

# Boone County Historical Society



September–October 2022

## 2022 MEETINGS & EVENTS

All meetings at the Boone County Public Library will start at 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 17, 2022: Mike Striker will be speaking on Native American, Adena Mounds in Boone County

No January 2023 Meeting

No February 2023 Meeting

Thursday, March 16, 2023: Bernie Spencer will present his fascinating website: [nkyviews.com](http://nkyviews.com)

Our members and board are working on fascinating presentations for the remainder of 2023.

**JOETTA PROST WILL PRESENT  
UNIVERSALIST CHURCHES:  
COMPLEX HISTORY BEFORE  
AND AFTER THE CIVIL WAR ON  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.**



The First Universalist Church of Burlington was located a short distance from the court house.

During the 1800s, Boone County was home to two Universalist Churches whose members, ministers, and theology reflected the complexity of the era. Come learn why Universalist religious views were considered radical and discover the story of a Boone County Universalist minister who went on to become president of a seminary. We will also explore how the Universalist churches played a role in the history of Black Boone County residents.

## Early Cycling Through Boone County

By: Hillary Delaney

Bicycling in Boone County can mean anything from a short ride in the park to a long, challenging tour. This pastime is nothing new to our area, and current trends show continued growth in this sport. The early cyclists in the region often enjoyed touring our area.

As early as the 1870s, groups began to form for the purposes of promoting and participating in cycling. The “Ordinary”, a type of bike with a large front and much smaller rear wheel was frequently used by the post-Civil War cycling groups, but proved rather dangerous. It’s successor, the “safety bike” that is quite similar in style to modern recreational bikes, began to gain popularity circa 1885. These bikes were more comfortable and provided an ease of mounting and dismounting their predecessors did not. They also offered a chain-driven technology not found in earlier bikes, which made them much better suited for a ride in the countryside.

Boone County and other areas of Northern Kentucky gained popularity as tour routes with groups like the *League of American Wheelmen*. This organization published first-hand accounts of experiences and road conditions regularly, and worked to improve matters to further their sport. The League even endorsed political candidates in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Organizations like this are credited with improving road conditions throughout the country and prompting the development of the highway system we enjoy today.

In several 1883-4 issues of the periodical *Outing and the Wheelman: An Illustrated Monthly Magazine of Recreation*, cyclist and writer Karl Kron gives a firsthand account of his 1882 trip through the “hills of Kentucky”. Beginning his trip in Covington, he rode up through Kenton County and into Florence, where the roads were a bit muddy, but began to improve as he made his way to Walton with impressive speed: under two hours.

Boone County’s towns make another appearance in the 1912 guidebook of the League of American Wheelmen: some of the suggested routes are as follows:

The ambitious “Route 15” takes the rider from the C&O Bridge in Covington, up the “pike” (Dixie Highway) through Florence and Walton, which are both considered to have good road conditions, on towards Lexington before turning back to Burlington.

A shorter, albeit vigorous trip is “Route 16” which guides the touring cyclist from downtown Cincinnati, across to Ludlow, then follows along the river through Constance, Hebron, Bullittsville and Petersburg, before crossing at the Lawrenceburg Ferry. This route touts “magnificent views” and landmarks like a covered bridge and a school house. The roads in this Boone County route run the gamut from steep to sandy, but offered a grand tour!

*Some of the above cycling routes excerpts can be found on [www.nkyviews.com](http://www.nkyviews.com)*





The Boone County Chapter  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
*and*

The Simon Kenton Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution  
*invite you to attend the*

Patriot Marker Dedication Ceremony  
*honoring*

Private James Kay, Revolutionary War Soldier  
8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment

*Saturday, September 10th, 2022*

*Ceremony begins at 2:00pm*

*Salem Baptist Church Cemetery  
13320 Oak Creek Rd, Verona, KY 41092*

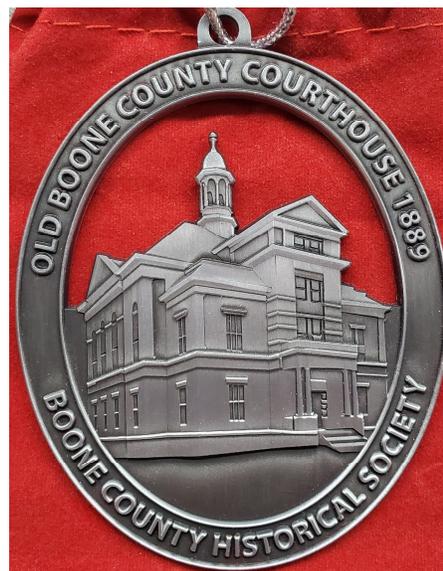
Please bring lawn chair

*Refreshments immediately following ceremony  
Questions contact: robinbennett1776@gmail.com*

## Historical Society Meeting

At our next meeting after the presentation, we will conduct a discussion with our members. We would like to talk about all activities that our historical society is involved with. Most important, we would like your suggestions for future presentations that we could offer in the coming years.

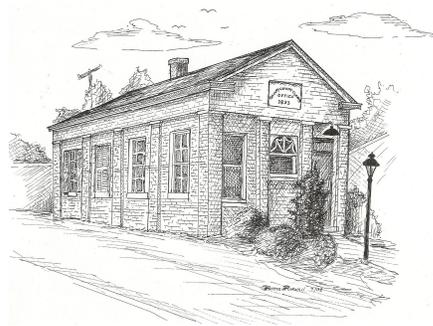
This is an image of the Christmas tree ornament that we are selling this year. These might make good gifts for family and friends and will be available at our meetings.



### 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 west-bound 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:** [boonecountykyhistory.org](http://boonecountykyhistory.org)

Newsletter Editor: Stephen D. Conrad  
[sdconrad@fuse.net](mailto:sdconrad@fuse.net)

## 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. We are fortunate to partner with the Boone County Public Library.

The Boone County Historical Society provides program meetings at 6:30pm on the third Thursday evenings of 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 March.** 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:	Hillary Delaney
Vice President:	Brent Johansen
Secretary:	Pat Yannarella
Treasurer:	Steve Conrad
Web Master:	Jim Duvall
Board Members:	Ron Buckley
	Thomas Schiffer
	Carol Schiffer
	Ginny Kohl