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# ◆ Boone Co. Historical Society ◆

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Editor: Betsy R. Conrad (brconrad@fuse.net)

May—June 2008

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## *Boone County Historical Society to Celebrate Museum Opening*

Judge/Executive Gary Moore has encouraged the Boone County Historical Society to utilize the Old County Clerk's Office for a museum for relics and antiquities relating to Boone County's rich history.

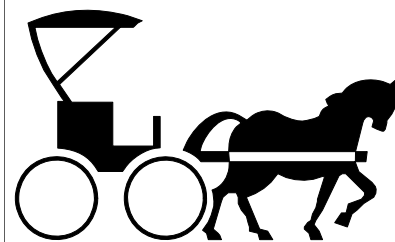
The County completely recently renovated the building and moved it to its present location, 2965 Gallatin Street in Burlington.

It is the Society's goal to have our Museum open on a regular schedule with volunteer staffing by our members.

Our **grand opening celebration** will be held there at **6 pm Thursday, July 17**. Our guest speaker will be David Conzett, Curator of Historic Objects at the Cincinnati Museum Center. You'll be hearing much more about that event soon!



THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL BE TO DEVELOP AWARENESS AND PROMOTE APPRECIATION OF THE HISTORY OF BOONE COUNTY.



COPIES OF *BOONE COUNTY: FROM MASTODONS TO THE MILLENNIUM*, THE LIBRARY-QUALITY HARD-BOUND VOLUME FULL OF FASCINATING STORIES AND PICTURES OF BOONE COUNTY'S HISTORY, ARE AVAILABLE DURING BUSINESS HOURS AT FLORENCE GOVERNMENT CENTER FOR \$20. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

## *May 15 Meeting: Roebling Suspension Bridge*

**May 15:** Jerry McFeeters, a member of the Covington-Cincinnati Suspension Bridge Committee, will present a program on the historic John A. Roebling Suspension Bridge.

The Suspension Bridge was opened in 1866, ten years after its construction was begun. It is a magnificent historic landmark in this region.



This meeting begins at 7 pm and will be held in **Council Chambers on the upper level** of the Florence Government Center on Ewing Blvd.

The Historical Society membership will also consider a change to our By-Laws that will govern when we may cancel a scheduled meeting — based on whether the Boone County Schools are closed because of dangerous road conditions.

## Thanks to Matt Becher

Many thanks to Matt Becher for his excellent presentation on The Old Boone County Courthouse on April 24.

Recordings (VCR or DVD) of his program, as well as other BCHS programs for the past year, will soon be available in the Local History Section of the new Main Library.

## Thanks to Asa Rouse

Our thanks to Asa Rouse for speaking to our membership about his and Libby's exciting adventures with the Gold Wing Riders Association, and the importance of watching out for motorcyclists.



## Dinsmore Summer Concert New Orleans Style

A New Orleans-Style Summer Concert will be held at the Historic Dinsmore Homestead on Saturday, June 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The event will be held under a tent on the front lawn, rain or shine.

Live music will be provided by Robin Lacy and DeZydeco. This six-piece group is set apart from the mainstream with their unique instrumentation that includes the accordion, saxophone and rubboard found mainly



in the Zydeco and Cajun-styled bands of Southwest Louisiana.

Concessions including Cajun food prepared by Don and Edie Attebery, as well as hot dogs, snacks, desserts, and soft drinks will for available for sale — or you may bring your own picnic dinner (picnic tables will be available). There will also be a cash bar with

wine and beer. Feel free to bring your own chairs or blankets.

Admission is \$10 in advance, \$12 at the gate. Children under age 12 are admitted without charge.

Please RSVP by June 17. Mail your check to Dinsmore Homestead Foundation, P.O. Box 453, Burlington, KY 41005. All proceeds benefit the Dinsmore Homestead. For more information, call 859/586-6117.

## Upcoming Events and Historical Society Programs

**May 16-18:** Diagnosing Historic Buildings: Best Treatment Options; Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan Co. [www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com](http://www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com)

**June 1-3:** Historical Confederation of Kentucky / Kentucky Association of Museums Annual Meeting in Elizabethtown. Go to [www.kymuseums.org](http://www.kymuseums.org) for info.

**June 22-27:** Practical Preservation: Square Log Building; Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan Co. [www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com](http://www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com)

**October 10-12:** The Art of Building Dry Stone Walls; Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan Co. [www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com](http://www.pinemountainsettlementschool.com)

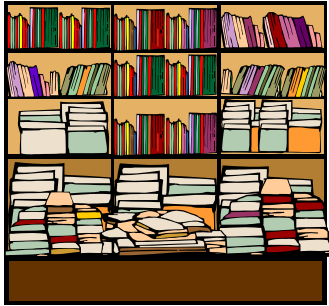
**September 18:** Michael Rouse — Boone County's German Colony: The Settlers Who Founded Hopeful Lutheran Church and their effect on the local area.

**November 20:** Marty Schadler, Board of Trustees of the Aviation Museum of Kentucky, Inc. and the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame in Lexington.

## Board Members Tour Campbell County's Museum

Five members of our Historical Society's Board recently met with Jim Reis and Ken Reis, the two brothers whose passion for preserving history became a reality with the development of the Campbell County Historical and Genealogical Society. We spent an entire evening receiving the benefit of their expertise and touring their office/research center/museum, located in the old County Courthouse in Alexandria.

If you have the opportunity, and if you can climb the staircase to the second floor of that grand old building, you will be absolutely amazed to see the wide variety of items they've been given — a large collection of memorabilia from the Speers Memorial Hospital that was located in Day-



ton, the Paul & Betty Kirst Camera Collection, the Beverly Hills Fire Collection, School Yearbooks, photos galore, maps, books, and so much more.

The Society has ongoing projects including local cemetery research, log cabin research, local military records, local history and genealogy.

Their hours of operation are generally Tuesday 10 am to 8 pm, Thursday 10 am to 2 pm, and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm. The members provide volunteer staffing during these times. They currently occupy about 3,000 square feet of space which is provided to them, without charge, by the Campbell County Fiscal Court.

They've been receiving donated museum items since 1992, and they've developed a cataloging system to keep track of each and every item — and that in-

cludes a photograph.

They have published several books that are available for sale; their latest, a photo book featuring Alexandria, is soon to be released. If you're interested in learning more about Campbell County Historical and Genealogical Society, visit [www.rootsweb.com/~kycchgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~kycchgs).

Many thanks to Ken and Jim for sharing with us their first-hand experiences and valuable recommendations as we prepare to launch our own museum in Boone County.



Chris Goodlet of the Kentucky Historical Society will be coming on May 19 to meet with our Board at the Old County Clerk's Building and offer his advice and expertise. We appreciate his willingness to come here from Frankfort, and look forward to receiving his input.

## Split Rock Open House planned for May 17

If you've never been to Split Rock Conservation Park, make plans to attend the Annual Open House on Saturday, May 17.

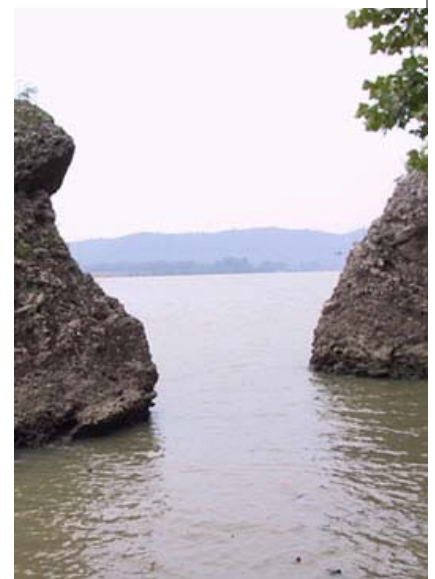
This 165-acre outdoor learning center showcases Boone County's natural biodiversity including the spectacular geologic formation known as Split Rock.

The park, not open to the general public except during this annual event, is located at the junction of Woolper Creek and

the Ohio River (4503 Belleview Road) in Petersburg. Interpretive hikes and educational programs may be set up by appointment.

Mark Jacobs, Executive Director of this non-profit educational organization, will hopefully be a speaker at a future BCHS meeting.

P.S.: Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes. No pets are permitted in the park. More info, visit [Splitrockpark.org](http://Splitrockpark.org).





Boone Co. Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 23  
 Florence, KY 41022-0023

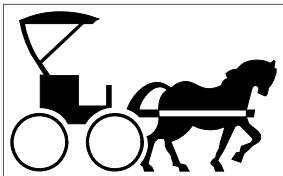
Websites of local interest:

BooneCountyKy.org.  
 BooneCountyHeritage.org  
 Kenton.Lib.Ky.US/~histsoc  
 DinsmoreFarm.org  
 SaveAmericasTreasures.org  
 Nkyviews.com  
 Splitrockpark.org  
 FriendsOfBigBone.org  
 Nkyencyclopedia.org  
 Rabbithashusa.com  
 Boonecocemeteries.org  
 Thebooneconservancy.org  
 Boonecountyky.org/pc



**May 15: *Historic Roebling Suspension Bridge***

*The Boone County Historical Society provides program meetings on the third Thursday evenings of January, March, May, July, September and November (with occasional exceptions). Unless otherwise announced, the meetings will be held at the Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing*



*BCHS Membership Privileges*

**Annual Membership Fee** is only \$15 per household, **due every January**. This modest fee covers the cost of our newsletter mailings. We appreciate all who have joined the Boone County Historical Society to help us preserve and make known some of the history of our County. Encourage your friends and neighbors to join and attend our meetings. Membership fees can be sent to:

**BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 P. O. BOX 23  
 FLORENCE, KY 41022-0023**

The Boone County Historical Society has received **tax-exempt status**. This means that all gifts to the Society are tax deductible.

**To contact the Newsletter Editor: [brconrad@fuse.net](mailto:brconrad@fuse.net)**