Dr. Richard C. Crisler, Jr. shares the previously untold story of Ben Johnson, 7pm Thurs., May 18, Main Library

The Boone County Historical Society is pleased to present Dr. Richard C. Crisler, Jr., owner and current resident of the historic Cave Johnson Home at the North Bend of the River.

Dr. Crisler is the author of “Boone Boy makes Good; Captain Benjamin Johnson, 1789-1830” that documents the life of his ancestor, Ben Johnson, as he settled the northernmost part of Kentucky.
“The imposing main block of Boone County’s northernmost home was built circa 1797 by Cave Johnson, Boone County’s first County Clerk. The Cave Johnson House is one of the County’s finest and earliest Federal style buildings and is a rare example of the 2-story, center passage, double-pile plan. The Federal style is evident in the building’s Flemish bond brickwork, jack arch openings, and 9/6 and 6/6 sash. Sym pathetic additions dating to the mid-19th and mid-20th centuries flank the main block and a monumental portico overlooks the Ohio River. The circa-1800 brick slave quarters is a one-and-a-half story, 4-bay building with standing seam roof. Although modified for use as a garage in the mid-20th century, the building is arguably the most intact one of its kind in Boone County.

“Like other early riverfront residences in Boone County, the Cave Johnson House originally fronted on the Ohio River but was later remodeled with a formal entrance facing River Road. At the time of its construction, Cave Johnson’s friend William Henry Harrison, later the 9th President of the United States, lived on the opposite shore of the river in North Bend, Ohio. The two men frequently crossed the river to visit.”


- Photo by Steve Conrad, for the Boone County Historical Society, Inc., 2016.

**Boone County Historical Society to receive Preservation Award**

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board will hold their annual *Awards Ceremony at the Rabbit Hash Barn, 10146 Lower River Road, Burlington Thursday, May 11, 2017*. The reception starts at 6:00pm, with program beginning at 6:30pm. *The Boone County Historical Society is being recognized with a Preservation Project Award* for their role in the John Graves DAR & SAR marker project. *Eagle Scout Joseph Kiely will receive the Cemetery Preservation award* and everyone involved with the DAR & SAR markers will receive Preservation Project awards. In addition, the Review Board is dedicating the 2017 awards to *Betsy and Steve Conrad* in recognition of their many years of dedication to local history and preservation. *Please join us there.*
Upcoming Events

BCHS Dedication of Historic Marker, CCC Camp
Bean Ridge: Thurs., May 4, 1pm, in front of Walton-Verona Middle School (see pg. 1) BCHS members Cindy and Woody Schuster have volunteered to serve refreshments.

Dinsmore Derby Day Party: Saturday, May 6, 3:30-7pm at Dinsmore Homestead. Rain or shine. Reservations required: 859/586-6117. (Event features Tousey House catering, cash bar, silent auction, hat contest, house tours. Kentucky Derby will be shown on TV.)

Boone County “Serve & Socialize”: Tuesday, May 9, 10:30am-12:30pm, Main Library (sponsored by BCPL). “Learn about volunteer opportunities and social clubs for adults.” BCHS will staff a table at this event in an effort to promote our organization and attract new members. Board members Tom and Carol Schiffer have volunteered to help staff this event.

Boone Co. Activities Fair sponsored by Boone Co. Education Advisory Council: Sat., May 13, 9am-1pm in Farmer’s Market. Our Secretary Pat Yannarella has volunteered to help staff the table at this event.

Boone County Farm Tour: 10am-4pm Saturday, June 24. Watch for more details. Self-guided tour of selected farms. Maps available at Farmers’ Market. Sponsors of this event are the Boone County Conservation District, the Boone County Cooperative Extension Service, the Kentucky Farm Bureau and the Boone County Fiscal Court.

BCHS Board Meetings

Boone County Historical Society’s upcoming Board Meetings will be held at 1:30 pm Thursdays, June 15, August 17, October 19, and December 21, at the Main Library.

At the April 20th meeting, the Board agreed to recommend approval of a Historic Marker for “John Uri Lloyd / Stringtown on the Pike.” The City of Florence has agreed to participate financially in the amount of 50%, or $1,250. The marker would be erected on Main Street in the triangular park being developed next to the former Florence Methodist Church, across from the Post Office. This recommendation will be presented to the membership at the May 18th meeting.

Board Member Brent Johansen agreed to be appointed to the Boone County Board of Education Advisory Council to represent the Historical Society. The possibility of organizing a series of bus tours to historic sites in Boone County is being evaluated by this Advisory Council. The concept of bus tours to historic areas was initiated decades ago when local historian William Conrad was a member of the Board of Education Advisory Council.

The BCHS Museum (Temporarily Closed During Restoration of the Old Courthouse)

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.
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: Thomas Schiffer
Secretary: Pat Yannarella
Treasurer: Steve Conrad
Board Members: Betty Poole
              Ron Buckley
              Brent Johansen
              Carol Schiffer
              Kathy Meyers