially it encompassed most all of northwest Missouri and even part of Iowa. It comprised nearly 23,000 square miles – about one-third as large as the present state of Missouri.

Within a few years, nearly 30 counties (plus nearly 10 in present-day Iowa) were formed from Howard's original boundaries, earning it the moniker, "Mother of Counties." The county predates Missouri's admittance into the union by five years.

Three other members of the Peacemakers Quilting Group in Fayette also created variations of the "Mother of Counties" quilt blocks for consideration as part of the Bicentennial Quilt. They

were Dorothy Jean Ayres, Patricia Hilgedick, and Linda Oestreich-Lembke. Multiple submissions for the same county were judged according to whether they met criteria, level of creativity and craft, and description of significance.

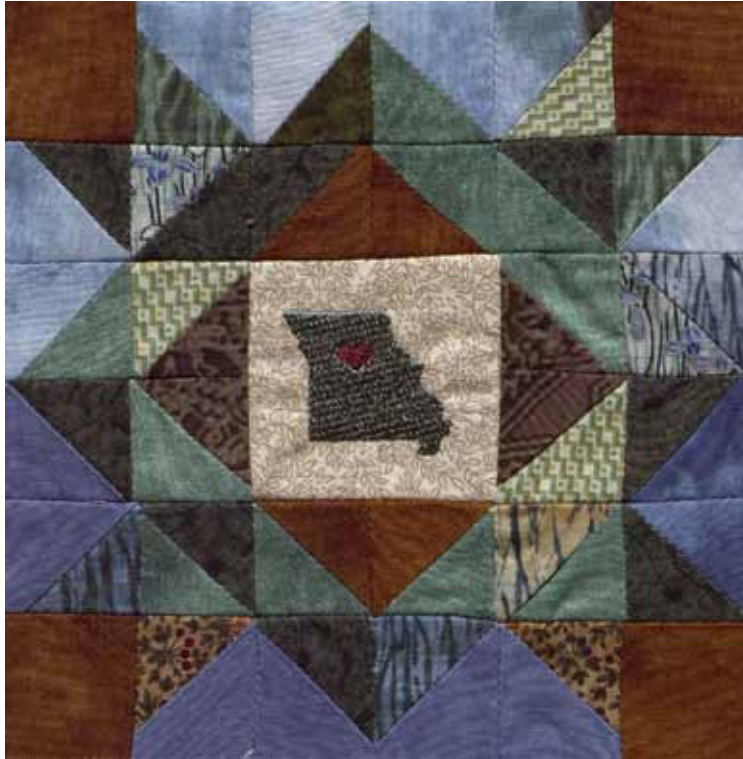
The quilt is composed of blocks that represent each Missouri County and its history. Members of the Peacemakers Quilting Group collaborated on the Howard County quilt block. The block is symbolic of Howard County's history as "Mother of Counties." The pattern colors of brown, gold and green represent the importance of agriculture in Howard County. Light blue and gray-blue colors represent the skies and the Missouri River. Different shades of brown represent the different types of soil found in the county, such as loess along the Missouri River and clay in other areas.

The judging committee included representatives from Missouri Star Quilt Company, The State Historical Society of Missouri, and Missouri State Quilters Guild. All quilt block submissions will remain available for viewing in the gallery at the State of Missouri Historical

Society in Columbia.

The Peacemakers Quilting Group exhibition was free but donations were accepted. Monies received are to be donated to Fayette Ministerial Alliance or used for Quilts of Valor, which are presented annually to military veterans residing in Howard County.

The Bicentennial Quilt is traveling across the state and is on display in 2021 along with other quilts made for the bicentennial by organizations such as Missouri 4-H and Missouri State Parks. Other scheduled stops in the Boonslick region for the Bicentennial Quilt include the Together for '21 Fest in Columbia, August 6-8, and the Missouri State Fair, Aug. 12-22, in Sedalia. To see the full schedule, visit [missouri2021.org](http://missouri2021.org).



**Above: "Mother of Counties" HoCo quilt block by Jo Rohr. Below, L-R: quilt blocks by Linda Lembke, Pat Hilgedick, and Dorothy Jean Ayres**



**Quilt blocks designed by members of the Howard County Peacemakers Quilting Group for the Bicentennial Quilt competition.**

# Signature Events and More Bring Missouri Together for Bicentennial

By Beth Pike

MORE THAN 200 PROJECTS AND EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE are being celebrated this bicentennial year. There are service projects such as the one in Holt County, where residents are collecting 200 pairs of socks for those in need. There is a challenge by the Missouri Community Service Commission asking Missourians to donate 200 hours of service to the state.

Want to learn more about Missouri history and culture? The Story Center at Mid-Continent Public Library and the University of Missouri Extension Community Arts program have you covered. They offer programs that explore Missouri's past through storytelling, workshops, and book conversations. Other bicentennial activities include walking tours, a time capsule, roadside markers, concerts, exhibits, and local festivals unique to Missouri.

Major public events are planned to commemorate the bicentennial in St. Charles, Columbia, Jefferson City, and Sedalia in August. There will be a mix of events in person and streaming in a virtual format. All COVID-19 safety measures will be in place, and some events may set limits for in-person attendance. Events and activities are subject to change.

Together for 21 Fest will be held August 5–8 at the Center for Missouri Studies and the University of Missouri campus in Columbia. The festival will include live music featuring the Little Dylan Blues Band from St. Louis, traditional Ozark music by the Kay Brothers, and the Kansas City Latin Jazz Orchestra. The festival will also feature folk art demonstrations, children's programming, book talks and lectures, documentary film screenings, and bicentennial traveling exhibits, including the My Missouri 2021 photograph display and bicentennial quilts.

A new virtual reality experience created by Signature Events and More Bring Missouri Together for Bicentennial Mizzou's engineering students and faculty will take visitors on a virtual tour of the 98 paintings in the Missouri: Heart of the Nation collection held at the University of Missouri Art and Archeology Museum. Visitors will experience the gallery through special VR goggles.

## Major Bicentennial Events

On Saturday, August 7, the First State Capitol State Historic Site in St. Charles will host a bicentennial commemoration: The location will be the place where Missouri's first legislature met from 1821 to 1826 before the State Capitol was moved to Jefferson City. Family activities are being planned with festival music, vendors, and displays on Missouri's statehood.

Bicentennial events are scheduled on Saturday, August 7, Monday, August 9, and Tuesday, August 10, at the State Capitol in Jefferson City: Public events include a Gold Star Memorial dedication on Saturday and the unveiling of the Bicentennial Bridge, which will take pedestrians and cyclists from the Capitol grounds to Adrian's Island for an interpretive history of the state.

On Statehood Day, August 10, the public is invited to a bicentennial ceremony at the Capitol to hear remarks by state dignitaries, poetry by Missouri Poet Laureate Karen Craig, and music by the Missouri National Guard 135th Army Band and other performers. The Missouri bicentennial stamp, issued by the US Postal Service,

will be unveiled and a proclamation signed by all living Missouri governors will be presented. A US naturalization ceremony will follow to welcome new citizens who are making Missouri their home. Visitors can also explore the State Capitol exhibits created for the bicentennial. Traveling exhibits, including the quilts made for the bicentennial, will also be on display. In the afternoon the public is invited to an ice cream social sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy.

"Our Missouri Celebration" is the theme of this year's Missouri State Fair as the bicentennial takes the stage August 12–22: There will be exhibits and activities to commemorate Missouri statehood. While the larger bicentennial events will wrap up at the conclusion of the State Fair, there will still be more to celebrate, such as the Northeast Missouri Old Threshers annual show in September with an expanded show of tractors and steam engines spanning Missouri's 200 years.

Learn more by visiting [missouri2021.org](https://missouri2021.org) and following @missouri2021 on social media.

Beth Pike is senior strategic communications associate for the Missouri Bicentennial.

## Arrow Rock Bicentennial Celebration Events

The historic village of Arrow Rock plans to celebrate the Missouri bicentennial with a day of events on August 7.

It starts with a special presentation at 10 a.m. titled "Voices of Arrow Rock, Spirit of the Missouri Frontier." The project brings to life voices of early citizens of Arrow Rock who are not well-known, using art to explore history. As an official project of the Missouri 2021 Bicentennial Commemoration, it is sponsored by the Friends of Arrow Rock in partnership with the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre.

The "Voices" project is historical fiction, a 2021 interpretation of private conversations based on a documented moment in time and/or primary and secondary source documents. The project allows for playwrights in 2021 to imagine what voices of the past were thinking and feeling at the particular moment in time around which their story is built.

This presentation will take place at the historic (and newly air-conditioned) Christian Church on Main Street. Admission is free but seating is limited so registration is strongly recommended. Sign up for your free tickets at <https://bpt.me/5169271> or by calling the Friends of Arrow Rock at 660-837-3231.

After the presentation, consider dining at recently reopened J. Huston Tavern, which will be off a special Bicentennial Day picnic box lunch along with its regular menu. Musician Paul Fotsch will be playing on the J. Huston Tavern lawn to entertain those dining outside.

At 1:30 p.m., join us for an ice cream social on the Tavern Lawn. Afterward, take some time to shop, hike, visit the museums or take a tour because you'll want to be in town at 6 p.m. when the J. Love Band plays a free outdoor concert. —*Friends of Arrow Rock*

# Missouri's Complicated Journey to Statehood

MISSOURI WAS DESTINED TO BECOME A STATE IN THE UNION. The Louisiana Purchase Treaty of 1803 stipulated that the inhabitants of lands it covered “be incorporated in the United States and admitted, as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution.” The Missouri Territory was originally known as the Louisiana Territory and was renamed by the U.S. Congress on June 4, 1812, to avoid confusion with the new state of Louisiana, which had been admitted to the Union on April 30, 1812. On October 1, 1812, Territorial Governor William Clark organized the five administrative districts of the former Louisiana Territory into counties, which later became the first five counties of the state of Missouri, the fastest-growing region within Upper Louisiana. It was to become the first state that was completely west of the Mississippi River.

Missouri artist George Caleb Bingham’s famous portrayal (oil on canvas, 1851-52) of Daniel Boone escorting settlers westward through the Cumberland Gap is symbolic of the rush to claim land in Missouri Territory. Many of the newcomers were from Upper South states of Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and they brought their slaveholding culture with them. The consequences would plague Missouri's path to statehood.

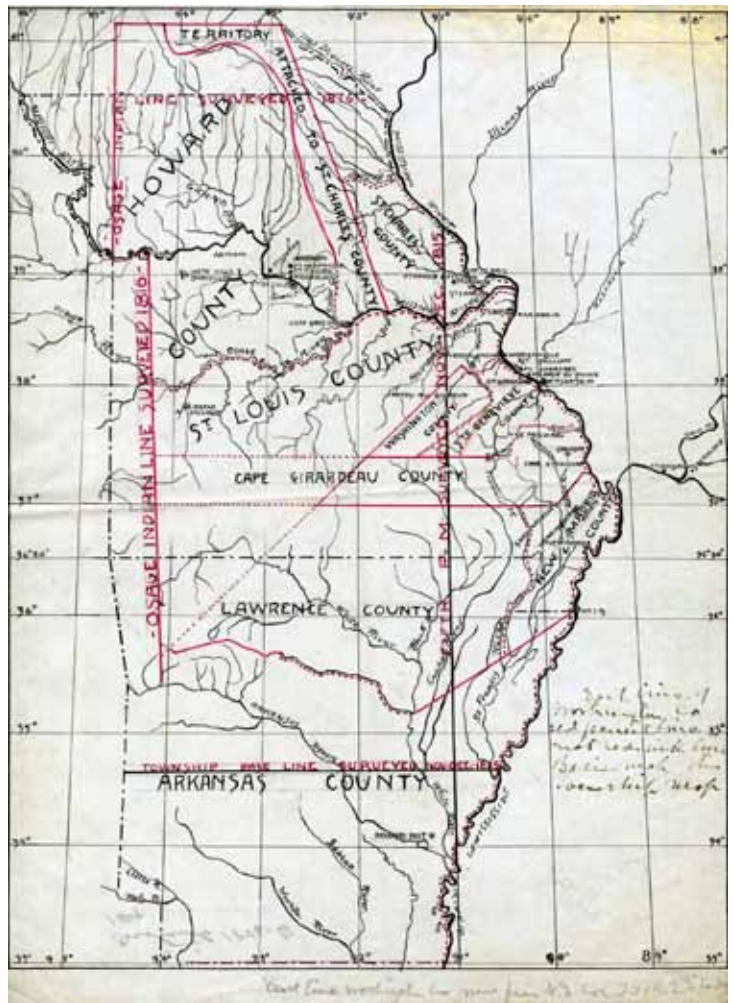
Migration from east of the Mississippi River and into what would become the Missouri Territory increased in the wake of the Louisiana Purchase. It remained limited until after the United States defeated the British in the War of 1812, after which it increased steadily. (see historian Gary Kremer’s article “Missourian’ Struggle for Stathood,” in the July 2021 issue of *Missouri Historical Review*. The article is excerpted from his forthcoming book *This Place of Promise: A Historian 's Perspective on 200 Years of Missouri History*, which will be published by the University of Missouri Press later this year.

As migrants settled in Missouri Territory in rapidly increasing numbers from 1815 on, interest in statehood grew in popularity. A number of petitions urging Missouri’s admission to the Union began circulating from 1818 on and were submitted to Congress. Thus began a long and contentious effort to achieve statehood that brought into sharp focus the question of slavery and whether or not it should be allowed in new states being proposed both east and west of the Mississippi River. The debate in Congress was clearly defined by the issue of slavery; pro-slavery legislators often couched it in terms of “states’ rights” to make this determination without interference from Congress, reflecting the increasing sectional tensions between the North and South.

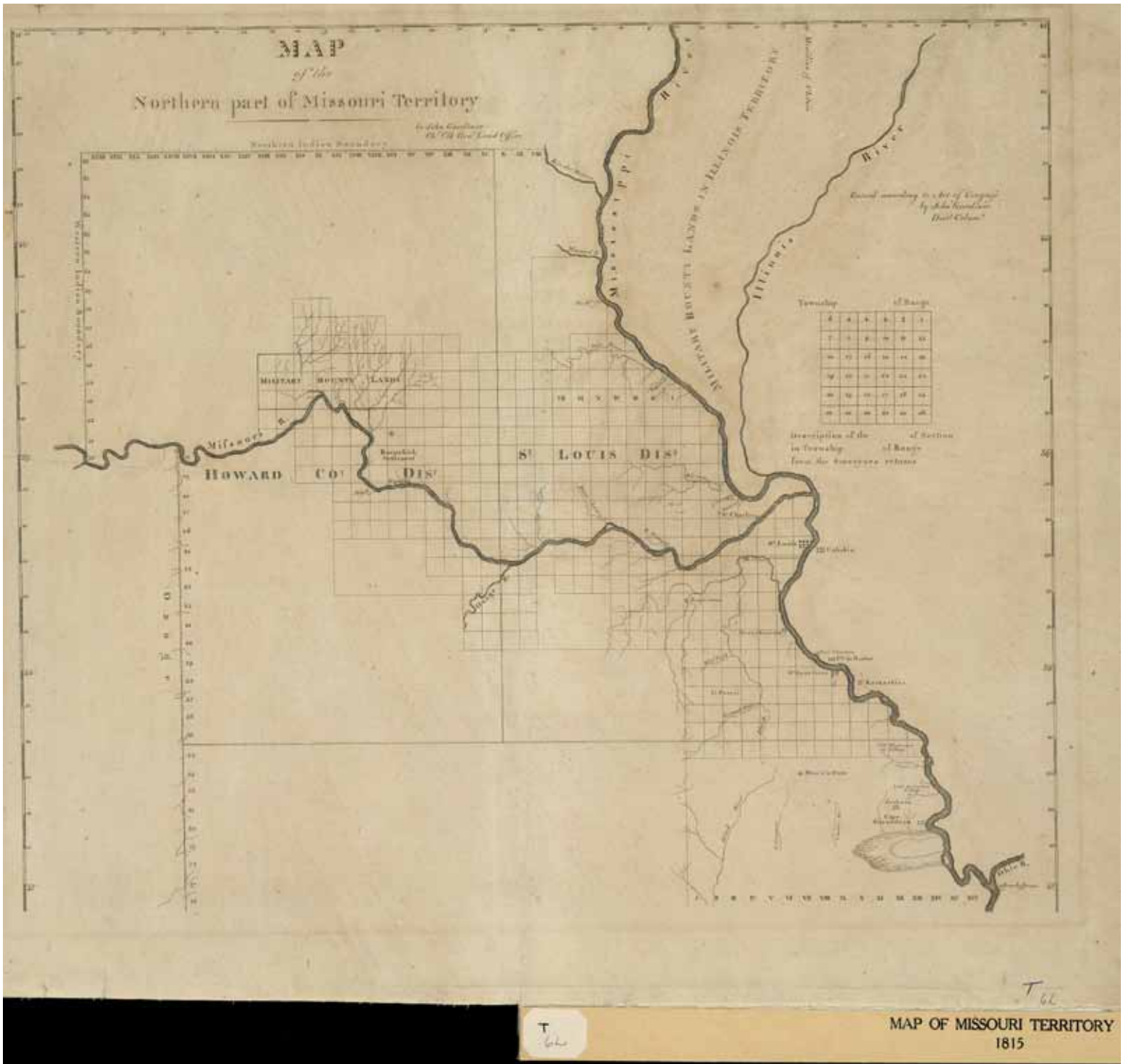
The South feared that the North would take control of Congress, and Southerners began to proclaim states' rights as a means of self-protection. The North wanted the new states to be “free states.” In the case of Missouri, the issue of statehood was ultimately resolved by the controversial “Missouri Compromise” that allowed the admission of the proposed state of Maine into the Union as a “free state” while allowing Missouri permission to enter without restrictions on slavery. An amendment was added that prohibited slavery in the remaining Louisiana Purchase Territory north of latitude 36°30’, but the Missouri Compromise was ultimately ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1857 — the infamous

*Dred Scott v. Sandford* decision. (Chief Justice Roger Taney and six other justices ruled that Missouri Compromise was illegal because Congress had no power to prohibit slavery in the territories, and slave masters were guaranteed property rights under the Fifth Amendment. They also ruled that Americans of African descent, whether free or slave, were not American citizens and could not sue in federal court.)

Finally, on August 10, 1821, President James Monroe signed the legislation making Missouri the 24th state in the Union. Located on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, the state was an important hub of transportation and commerce in early America. The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is a monument to Missouri’s role as the “Gateway to the West.” —Don Cullimore



Map depicting eastern half of Missouri, rivers, towns and counties as they appeared in 1816-1819. Inclusive of: Missouri -- Maps -- 1816-1819. Howard County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. Saint Charles County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. Washington County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. Sainte Genevieve County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. Cape Girardeau County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. Lawrence County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. New Madrid County (Mo.) -- 1816-1819. [850 M321, SHSMO Map Collection]



This 1815 map shows the northern section of Missouri Territory; the territory at that time also stretched south into what is now Arkansas). Indigenous nations still occupied much of the interior of the future state, but with the end of the war against Britain and its Native allies, settlers began penetrating this space, flocking especially to the Boonslick region along the Missouri River. Within a few years, Missouri's population was more than sufficient to make it eligible for statehood. [849 G168, SHSMO Map Collection]

### A Note on Boone's Lick v. Boonslick or Booneslick Editorial Usage

If readers are confused by the interchangeable usages of the terms "Boone's Lick," "Booneslick" and "Boonslick" in the *Boone's Lick Heritage Quarterly*, we sympathize with you and offer an editor's *mea culpa* and an explanation: In historian Lynn Morrow's essay "Boone's Lick in Western Expansion: James Mackay, the Boones, and the Morrisons," Fall-Winter 2014 of the *Quarterly*, he uses the term "Boone's Lick" to refer to the historic Boone's Salt Lick located in Howard County. "Booneslick" or the alternative "spelling" "Boonslick" refers to the general region around Howard, Cooper, Saline and Boone counties and, in a broader sense, to the geographical area between (including) Callaway County to the east and Fort Osage in Jackson County in the west, and Chariton County to the north and Cole County to the south. —*The Editor*

# The Santa Fe Trail Turns 200

EXPLORER AND SOLDIER WILLIAM BECKNELL, known as the “Father of the Santa Fe Trail,” took out an ad in the July 25, 1821, issue of the *Missouri Intelligencer* newspaper. It read in part, “An article for the government of a company of men destined to the westward for purposes of trading for Horses and Mules, and catching Wild Animals of every description, that we think advantageous to the company.” Each man was to stake \$10 worth of merchandise for the trip. The ad was a first step in what would become the first successful trading venture to Santa Fe with lasting economic consequences.

The start of the Santa Fe Trail – initially a trade route – in September of 1821 at Franklin eventually led to its linkage at the western edge of Missouri with other historic trails that carried the bulk of migrating Americans westward: the California and Oregon Trails—trails the Mormons also followed partway as they sought final refuge from persecution in the Midwest by settling in the Great Salt Lake Basin of Utah. But before these trails were established and began carrying large-scale migration to the West, the Santa Fe Trail served as a route of commerce and military transport to the Southwest. The economic importance of the Santa Fe Trail, especially to the state of Missouri during

the early to mid-19th century, is well documented. The more than 800-mile-long trail also made possible transcontinental trade connections between the United States and Spanish Mexico, linking Howard County to the latter through the *El Camino Real de Terra Adentro*, the Royal Road of the Interior Lands that extended south from Santa Fe for 1,600 miles to Spain’s colonial capital at Mexico City.

Of special note: The Santa Fe Trail was preceded by the establishment of the Boone’s Lick Road early in the 19th century. It ran from St. Charles to Old Franklin, where the two trails were then linked with the 1821 opening of the Santa Fe Trail. Becknell’s return to Franklin from Santa Fe in January of 1822 truly marked the opening of the Santa Fe Trail. A written account at the time quoted Mr. H. H. Harris’ reminiscences about Becknell’s return: “My father saw them unload when they returned, and when their rawhide packages of silver dollars were dumped on the sidewalk, one of the men cut the thongs and the money spilled out clinking on the stone pavement and rolled into the gutter.” Becknell was already planning a return trip for the sole purpose of carrying trade goods to Santa Fe. In the spring of 1822, three trading expeditions left Franklin bound for Santa Fe. Becknell’s party took three wagons loaded with goods, the first of many wheeled conveyances to be used on the trail.

In 1987 Congress designated the Santa Fe Trail as a National Historic Trail under the National Trails System Act. Today, the trail is administered by the National Trails Office, an office of the National Park Service that works closely with partners – ranging from private landowners to nonprofit organizations – in protecting, developing and promoting the trail.

—Don Cullimore

## Bicentennial Events along the Trail

Missouri residents are invited to explore the Santa Fe National Historic Trail and discover two centuries of trail history through a variety of activities hosted by National Park Service (NPS) partners to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail.

More than 40 in-person and virtual events are planned along the length of the trail—from Missouri to New Mexico—throughout 2021. Visit the NPS Santa Fe Trail Bicentennial website (<https://www.nps.gov/safe/planyourvisit/santa-fe-trail-bicentennial-events.htm>) to see a full list of events, ranging from living history presentations to concerts, planned by the Santa Fe Trail Association and other partner organizations.

To virtually explore Santa Fe Trail stories and activities, or for more information, go to the Santa Fe National Historic Trail website (<https://santafetrail200.org/>), or join the conversation on social media on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

On September 1, the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association is planning an event to acknowledge the departure of William Becknell (known as “Father of the Santa Fe Trail”) and his companions. It will host a short program where a member of the Arrow Rock Stock and Trading Company, Steve Hart, will do a first-person interpretation of William Becknell. Events begin at 9 a.m. at the site of the SFTA markers (Highway 87 a half-mile west from the junction with Highway 5) at Old Franklin.

Day-long activities also will be held at Arrow Rock a joint commemoration with Arrow Rock Missouri State Park (DNR) and Friends of Arrow Rock.

Boone’s Lick Road Association President Dorris Keeven-Franke will be one the guest speakers September 1 at Santa Fe Trail Association events in the Boonslick to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail. Keeven-Franke’s comments will be on “The Boone’s Lick Road in 1821,” the year that the Boone’s Lick Road was the connection between the site of Missouri’s First State Capitol in St. Charles and the Santa Fe Trail in Old Franklin.



“In this year of Missouri’s Bicentennial, it is awesome that we get to celebrate both events.” Keeven-Franke says.

SFTA board member Rich Lawson will give a tour of the Missouri River site of Arrow Rock Landing, later known as Todd’s Ferry Landing. During the day, other speakers, including Arrow Rock Historic Site Administrator Mike Dickey, SFTA members Craig Crease and Rich Lawson will give presentations at either the Arrow Rock Visitors Center and Museum or outside in a tented area.

Visitors to Arrow Rock that day will also be able to visit the reenactors’ camp. Lunch will be available at the historic J. Huston Tavern in Arrow Rock, but reservations are required. The event is



free and open to the public. More information is available at [www.santafetrail200.org](http://www.santafetrail200.org).

For more information, contact MRO Chapter President, Anne Mallinson: [annemallinson@gmail.com](mailto:annemallinson@gmail.com) or Larry Short: [ldshort@comcast.net](mailto:ldshort@comcast.net).

Saturday Aug 28 - 4 p.m. – “A Modern Encounter with the Santa Fe Trail” - South Howard County Historical Society. Program by Les Vilda, history enthusiast will share his experiences traveling on the Santa Fe Trail in 1984 and 1987. Combined with historical fact is a narrative slide presentation. Following the presentation will be a steak dinner with sides, desert and drink for \$25 or hamburger, chips, dessert and drink for \$12. Advance tickets at New Franklin Exchange Bank.

On September 4 and 5, a 200th Commemoration event will be held at Fort Osage in Jackson County. It is being co-sponsored by the SFTA and the Jackson County Parks & Recreation Department and the Society of Friends of Fort Osage) an event at Fort Osage (see image, below, of rebuilt Fort Osage).



## New Missouri Explorers Programs Take Off for the Bicentennial

A new bicentennial program encourages families, friends, and individuals to learn more about the history of the Show-Me State by visiting some of the places that make Missouri unique.

Participants in the Missouri Explorers Program will receive merit buttons for completing challenges to visit designated locations within the state. They are also asked to take a photo of each stop and share photos on social media using the hashtag #MoExplorers.

Organizations across the state are taking part in the Explorers Program to promote their cultural and historical heritage. Other program challenges include visits along the German Heritage Corridor and on the famous Mother Road, Route 66. Explorers can learn about Missouri’s native peoples by taking the Native American Heritage Challenge. Another destination is the Boone’s Lick Road, the first main road to the west from St. Charles into Howard County. There are also challenges to tour historic Missouri cemeteries and towns and discover the innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders who helped shape the state’s history and culture.

“We’re so excited by the level of interest, and how families, especially, are using the challenges to learn and pass along the heritage of our state to the next generation,” said Morgan Denehy, bicentennial projects coordinator and self-described “den mother” of the Missouri Explorers program. “After this year-long



period of isolation during the pandemic, we hope to encourage Missourians to travel safely, spend quality time together, and get to know their state and their own hometown a little better.”

The Missouri Explorers Program is free and open to the public, but registration is required to receive merit buttons. Guides to each challenge are listed on the [missouri2021.org](http://missouri2021.org) website under Missouri Explorers. Organizations interested in sponsoring a new challenge may inquire about the program by sending email to [contact@missouri2021.org](mailto:contact@missouri2021.org). —*State of Missouri Historical Society*

# Daniel Boone History Research Newsletter Being Offered

## *A Daniel Boone Scholar Shares His Knowledge*

HISTORIANS AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN THE FASCINATING HISTORY of American pioneer and frontiersman Daniel Boone and the extended Boone family are invited to receive a free research newsletter published by the Daniel Boone and Frontier Families Research Association.

Author of the newsletter, Ken Kamper, is a retired professional engineer who has spent much of his available time for past four decades tracking down the factual history of Daniel Boone. He has amassed over 1,000 books, thousands of files, maps, microfilm, CDs, DVDs, stacks of documents, and anything else that is related to the subject: "Daniel Boone, his family, the related families, and the related history that was taking place during Daniel Boone's lifetime."

### **Purpose of the Newsletters**

"The purpose is for sharing some of the information found during my [many] years of searching for the facts associated with the story of Daniel Boone," Kamper says, adding that the newsletter is an outgrowth of a quarterly publication titled *The Daniel Boone and Frontier Families Research Letters*.

"Regretfully, the 20-page quarterly consumed and overwhelmed my time, to the point where there was no time left for me to do any original research or to continue on with writing a book about the life of Daniel Boone. The intent with this new approach of a one article newsletter with an arbitrary schedule, will hopefully offer a way to combine the time for the research, book, and Newsletter, so all three can be accomplished."

Everyone receiving the newsletter will be enrolled as a member of the Daniel Boone and Frontier Families Research Association. Donations to help promote more research will be welcomed, Kamper notes. They will be used to cover the cost of books, maps, microfilm, DVD data, and supplies. The organization is a tax exempt Not-for-profit corporation. Checks should be made payable to the association and mailed to Boone Frontier, c/o Ken Kamper, 1770 Hickory Hill Drive, Hermann, MO 65041.

For more information about the Frontier Families Research Association and its extensive research on Daniel Boone, go to the website: [www.booneassociation.com](http://www.booneassociation.com).

### **A Historian's Tribune to the Scholarship of Ken Kamper**

There is a lot to be said for knowing a great deal about a small place or popular subject. Local historians start with that goal and if they remain inspired enlarge their vision to a region, state, or country. Ken Kamper has traveled that road over four decades in his pursuit of anything connected with the American frontiersman Daniel Boone and his family. Ken's work is widely valued.

A national renaissance in the study of Daniel Boone occurred over the past generation. Biographers from several disciplines sought out Ken for his collegial generosity in sharing results of his investigations. Among the professionals who have acknowledged

Ken are John Mack Faragher in his *Daniel Boone, The Life and Legend of an American Pioneer*, 1992; Ted Franklin Belue in his edited reissue of Lyman Draper's *The Life of Daniel Boone*, 1998, that included Belue's comment that Ken's Newsletters "helped me sift fact from fiction in keeping track of Boone's whereabouts"; R. Douglas Hurt in his *Nathan Boone and the American Frontier*, 1998; Neal O. Hammon's edited Draper interviews for his *My Father, Daniel Boone*, 1999, received Ken's genealogical advice and "furnished much useful information about original towns, dwellings, trails, and roads along the Missouri River."

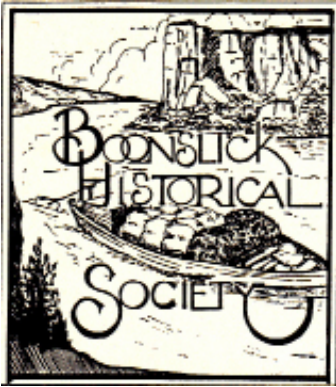
In the new century, Robert Morgan in his *Boone, A Biography*, 2008, commended Ken "for his guidance through the Nathan Boone house and a wealth of information about Boone's life in Missouri"; and Meredith Mason Brown in his magisterial *Frontiersman, Daniel Boone and the Making of America*, 2008, wrote that Ken "kindly guided me around Boone sites in Missouri and shared his extensive learning about

Boone and the Boone family in Missouri."

I, too, am a heritage tourist that Ken hosted. His congeniality in conversation and numerous emails aided me in my articles about Daniel Boone & Slave Derry Coburn, the Boones and Morrisons in Western Expansion, and Daniel Morgan Boone's years in commercial sawmilling in the Northern Ozarks. Anyone who has accompanied Ken on one of his legendary field trips will never forget the experience. —Lynn Morrow

Sketch of Daniel Boone, courtesy of SHSMO. Lynn Morrow, historian (retired), Missouri State Archives, is a frequent contributor to *Boone's Lick Heritage Quarterly*, *Missouri Historical Review* and other publications in the field of history.





P.O. Box 426  
Boonville, MO 65233



The historic Hotel Frederick in Boonville will be the site of the annual fall meeting of the Boonslick Historical Society, which was founded in the fall of 1937 during a meeting at the hotel of area historians and other interested citizens. *Photo by Don Cullimore*